

HB 76 -- ABANDONMENT OF NEWBORN CHILDREN

SPONSOR: Murphy

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass- Consent" by the Standing Committee on Consent and House Procedure by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill adds a newborn safety incubator, as defined in the bill, as a place a parent of child up to 45 days old may voluntarily deliver the child with the intent not to return, without being prosecuted. The bill authorizes the Department of Health and Senior Services to promulgate rules relating to the "Safe Place for Newborns Act of 2002".

This bill is similar to HB 1437 (2020).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there are charitable organizations that would be willing to donate newborn safety incubators that are climate controlled and alarmed, and similar incubators have saved lives in other states.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Murphy; Missouri Right To Life; and Arnie C. Dienoff

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.