

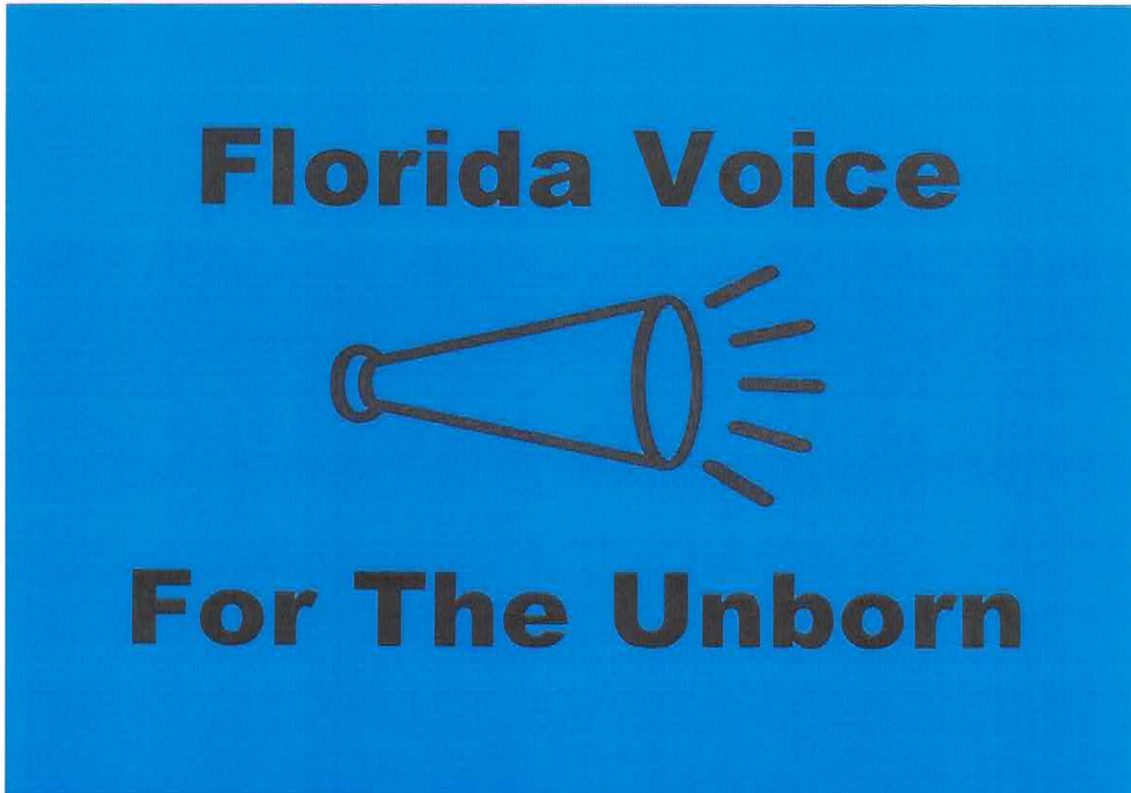
TAKE ACTION: Baby Box Bill ALERT!

Florida Voice for the Unborn <Andrew@FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com>

Fri 2/5/2021 9:09 AM

To: Andrew Shirvell <andrew@floridavoicefortheunborn.com>

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Dear Friend of the Unborn:

This is another important "Grassroots Action Alert" about the "Baby Box Bill" (Florida Senate Bill 122).

On Wednesday, January 27, 2021, the Senate Health Policy Committee voted 6-to-2 to advance Senate Bill 122. There were no amendments to the bill. All 6 pro-life Republicans voted in favor and 2 pro-abortion Democrats voted against it (the other 2 pro-abortion Democratic committee members were absent). Thank you to all who called, e-mailed, and prayed for the bill's advancement. Our legislators have taken notice that this lifesaving legislation has strong grassroots support from all over Florida!

Consequently, the bill has been quickly scheduled for its next stop: the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. **This subcommittee will be meeting this Tuesday, February 9, 2021, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Senate Bill 122 is the only bill on the subcommittee's agenda. So, once again, I am asking you to call and/or e-mail the subcommittee members (listed further below), utilizing the following talking

points:

- A baby box is actually a temperature-controlled safety device that accepts surrendered newborn infants and comes equipped with an alarm system that is triggered once a newborn is placed inside. A form of these devices has been around for centuries in many places throughout the globe. The modern-day baby boxes, provided primarily through Safe Haven Baby Boxes, are completely safe.
- Senate Bill 122 provides necessary regulations governing the use of a baby box, such as by requiring Florida baby box locations to have an adequate surveillance system that is in working condition 24 hours a day.
- Senate Bill 122 increases the age at which an infant may be legally surrendered, from 7 days to 30 days old. This increase is needed to give mothers more options for safely surrendering their newborns. Illegal infant abandonments, which have led to death, do not just occur in the first week following an infant's birth.
- Baby boxes have a proven track record of deterring illegal newborn abandonments and saving lives. Since Indiana installed the nation's first Safe Haven Baby Box several years ago, there have been no reported illegal newborn abandonments in that state. And in 2019, Indiana had 9 newborn infants surrendered via baby boxes.

In addition, you may also want to emphasize that the legislation in no way mandates any new taxes or fees in order to pay for baby boxes. Rather, it will be up to private entities (such as hospitals) and city governments as to how they will allocate funds for the purchase and installation of a baby box. **The state of Florida is not involved in funding the baby boxes.**

Again, please utilize one or more of the above talking points and contact as many of the senators on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services as possible (listed below) by e-mailing them and/or by calling them. To e-mail a senator, just click on the e-mail link next to their name in order to write and send your own unique message. It can be as short or as long as you like it to be. I have again also listed the phone numbers for each senator's Tallahassee and district offices. If you can't get a hold of anyone, just leave a polite message. And no matter what, remember to mention that you're with Florida Voice for the Unborn!

Here is the contact info for the senators on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services:

Chair Aaron Bean (R): (850) 487-5004 or (904) 757-5039 & Bean.Aaron@flsenate.gov

Vice Chair Ana Maria Rodriguez (R): (850) 487-5039 or (305) 470-2552 & Rodriguez.AnaMaria@flsenate.gov

Jason Brodeur (R): (850) 487-5009 or (407) 333-1802 &

Brodeur.Jason@flsenate.gov

Danny Burgess (R): (850) 487-5020 or (813) 779-7059 &

Burgess.Danny@flsenate.gov

Manny Diaz (R): (850) 487-5036 or (305) 364-3073 &

Diaz.Manny@flsenate.gov

Gayle Harrell (R): (850) 487-5025 or (772) 221-4019 &

Harrell.Gayle@flsenate.gov

Ray Wesley Rodrigues (R): (850) 487-5027 or (239) 338-2570 &

Rodrigues.Ray@flsenate.gov

Lauren Book (D): (850) 487-5032 or (954) 424-6674 &

Book.Lauren@flsenate.gov (Note: she's the chief legislative opponent of the bill).

Gary Farmer (D): (850) 487-5034 or (954) 467-4227 &

Farmer.Gary@flsenate.gov

Shev Jones (D): (850) 487-5035 or (305) 493-6002 &

Jones.Shevrin@flsenate.gov

Darryl Rouson (D): (850) 487-5019 or (727) 822-6828 &

Rouson.Darryl@flsenate.gov

You'll probably notice that some of these senators were also on the Health Policy Committee. Be sure to contact them again anyway. The more they hear from us the better. The opponents of Senate Bill 122 will try all sorts of maneuvers in order to delay or stop the bill in its tracks – so we need to keep up the pressure!

I will be testifying once again at this upcoming Tuesday's committee hearing. If you'd like to join me, please reply to this message and let me know! Remote testimony will only be received from Room A3 at the Donald L. Civic Center, 505 W. Pensacola Street, Tallahassee. The Civic Center has free parking, and you should arrive by 10:30 a.m. this Tuesday!

Finally, if you can financially help our efforts, we really need you more than ever in order to meet our monthly bills and keep us fighting in Tallahassee for the "Baby Box Bill" as well as for the "2021 Florida Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act" and other important pro-life legislation that is in the pipeline. To donate via our secure website, please [CLICK HERE](#). You may also send a check (made out to "Florida Voice for the Unborn") to the following address:

Florida Voice for the Unborn
P.O. Box 12152
Tallahassee, FL 32317

Any amount you can spare is greatly appreciated and put to very good use. With all of our activities since the start of 2021, we are in serious need of funding this month. Thank you for your generosity and for your prayers!

Together, let's continue to be a LOUD voice for our voiceless unborn brothers and sisters!

P.S. Don't forget to contact the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services members (listed above) about passing Senate Bill 122 (the "Baby Box Bill"). Thank you for doing your part today to advance a Culture

of Life!

For Their Lives,



Andrew Shirvell, J.D.
Founder & Executive Director
Florida Voice for the Unborn

Florida Voice for the Unborn is a Tallahassee-based grassroots lobbying group that only focuses on pro-life issues impacting the unborn. It is strictly independent, and its work is guided by faith in God's only Son, Jesus Christ. Florida Voice for the Unborn supports all peaceful efforts by elected officials and others to end abortion and save lives. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Parler @UnbornVoiceFL – and visit our website [HERE](#).



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