WHEREAS; according to the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC) Foundation, sudden unexplained death in childhood is a category of death in children between the ages of one and 18 that remains unexplained after a thorough investigation, including an autopsy; and

WHEREAS; although the exact incidence of SUDC is unknown, the SUDC Foundation estimates that there were 450 cases in the United States in 2021, including more than 200 younger children between the ages of one and four; and

WHEREAS; while it may be less common than sudden infant death syndrome, or SIDS, which occurs before a child's first birthday, SUDC is a serious health concern that deserves continued efforts to encourage increased public awareness and research; and

WHEREAS; presently, the cause of SUDC remains unknown, and there are no means to predict or prevent it, but it is hoped that future research will identify how it can be prevented; and

WHEREAS; organizations, advocates, and healthcare providers throughout the state and across the country are working to gain better insight into the causes of SUDC, promote the overall health and wellness of kids and infants, and provide vital hope and support for individuals faced with the heartbreak of the sudden, unexplained loss of a child; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins families throughout the state in honoring the memory and lives of those lost to SUDC, showing encouragement and support for families and loved ones forever devastated by their loss, and spreading awareness of SUDC and the ongoing search for answers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 2024 as

SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 2nd day of February 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State