



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Safe Sleep Hawai'i provides statewide leadership in promoting safe sleep practices through educating parents, caregivers, teachers and health care providers on the Safe Sleep Practices following American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines; and

WHEREAS, Infant Safe Sleep Month in Hawai'i is observed in October to coincide with the National Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month, which is held to increase the public's awareness of the high rates of preventable infant deaths through educational programs; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that in 2019 there were 3,376 sudden unexpected infant deaths in United States; and

WHEREAS, of these 3,376 unexpected infant deaths, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) was the leading cause of death in 37% of the cases, while 34.7% of the deaths were classified as unknown causes, and 28.3% were due to accidental suffocation and strangulation in bed; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) and other sleep-related deaths can be reduced by placing infants to sleep in the following manner: Alone, on their Back and in a safety approved Crib; and

WHEREAS, Safe Sleep Hawai'i emphasizes the need for parents, grandparents, relatives, and childcare professionals to be educated on infant safe sleep to reduce infant mortality; and

WHEREAS, Child & Family Service collaborates with the State of Hawai'i in Safe Sleep Hawai'i activities to improve the health and well-being of infants by providing educational materials and supportive services in communities statewide; and

WHEREAS, October has been designated as National SIDS Awareness Month in order to increase public awareness of the high rate of preventable infant deaths through education and programs;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim October 2021 as

"INFANT SAFE SLEEP MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in supporting the work of the agencies and organizations that strive to increase public awareness of SIDS and SUID and what can be done to ensure an infant's safe sleep.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of October 2021.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i