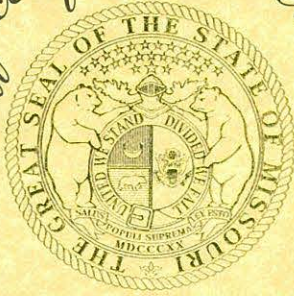


*Office of the Governor*



*State of Missouri*

*Governor's Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, approximately 90 infants in Missouri die each year because they were placed in an unsafe sleep environment; and

**WHEREAS**, most deaths caused by unsafe sleep are preventable with the proper education and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, it is proven that infants sleep safest when they sleep alone, on their back, and in a crib, bassinet, or portable play-yard with a firm mattress and tightly fitted sheet with no other items in their sleep area; and

**WHEREAS**, it is vital that parents, grandparents, relatives, child care providers, and all infant caregivers are aware of safe sleep guidelines and place infants to sleep in a safe environment for every sleep; and

**WHEREAS**, the Missouri Department of Social Services, along with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Missouri Children's Trust Fund, Infant Loss Resources, Children's Mercy Hospital, Generate Health St. Louis, Saint Francis Healthcare System, Nurses for Newborns, SSM Health, St. Louis Children's Hospital and many other local agencies work collaboratively through the Missouri Safe Sleep Coalition to raise awareness of the important steps parents, caregivers, child care providers and health professionals can take to reduce sleep-related infant deaths and disparities in these deaths.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim October 2020 to be

**INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.



*Michael L. Parson*

*Michael L. Parson*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

*Jay Ashcraft*  
SECRETARY OF STATE