



State of  
**North Dakota**

*Office of the Governor*

**Doug Burgum**  
*Governor*

PROCLAMATION

**SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

MARCH 2017

**WHEREAS**, Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) is the death of a child over the age of 12 months which remains unexplained after conducting a thorough case investigation—including the performance of an autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the child's medical history; and,

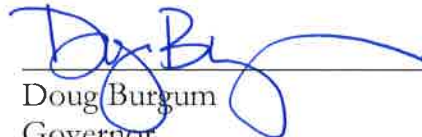
**WHEREAS**, over 200 children between the ages of 1 and 4 die annually under these circumstances; and

**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**, we recognize the dedicated efforts of organizations such as the SUDC Foundation, 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 and the ongoing search for answers.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim March 2017, **SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

  
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Doug Burgum  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Alvin A. Jaeger  
Secretary of State