

Newborn Relinquishment Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: David P. Hinkins

House Sponsor: Steve Eliason

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the safe relinquishment of a newborn child.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

amends the definition of "newborn child" as that term is used in provisions concerning the safe relinquishment of a newborn child.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates \$104,000 in operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2026, all of which is from the General Fund.

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

80-4-501, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 330

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section 80-4-501 is amended to read:

80-4-501 . Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Hospital" means a general acute hospital, as that term is defined in Section 26B-2-201, that is:

- (a) equipped with an emergency room;
(b) open 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and
(c) employs full-time health care professionals who have emergency medical services training.

29 (2) "Newborn child" means a child who is approximately [30] 90 days old or younger, as
30 determined within a reasonable degree of medical certainty.

31 Section 2. **FY 2026 Appropriations.**

32 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
33 2025, and ending June 30, 2026. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for
34 fiscal year 2026.

35 Subsection 2(a). **Operating and Capital Budgets**

36 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the
37 Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for
38 the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

39 ITEM 1 To Department of Health and Human Services - Children, Youth, & Families
40 From General Fund 84,000

41 Schedule of Programs:
42 Family Health 84,000

43 The Legislature intends that the Department of
44 Health and Human Services use the ongoing
45 appropriation under this item for the Newborn Safe
46 Haven program.

47 ITEM 2 To Department of Health and Human Services - Children, Youth, & Families
48 From General Fund, One-time 20,000

49 Schedule of Programs:
50 Family Health 20,000

51 The Legislature intends that the Department of
52 Health and Human Services use the one-time
53 appropriation under this item for training and educational
54 outreach materials related to the Newborn Safe Haven
55 program.

56 Section 3. **Effective Date.**

57 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.