



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is dedicated to the wellbeing of its children and recognizes their future depends on their care and the quality of their early childhood experiences; and
- WHEREAS: Safe Sleep Week in Minnesota is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, government entities, health care facilities, and coalitions to promote the awareness of safe sleep practices and to educate others about the important steps parents, families, and child care providers can take to ensure the safety of infants while they sleep; and
- WHEREAS: From August 2002, to August 2012, 83 children in Minnesota died in family child care homes, with the majority (75%) dying while in an unsafe sleep situation; and
- WHEREAS: Infant mortality is an important indicator of the health of a community and state; and
- WHEREAS: Parents, families, and child care providers can implement safe sleep practices by putting infants to sleep on their backs, in a crib free of blankets, pillows, bumper pads, and toys; and
- WHEREAS: Every Minnesotan can play a pivotal role in learning about the importance of safe sleep practices to prevent infant deaths.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of September 23 – 27, 2013, as:

## INFANT SAFE SLEEP WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE