



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, an average of 22 infant lives are lost in New Mexico each year due to Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID), and more than 8 in 10 of these are identified as preventable due to unsafe sleep factors; and

WHEREAS, SUID rates in New Mexico are representative of inequities: from 2010 to 2019, the Black/African American population ratio (2.7 deaths per 1,000 live births) being 3 times higher than rates among whites and Hispanic/Latinos (.80/1,000), and more than two times higher than rates among American Indian/Alaska Native (1.0/1,000); and

WHEREAS, babies can suffocate when sleeping in an unsafe environment such as a couch, futon or armchair, in a car seat or infant lounging device, and/or due to items in the sleep space such as blankets, pillows, or soft objects; and

WHEREAS, infants should be placed to sleep on their backs, on a firm, flat, non-inclined surface, ideally, in their parent/caregiver's room, in a space free of items such as toys, pillows or blankets, and the infant should be dressed appropriately to avoid overheating; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is a risk factor for sleep-related death and parents/caregivers are encouraged to seek help to provide a smoke free environment for their infants and children; and

WHEREAS, parents, grandparents, other relatives, childcare providers, and anyone caring for an infant are encouraged to learn more about safe sleep practices in order to reduce sleep-related infant deaths; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Department of Health, working collaboratively with partners throughout the state, raise awareness and promote safe infant sleep practices.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as:

“Safe Sleep Awareness Month”

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

*Done at the Executive Office this
27th day of September 2022.*

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

*Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.*



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor