

Proclamation

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; and

WHEREAS, each year there are approximately 525 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; 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 fourth leading category of death among children ages one to four in the United States; and

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

WHEREAS, continued research and awareness efforts are vital to uncovering the causes of SUDC and identifying ways to prevent these tragic losses in the future; and

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; 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, increase public awareness of SUDC, and the need for ongoing research efforts in search for answers; and

THEREFORE, I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2025 as

“SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH”

in the State of Hawai'i, encouraging all citizens to join in raising awareness, supporting affected families, and promoting efforts to advance research and understanding of SUDC.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-fourth day of February 2025.



Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i