Washoe County, Nevada

~PROCLAMATION~

WHEREAS, Unsafe sleep practices are one of the leading causes of death among otherwise healthy infants under the age of one in Washoe County; and

WHEREAS, There have been 18 infant deaths in Washoe County from Fiscal Years 2015 to 2019, due to unsafe sleep situations; and

WHEREAS, Babies can suffocate as a result of sleeping in an adult bed or on other dangerous sleep surfaces, such as couches, arm chairs or pillows; and

WHEREAS, Babies sleep safest when sleeping alone, on their back in a crib, or bassinet with a firm mattress and a tightly fitted sheet with no other items, such as toys, pillows or blankets in the sleep area and when they are dressed appropriately so they don't overheat; and

WHEREAS, the Washoe County Human Services Agency Children's Services Division declares the month of October Infant Safe Sleep Awareness Month in an effort to prevent Sudden Unexplained Infant Deaths and promote safe sleep practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Washoe County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 2019 as

~ Infant Safe Sleep Awareness Month ~

and encourages all Washoe County caregivers, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, babysitters, child care providers, health care providers, and all others to practice safe sleep habits and reduce the risk of accidental infant deaths.

Dated this 17th day of September, 2019.

Vaughn Hartung, Chair

Washoe County Commission