Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, every infant deserves the opportunity to sleep safely and thrive in a healthy environment, and families and caregivers play a critical role in protecting the well-being of our youngest children: and

WHEREAS, unsafe sleep-related infant deaths remain a significant public health concern across the United States and since implementation of the Sleep Baby Safely program in Manatee County, significant reduction has occurred and more infants make it to their first birthday; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based safe sleep practices following the ABCs, Alone, Back, Crib - include placing babies ALONE on their BACKs, in an empty CRIB, with only a tight fitting sheet - no pillows, pets, blankets, or other people every nap and sleep, saves lives; and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness of safe sleep recommendations helps ensure that every baby has the safest possible start in life throughout our community by establishing community partnerships and educating the public to continue to prevent unsafe sleep related infant deaths.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that October 2026, shall be known, designated, and set aside as

SLEEP BABY SAFELY AWARENESS MONTH

in Manatee County, Florida.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this Tuesday, October 20, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Tal Siddique

Tal Siddique, Chairperson

October 20, 2026 -Regular Meeting

Subject
Sleep Baby Safely Awareness Month

Category
AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Briefings
None

Contact and/or Presenter Information
Board of County Commissioners

Action Requested
Adoption of Proclamation designating October 2026, as “Sleep Baby Safely Awareness Month.”

Enabling/Regulating Authority
None

Background Discussion
The Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, through its Sleep Baby Safely initiative, is committed to educating families, supporting caregivers, and promoting evidence-based safe sleep practices that protect infants and strengthen families.

Attorney Review
Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Instructions to Board Records
None

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name
N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs
N/A