



State of Missouri
Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, approximately 100 infants in Missouri die each year because they were placed in an unsafe sleep environment; and

WHEREAS, 90% of all non-medical infant deaths in Missouri are related to the infant's sleep environment; and

WHEREAS, most deaths caused by unsafe sleep are preventable with the proper education and resources; and

WHEREAS, it is proven that infants sleep safest when they sleep alone, on their back, and in a crib, bassinet, or portable play-yard with a firm mattress and tightly fitted sheet with no other items in their sleep area; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that parents, grandparents, relatives, child care providers, and all infant caregivers and health professionals are aware of safe sleep guidelines and place infants to sleep in a safe environment for every sleep; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Sleep Coalition of Missouri, including representation from the Missouri Children's Trust Fund, and the Missouri Department of Social Services, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Infant Loss Resources, Children's Mercy Hospital, Generate Health St. Louis, Nurses for Newborns, SSM Health, St. Louis Children's Hospital, and many other community-based agencies work collaboratively to raise awareness of the important steps parents, caregivers, child care providers, health professionals, and all service providers can take to reduce sleep-related infant deaths and disparities in these deaths; and

WHEREAS, everyone is encouraged to build awareness about the importance of Infant Safe Sleep among all communities and families; and encourage community activities and public policies that prioritize infant safe sleep.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 2022 to be

INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 2nd day of September, 2022.



Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE