



# SAFE HAVEN

No one has to abandon an infant. The **Indiana Safe Haven Law** enables a person to surrender an unwanted infant **anonymously** without fear of arrest or prosecution.

**A parent, family member, friend, minister or priest, social worker or any responsible person may give up custody of a baby less than 60 days old to an Indiana...**



HOSPITAL



LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER



PHYSICIAN



FIREFIGHTER OR AT A "SAFE BOX" LOCATED AT SPECIFIC FIRE STATIONS



NURSE



PARAMEDIC OR  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
TECHNICIAN



OR OTHER PERSON WHO  
PROVIDES EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES

*As long as there are no signs of intentional abuse on the baby, no information is required of the person leaving the baby. Any knowledge of the date of birth, race, parent medical history, child's health or anything that would be useful to the child's caregiver would be greatly appreciated (such as diabetes, HIV or other family medical history).*

## NEW LEGISLATION

As of July 1, 2018, new legislation was passed to include newborn safety devices. To educate yourself further on what is defined within this legislation, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/mvktk9vx>. Here are a few brief summaries:

- A** An emergency medical services provider shall, without a court order, take custody of a child who is, or who appears to be, not more than thirty (30) days of age if the child is voluntarily left with the provider by the child's parent, in a newborn safety device that has been approved, or if the parent does not express an intent to return.
- B** An emergency medical services provider who takes custody of a child under this section shall perform any act necessary to protect the child's physical health or safety.
- C** Any person who in good faith voluntarily leaves a child with an emergency medical service provider, or in an approved newborn safety device, is not obligated to disclose the parent/person(s) name.
- D** A hospital that approves the operation of a newborn safety device, and meets the set forth requirements, is immune from civil liability for an act or omission relating to the operation of the newborn safety device unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.
- E** A newborn safety device described in subsection (a)(1)(C) may continue to operate without meeting the conditions set forth in subsection (a)(1)(B).

**NOTE:** *Once the baby is examined and given medical treatment (if needed), the Indiana Department of Child Services will take the baby into custody through Child Protective Services where it will be placed with a caregiver.*

More information at: [www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org](http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org)

## MORE ABOUT US

*Prevent Child Abuse Indiana is dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect. In doing so, we make Indiana a safer, better place for our children.*



### INFO AND RESOURCES

Parents can receive free counseling and discuss all types of options regarding their situation by calling the **National Safe Haven Hotline 1-866-992-2291** or online at [www.SHBB.org](http://www.SHBB.org). They may also call the 2-1-1 Resource Line, or **988 Mental Health Hotline**.



### REPORT CHILD ABUSE

To report child abuse and neglect, please call **1.800.800.5556**



### SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS

Help support our statewide efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect by purchasing a Kids First License Plate. Visit your local BMV or [www.in.gov/dcs/2456.htm](http://www.in.gov/dcs/2456.htm) for more info.