

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH

OCTOBER 2024

- WHEREAS,** Every year in the United States, around 3,500 infants die of sleep-related deaths; and
- WHEREAS,** In Maryland, on average 46 infants died of sleep-related deaths annually between 2018-2022; and
- WHEREAS,** 78% of infant sleep-related deaths from 2012-2022 in Maryland were deemed preventable; and
- WHEREAS,** Parents, families, childcare providers, and hospitals should engage in safe sleep practices by placing babies on their back for all sleep times on a firm and flat sleep surface that is free of blankets, pillows, bumper pads, and toys; and
- WHEREAS,** Parents, families, childcare providers, and hospitals should place babies in a smoke-free environment; and in a shared room, but on a separate surface such as crib that meets the safety standards of the Consumer Product Safety Commission for infants, ideally for at least the first 6 months; and
- WHEREAS,** Parents, grandparents, relatives, childcare providers and everyone caring for infants are encouraged to learn more about how to keep infants safe when they sleep; and
- WHEREAS,** All people should help spread awareness of infant safe sleep practices to help babies sleep safely and reduce the risk of sleep-related deaths.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 2024 as INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,

this 1st day of October

Two Thousand and twenty-four



Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna Miller
Lt. Governor

Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State