



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 over 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. In 2023, there were 431 cases of SUDC including 247 deaths in children aged 1-4 years old; 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, in 2023, SUDC was 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, 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;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2025, as

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of March, 2025



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor