



STATE OF MISSOURI  
*Proclamation*  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**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 385 cases of SUDC in the United States – including more than 247 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 (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 1 to 4 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.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**, do hereby proclaim March 2025 to be

**SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.



*Michael Kehoe*

*Mike Kehoe*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

*Denny Hoskins*  
SECRETARY OF STATE