



DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) is heartbreaking, and can happen in any family regardless of income, education, or community; and

WHEREAS, SUID is one of the leading causes of death in infants (0-364 days) and is often associated with preventable unsafe infant sleep practices and environments; and

WHEREAS, research shows that a child's brain grows rapidly during safe sleep; and

WHEREAS, babies should always be put to sleep on their backs, alone in their own crib or bassinet; with no bumpers, pillows, quilts, comforters, or other soft surfaces in the crib; and

WHEREAS, moms and dads should not share beds with their babies and anyone under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or smoking should not be resting with the baby; and

WHEREAS, local and national agencies such as Step Up Suncoast/Parents as Teachers, Early Steps, Florida Department of Health in Desoto County, Healthy Start Program, Redlands Christian Migrant Association, Department of Children and Family Services and Safe Child Coalition, and their partnering agencies educate Desoto County residents on safe sleep practices; and

WHEREAS, Desoto County Board of County Commissioners recognizes that infant unsafe sleeping is a public health issue in Desoto County and across the country, and together we can help by ensuring any person caring for a baby is using safe sleep practices; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Board of County Commissioners for Desoto County, Florida do hereby proclaim the month of October 2025, as:

SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH

and extend their continued support for the efforts of local agencies to promote safe sleep practices in Desoto County.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 14th day of October, 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

Mandy Hines
County Administrator

JC Deriso
Chairman