

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is the leading cause of death for infants one month to one year of age and in the United States claims the lives of 2,500 babies each year; and

WHEREAS: In 2013, Arkansas ranked highest in the nation for SIDS related death; and

WHEREAS: SIDS is sometimes called crib death because it is associated with the timeframe when the baby is sleeping. Cribs themselves do not cause SIDS; and

WHEREAS: A baby's sleep position and environment can influence sleep-related causes of deaths; and

WHEREAS: The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants should always be put to sleep on their backs, alone in their cribs or bassinet with no bumper pads, pillows, comforters, or other soft items without covering the baby's head or overheating; and

WHEREAS: Compliance with these recommendations can decrease a baby's risk of dying of SIDS and other sleep-related deaths;

WHEREAS: Hospitals and non-profit organizations are crucial partners in promoting compliance with the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations to parents of infants

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas do hereby proclaim October 2015, as

NATIONAL SIDS, PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 24th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State