



STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the sudden and unexpected death of a child over the age of 12 months which remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation is conducted, including performance of a complete autopsy; and

WHEREAS,

Each year, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States - including more than 200 younger children under the age of four - who die without any clear cause or explanation; and

WHEREAS,

While less common than Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), which occurs before the first birthday, SUDC is an important health concern deserving of increased public awareness and research; and

WHEREAS,

SUDC is the fifth-leading cause of death among children age one to four, and at the present time, there is no way to prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown. It is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

WHEREAS,

We recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators, and volunteers that are working to better understand the causes of sudden unexplained death, improve the health of infants and children, and provide much-needed hope and support for those families grieving the heartbreaking, sudden, and unexplained death of a child; and

WHEREAS,

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month provides an opportunity to honor the memory of the young lives that ended too soon, show encouragement and support for the families and loved ones forever devastated by their loss, and increase public awareness of SUDC and the ongoing search for answers.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Jim Pillen, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of March 2023 as

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Twenty-eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-three.



Attest:

Secretary of State

Governor