

# STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, hundreds of infants die each year because they are placed in unsafe sleeping environments; and,*

*WHEREAS, Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) is the sudden and unexpected death of an infant, birth to age one year, in which the manner and cause of death are not immediately obvious prior to investigation; and,*

*WHEREAS, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) is a subset of SUID and remains the number one cause of infant death between the age of 28 days to one year; and,*

*WHEREAS, the tragedy of SUID can happen to any family, regardless of race, ethnicity, or economic group; and,*

*WHEREAS, adult beds, waterbeds, couches, chairs, pillows, quilts, and other soft surfaces are not appropriate or safe for sleeping infants; and,*

*WHEREAS, babies sleep safest when sleeping alone, on their backs, in a bassinet or crib with a firm mattress and tightly fitted sheets free of pillows, bumpers, blankets, and other items, in a smoke-free environment; and,*

*WHEREAS, Illinois law requires hospitals to provide education and materials regarding SIDS prevention and safe sleep practices to parents of newborns; and,*

*WHEREAS, during the month of October, we raise awareness of the important steps parents can take to ensure the safety of their infant children while sleeping;*

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as **INFANT SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH** in Illinois to raise awareness about sudden unexplained infant death and to encourage infant safe sleep practices so that no parent will have to endure the tragedy of infant death.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*



*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
*this* NINETEENTH *day of* SEPTEMBER *, in*  
*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*  
SIXTEEN *, and of the State of Illinois,*  
*one hundred and* NINETY-EIGHTH *.*

*Deese White*

SECRETARY OF STATE

*Bruce Rauner*

GOVERNOR