

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF 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 400 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 (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 cause 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 organizations, 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, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim March 2025 to be

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol, City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, February 20, 2025.

Tina Kotek

Tina Kotek, Governor

Tobias J. Read

Tobias Read, Secretary of State