



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Minnesota is dedicated to the well-being of our children and recognizes that their future depends on the care and quality of their early childhood experiences; and
- WHEREAS: Sudden unexpected infant deaths (SUID) are a subset of infant fatalities that occur suddenly and unexpectedly before age one from causes that are not immediately obvious; and
- WHEREAS: A thorough investigation is required, including an autopsy, to determine the cause and manner of SUID; and
- WHEREAS: Every year, approximately 50 Minnesota babies die suddenly and unexpectedly, and most of these deaths happen in an unsafe sleep environment; and
- WHEREAS: Parents, families, childcare providers, and hospitals can engage in safe sleep practices by placing infants on their backs in a smoke-free environment in a safety-approved crib free of blankets, pillows, bumper pads, stuffed animals, and toys; and
- WHEREAS: These deaths, which can affect families regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, national origin, or religious beliefs, can often be prevented; and
- WHEREAS: Anyone who takes care of babies, including parents, caregivers, childcare providers, health care providers, and family members, should follow safe sleep practices every time an infant sleeps or naps; and
- WHEREAS: Infant Safe Sleep Week provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations, government entities, health care facilities, and coalitions to promote the awareness of safe sleep practices and ensure the safety of infants while they sleep or nap; and
- WHEREAS: No infant should die due to an unsafe sleep situation; and
- WHEREAS: Any infant death due to an unsafe sleep situation is one too many.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim November 12-18, 2023, as:

## INFANT SAFE SLEEP WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November.

Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Steve Dimm in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE