



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is a category of death in children between the ages of 1 and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy; and

WHEREAS, each year, approximately 400 children in the United States – including more than 200 younger children between the ages of 1 and 4 – 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 5th leading category of death among children ages 1 to 4 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there currently is no way to predict or prevent SUDC as its cause is unknown; and

WHEREAS, it is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the dedicated efforts of medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators, and volunteers who are working to better understand the causes of SUDC, improve the health of infants and children, and provide much-needed hope and support for those families grieving the heartbreaking sudden, 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 devastated by their loss, and increase public awareness of SUDC and the ongoing search for answers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Glenn Youngkin, do hereby recognize March 2024, as **SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH** in the COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, and I call this observance to the attention of our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth