

# Office of the Governor



JOHN BEL EDWARDS

## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** September 2022 marks Infant Mortality Awareness Month and is designed to increase the community's awareness of the high rates of infant deaths as infant mortality continues to impact families and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** infant mortality refers to the death of a baby under one year of age; and
- WHEREAS,** premature birth, low birth weight and birth defects are among the leading causes of infant mortality; and
- WHEREAS,** the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in the United States of America is 5.547 infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2022; and
- WHEREAS,** the African American IMR is 2.3 times of that of non-Hispanic whites; and
- WHEREAS,** the Infant Mortality Awareness Month provides opportunities for communities to get involved and promote better health for mothers, babies and families throughout Louisiana.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim September 2022 as

**INFANT MORTALITY AWARENESS MONTH**  
in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the  
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton  
Rouge, on this 1st day of September A. D., 2022.



Handwritten signature of John Bel Edwards in black ink.

John Bel Edwards  
Governor