



A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, child abuse involving head trauma, including, without limitation, the head trauma known as shaken baby syndrome, which is caused by the violent shaking of an infant or small child, is recognized as the leading cause of death of physically abused children; and

WHEREAS, according to UNITY, there were 22 reports of Shaken Baby Syndrome in 2010; of those 22 reports 21 were substantiated; four of these resulted in near fatalities and one resulted in a fatality; and

WHEREAS, shaken baby syndrome is an entirely preventable form of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, many severe and permanent physical and mental consequences may result from shaken baby syndrome, including, without limitation, various levels of brain damage, loss of vision, paralysis, seizures and death; and

WHEREAS, shaken baby syndrome may result in more than \$1,000,000 in medical costs to care for a single disabled child in the first few years of life; and

WHEREAS, educational and prevention programs constitute the most effective solution for minimizing shaken baby syndrome; and

WHEREAS, educational programs have been shown to raise awareness and provide critically important information about shaken baby syndrome to parents, caregivers, daycare workers, employees of child protection agencies, law enforcement agencies, health care professionals and legal representatives; and

WHEREAS, Congress has previously designated the third week of April as "National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week"; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nevada supports the National effort to protect children from abuse and neglect and recognizes the importance of protecting the children of this State from abuse and neglect;

NOW, THEREFORE I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim April 13-17, 2015, as

SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 6th day of April, 2015.

By the Governor:

Governor

Barbara K. Cegavske
Secretary of State

By Wayne Thibault

Deputy