

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019

HR 1075

4  
5 By: Representative Bentley

6  
7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 2019 AS "ARKANSAS SAFE SLEEP  
9 AWARENESS MONTH".

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 2019 AS "ARKANSAS  
14 SAFE SLEEP AWARENESS MONTH".

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16  
17 WHEREAS, in 2016, approximately 300 infants in Arkansas died before  
18 their first birthdays and nearly 1/4 of the deaths were sudden, unexpected  
19 infant deaths, a majority of which were sleep-related; and

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21 WHEREAS, black infants had a 40% higher risk of sleep-related deaths  
22 compared to white infants; and

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24 WHEREAS, the sudden, unexpected death of an infant younger than 1 year  
25 of age may or may not have a known cause even after a complete investigation;  
26 and

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28 WHEREAS, an infant who sleeps alone, on his or her back, and in a crib  
29 is much less likely to die suddenly and unexpectedly; and

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31 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that an infant  
32 should always be put to sleep alone, on his or her back, and in a crib,  
33 bassinet, Pack 'n Play, or similar sleep surface or furniture with only a  
34 firm mattress and tightly fitted sheet; and

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36 WHEREAS, the crib, bassinet, Pack 'n Play, or similar sleep surface or



1 furniture should meet the safety standards of the Consumer Product Safety  
2 Commission, with no bumper pads, pillows, loose blankets, comforters, toys,  
3 or other soft items; and

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5 WHEREAS, compliance with these recommendations by an infant's  
6 caregivers can decrease the infant's risk of dying; and

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8 WHEREAS, hospitals, state agencies, community organizations, and other  
9 partners are crucial in promoting compliance with the American Academy of  
10 Pediatrics' safe sleep recommendations; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Department of Health, Office of Minority Health and Health  
13 Disparities of the Department of Health, Arkansas Child Death Review,  
14 Arkansas Children's Hospital Nursery Alliance, Injury Prevention Center at  
15 Arkansas Children's Hospital, Safe Sleep Infant Mortality Collaborative  
16 Improvement and Innovation Network, Arkansas Hospital Association, Inc.,  
17 Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc., Division of Child Care and Early  
18 Childhood Education of the Department of Human Services, Arkansas Center for  
19 Health Improvement, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Baptist  
20 Health's Community Outreach, March of Dimes, and the Alpha Beta Zeta Dove  
21 Foundation are joining with other organizations that lead efforts in reducing  
22 these preventable sleep-related deaths among infants,

23  
24 NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL  
26 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

27  
28 THAT the House of Representatives recognize September 2019 as "Arkansas  
29 Safe Sleep Awareness Month" and urge citizens to join together to promote  
30 safe sleep practices for infants.