



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is dedicated to the well-being of children and recognizes their future depends on the care and quality of early childhood experiences; and
- WHEREAS: Infant mortality is an important indicator of the health of a community, state, and nation; and
- WHEREAS: Unsafe sleep practices can cause infants to suffocate in bed; and
- WHEREAS: These deaths are often preventable and adversely affect individuals, families, and communities, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and religious beliefs; and
- WHEREAS: Parents, families, child care providers, and hospitals can engage in safe sleep practices by placing infants on their backs, in a safety-approved crib that is free of blankets, pillows, bumper pads, stuffed animals, and toys, in a smoke-free environment; and
- WHEREAS: Safe sleep practices should be followed every time an infant sleeps or naps; and
- WHEREAS: Infant Safe Sleep Week in Minnesota provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations, government entities, health care facilities, and coalitions to promote awareness of safe sleep practices and educate others about the important steps communities, parents, families, and child care providers can take to ensure the safety of infants while they sleep.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of November 16-22, 2014, 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of November.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE