

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), the unexpected death of an apparently healthy baby with no discernible cause, is a leading cause of infant mortality in South Carolina and our nation; and

**WHEREAS,** although there is no definite cause or cure for SIDS, national agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the National Institute of Health, recommend safe sleeping environments to reduce the risk of unexplained infant death; and

**WHEREAS,** according to the South Carolina State Child Fatality Advisory Committee, 64 percent of all child fatalities reviewed are sudden unexplained infant deaths (SUID) related to unsafe sleeping environments; and

**WHEREAS,** raising awareness of safe sleep practices, such as putting babies to sleep alone, only on their backs, and always in a crib without blankets, pillows, or toys of any kind, may save infant lives in the Palmetto State and across the country.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as

### SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of safe sleep practices in an effort to reduce SIDS and other sleep-related infant deaths.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

**NIKKI R. HALEY**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**