



Spencer J. Cox

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, sudden unexplained death in childhood (SUDC) is a category of death in children between the ages of one and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy;

Whereas, each year there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC in the United States — including more than 200 younger children between the ages of one and four — who die without any clear cause or explanation;

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;

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

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

Whereas, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, 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;

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, Spencer J. Cox, governor of the state of Utah, do hereby declare March 2024 as

**Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness
Month in Utah**

Spencer J. Cox
Governor