



In the Name and by the Authority of

# THE STATE OF OHIO



**WHEREAS**, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the sudden and unexpected death of a child between the ages of 1 and 18, which remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation is conducted, including performance of a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the child's medical history; 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 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among toddlers, and at the present time, there is no way to prevent SUDC as its cause(s) is unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC, medical professionals, and volunteers that are working to better understand the causes of sudden unexplained death, 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 forever devastated by their loss and increase public awareness of SUDC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby recognize March 2025 as

## SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2025.

Mike DeWine  
Governor

