

STATE OF KANSAS



PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

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 there are approximately 500 cases of SUDC in the United States – including more than 200 younger children between the ages of 1 and 4 – who die without any clear cause or explanation; and

WHEREAS, while less common than sudden infant death syndrome, 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 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, Kansas recognizes the dedicated efforts of organization, 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, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim, March 2025, as

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Awareness Month

in the state of Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.



DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of
the State this 1st day of
March 2025

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Laura Kelly
Scott Schwartz
Secretary of State

Jennifer Cook
Assistant Secretary of State