

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2020

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 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, there are approximately 400 cases of SUDC annually in the United States — including more than 240 children under the age of 5 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

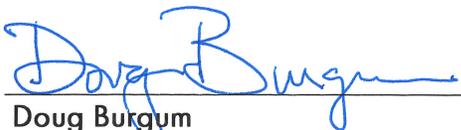
WHEREAS, SUDC is the fifth-leading category of death among children ages 1 to 4, and while there is currently no known cause of SUDC, it is hoped that future research will identify means by which SUDC can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, medical professionals, medicolegal death investigators, and volunteers who 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 and the ongoing search for answers.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
March 2020, SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH
in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE