

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION NO. 17-474

**IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING THE)
MONTH OF OCTOBER 2017, AS "SIDS/SUID)
AWARENESS MONTH IN FRESNO COUNTY")**

WHEREAS, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) are defined as the death of an infant less than 1 year of age that occurs suddenly and unexpectedly, and whose cause of death is not immediately obvious before investigation; and

WHEREAS, SIDS/SUID remains the leading cause of death for infants one month to one year of age and is the fourth leading cause of infant mortality in the United States with approximately 3700 deaths in 2015; and

WHEREAS, SIDS/SUID invades all social, economic, racial, cultural, ethnic and religious groups, but affects African American infants at a rate 2.5 times greater than other racial groups; and

WHEREAS, By increasing public awareness in our community and working with our professional partners to stress of the importance of a safe sleep environment and the benefit it can have in the reduction of risk of a SIDS/SUID or other sleep related death; and

WHEREAS, The Fresno County Department of Public Health SIDS program, by following the American Academy of Pediatrics 2016 Recommendations for a Safe Infant Sleeping Environment, and guided by such entities as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health and the Maternal Child Health Bureau, continues to provide risk reduction education to our community and our professional partners; and

WHEREAS, The SIDS coordinator works closely with our grief stricken families to offer support and connection to local grief/bereavement and counseling support services through our Public Health Champions, Angel Babies.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of October 2017, as "SIDS/SUID Awareness Month in Fresno County" and encourages the residents and community partners of Fresno County to promote safe sleep environments for infants and lend support to families whose lives are forever altered by the heartbreak of having a child taken far too soon.

