



February 20, 2026

Alaska House Judiciary Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: VOTE NO on HB64, BABY BOXES

Dear Honorable Members of the Alaska House Judiciary Committee:

As an Adoptee Rights organization, we advocate for ethics, transparency, and accountability across all areas of child welfare. As a collective of adopted individuals, we are deeply concerned about the harms that "abandonment boxes" promote. These devices offer a simplistic, superficial response to what is often a complex—and sometimes temporary—situation.

We urge you to VOTE NO on HB64. We know firsthand the long-term emotional and psychological consequences of separation, especially when decisions are made without fully considering the lifelong impact on both adoptees and birth mothers. While reunion may help recover some of what was lost, the original trauma is often irreparable.

With Safe Haven laws already in place in your state, there is no justifiable reason to support the installation of these inhumane devices. These boxes are not in the best interest of the child. Children have a fundamental right to access their own medical history, accurate birth date, and information about their origins—all of which are often lost through anonymous relinquishment.

Abandonment boxes strip away these rights. They allow for infant relinquishment without informed consent, without medical care for parent or child, and without accountability. They create the illusion of safety while actually putting infants and parents at greater risk.

There is no credible evidence that the presence of baby boxes reduces unsafe infant abandonment—a tragic event that is already rare. To suggest that a distressed parent in crisis will be guided to a box rather than already-available Safe Haven locations is to ignore the complexity of these moments. These boxes do not address the root causes of parental crisis. Instead, they deter vulnerable women from seeking the care and support they need—resulting in a permanent, life-altering decision for what may be a temporary issue.

These devices perpetuate the myth of permanent anonymity for birth parents, something DNA technology has already proven to be false. What they truly obscure is who actually is relinquishing the child. They may facilitate the concealment of abuse, rape, incest, or coercion. They do not prevent someone other than the mother, such as an abusive partner or relative—from giving up the child without her consent. And they cut off the infant's right to know and possibly maintain relationships with other biological family members who could provide care.

Modern adoption practices increasingly recognize the importance of preserving family connections when possible. These boxes completely disregard that shift—and prevent opportunities for biological families to stay connected, or for infants to be raised by kin.

It's also essential to confront an uncomfortable truth: adoption is a multi-billion-dollar industry, and devices like these help maintain the supply of infants to meet market demand. While marketed as “safe and comfortable” options for babies, adoptees can attest—there is nothing comfortable or safe about being permanently separated from one's biological mother.

Members of the House Judiciary Committee, you have the opportunity to stand with women and children in your community by rejecting a dangerous device that encourages secrecy over support. Say NO to legislation that helps funnel infants into an industry rather than addressing the needs of struggling families.

VOTE NO on HB64. This bill does not support children. It does not support mothers. And it undermines families and their rights.

Thank you for considering our position.

Adoptee Advocates of Michigan

Valerie Lemieux, *Founder*

[REDACTED]

From: Dawn Geras [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 3:01 PM
To: House Judiciary
Cc: Dawn Geras
Subject: RE:HB64

1) Alaska already has extensive Safe Haven sites at hospitals, police, fire, EMS, and outpatient treatment centers: 245+ sites already in place. Installing baby boxes at just 80% of these existing Safe Haven sites would cost **at least \$4,300,000** (at approximately \$22,060 per box), *not including* ongoing maintenance, monitoring, and licensing costs.

2) A far more holistic and effective approach to supporting parents in crisis is direct contact. This interaction creates an opportunity to provide immediate emotional support, medical care, and information about available services. Importantly, anonymity is already guaranteed by the law. Evidence shows that when parents receive compassionate, nonjudgmental support, approximately 29% choose to parent their child or pursue an adoption plan rather than relinquish anonymously.

3) While boxes may marginally increase anonymity, they also eliminate personal contact, leaving a parent completely alone during an intensely emotional and time-sensitive decision. Although parents have the legal right to surrender an infant and walk away, there is intrinsic value—even in a brief interaction—in offering compassion and human presence. Anecdotal evidence from first responders consistently describes these exchanges as deeply loving and humane acts. Their presence gives parents a comforting final memory of knowing their baby is safe and cared for

4) Today's environment of high risk of terrorist attacks makes boxes a soft target potential a terrorist attack. A box could be used to conceal an explosive device that could kill many first responders, nurses, doctors and patients in the facility. This concern has been raised by terrorism task force and law enforcement agencies nationwide. For more context, please see this short video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANKrGbHbXCE&feature=youtu.be>

I hope this provides a broader perspective on the issue. Please let me know if you have additional questions. This is an opportunity to make a life-or-death difference for the most vulnerable among us, newborn babies and their parents.

Suggestions:

Consider directing available funding to a statewide awareness campaign to ensure parents know about the Baby Safe Haven law and existing Safe Haven locations. That would be a much wiser use of the State's money.

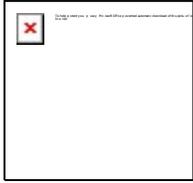
Dawn Geras

25 years of preventing illegal abandonment of newborn babies.

Executive Chairperson, Save Abandoned Babies Fdn.



Dawn@SaveAbandonedBabies.org
www.SaveAbandonedBabies.org



From: Marley Greiner <bastardnation3@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:12 AM
To: House Judiciary
Subject: HB64/SB9: Safe Haven Baby Boxes/Newborn Safety Devices. Submitted Testimony OPPOSE
Attachments: Alaska HB64 SHBB final 2026 posted.doc; Alaska HB64 SHBB final 2026 posted.pdf

Honorable House Judiciary Committee Members

Attached in text and pdf is **testimony I am submitting for the record** in opposition to HB64/SB9, a bill to legalize the use of newborn safety devices aka Safe Haven Baby Boxes. (Hpe this is the correct way to submit.)

Included in the testimony are 2 of our fact sheets on why we oppose the bill..I urge you, if you do nothing else, to watch the 9-minute "PSA" video targeted at teenage girls that was produced by Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc and posted on their YouTube channel that instructs on how to hide a pregnancy, give unattended birth, and then drop the baby in the box and walk away.. This is dangerous stuff! (see Document B) [This is the link to the video.](#)

I might have one more document to forward to you for inclusion in your bill packet ,but please consider this as our testimony for now. I am also going to see if I can testify remote.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please vote Do Not Pass

Yours truly,

Marley Greiner
Executive Chair
Bastard Nation: the Adoptee Rights Organization
Owner, Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now
614-795-6819



Bastard Nation: the Adoptee Rights Organization
PO Box 4607
New Windsor, New York 12553-7845
614-795-6819

bastards.org bastards3@gmail.com @bastardnation@bsky.social

Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now
6537 S. Staples Drive, Ste 125
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412
stopbbnow.org stopbabyboxesnow@gmail.com

Submitted Testimony
HB64
Infant Safety Devices/Safe Haven Baby Box Authorization
Alaska House Judiciary Committee
February 20, 2026
OPPOSE
Submitted Testimony
by
Marley E. Greiner, Executive Chair. Bastard Nation

This is joint testimony submitted by [Bastard Nation: the Adoptee Rights Organization](http://bastardnation.org) and [Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now](http://stopbbnow.org). We submitted testimony last year but don't see it on the HB64 Legislative page. This is a revision of that testimony.

I am the Executive Chair of Bastard Nation, the largest adoptee civil rights organization in the United States. We support only full unrestricted access for all adopted persons to their original birth certificates (OBC) and other adoption documents. Since 2016 we have opposed the legalization and use of "newborn safety devices" aka Safe Haven Baby Boxes I am also the owner of SSHBBN, the largest baby abandonment box information, education, and media resource website in the world.

Alaska is a pioneer in acknowledging and protecting the civil right of its adoptees to obtain their OBCs without restriction and conditions. Until 1998 it was only 1 of 2 states that acknowledged that right and refused to seal our records from us.

Bastard Nation and Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now are alarmed and saddened that the Alaska legislature is considering taking a backward step. HB64 authorizes the use of baby abandonment boxes where parents “who can't take care of their children” to anonymously insert their babies up to 21 days of age into a box in the wall and walk away; thus, stripping away the right of all Alaska-born adoptees without compromise, to their own identity, heritage, and identity.

We are not alone in opposition. No adoptee rights, birthparent rights, or adoption reform organization in the US today supports newborn safety devices. Neither do the pioneers of the original Safe Haven Law movement, such as A Safe Haven for Newborns (Miami), the Save Abandoned Babies Foundation (Chicago) and AMT-Children of Hope (New York). I have not seen that the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (Quad A)) has an official opposition policy, but its Florida affiliate, the Florida Adoption Council, does. Other prominent organizations that oppose include, but are not limited to, the Chicago Bar Association, the ACLU of Maine and New Mexico, the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, the Louisiana March of Dimes, the national family-preservation organization Saving Our Sisters, and the Coalition to Prevent Violence Against Native Women (New Mexico). [A complete list is here](http://stopshbbnow.org/our-friends).(stopshbbnow.org/our-friends). Safe Haven Baby Boxes are in direct conflict with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and similar native and indigeneous state protection laws, which in some states are stronger than ICWA. Baby box legislation in New Mexico has been defeated repeatedly due to the opposition of tribal leaders and Native American legal advocates.

Last last year, the [Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics at Yale University's Infant Abandonment Working Group](http://bioethics.yale.edu/infan_abandonment) published *Legislative Report: US Policy Responses to Infant Abandonment and Infanticide* (bioethics.yale.edu/infan_abandonment)) The Center also sent an [open letter to HSS](#) supported by over 100 child welfare and maternal health scholars, clinicians, legislators, policymakers, educators, adoption and birthparent advocates, legal professionals, indigenous leaders, and concerned citizens from across the US to request increased HHS involvement in public health policy responses to crisis pregnancies and asking for federal oversight of the rapidly expanding network of **unregulated Safe Haven Baby Boxes**. (These documents and more are available at the general working group link above.)

Our submitted testimony contains 3 parts:

A general narrative of our opposition. To make this testimony easier for all of us, this is followed by two attached bullet point fact sheets which go into more detail:

- *Document A*: Our Talking Points, an easy to-follow sheet covering objections regarding the abrogation of adoptee civil rights, birthparent rights, informed consent, and best practice in adoption and child welfare that the legalization of baby abandonment boxes present.
- *Document B*: 4 Specific concerns about procedures, practices safety and ultimately the tight control practiced by Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc, the ministry that created the Safe Haven Baby Box Movement, manufactures and distributes the boxes, “writes” legislation such as HB64, runs a hotline to channel mothers to boxes, raises funds, and uses Box Babies as tools to further its agenda.

The Adoptee Rights Movement Opposes Newborn Safety Device /Baby Boxes:

Why it's Important

The promotion and use of Safe Haven Baby Boxes is anti-adoptee, anti-adoption, anti-family, dangerous, and unethical. Boxes are a danger to the physical and mental/emotional health of mother and child. Abandonment boxes are a slap in the face of every parent who has followed normal child relinquishment procedures. The boxes are a slap in the face of the 6 million adopted people in the United States today, who unlike Alaska adoptees, are subjected to archaic and discriminatory adoption secrecy laws such as sealed birth and court records. They are a slap in the face of adopted people everywhere in the US who view Alaska as an ally in the battle for equality. The promotion of baby boxes promulgate the old secret system that adopted people have battled for over 70 years to abolish and that the State of Alaska always rejected.

Safe Haven Baby Box promoters, no matter how well-intentioned (and most are), whether they know it or not, subscribe, to the long-discredited “blank slate” theory of adoption, reducing adoptees, (whom they assume Box Babies will become) to familyless, historyless commodities—gifts given to strangers with no thought of the consequences to infants' legal and psychological welfare and civil rights or those of their biological parent

Instead, Baby Boxes are promoted as a consumerist “choice”— a simple solution for mothers so “desperate” that unless they can dump their newborns anonymously in a box-in-a-wall they will kill or at least discard them dangerously. These same “dangerous” mothers portrayed as the *raison d'etre* for baby boxes—these Monster Moms--when they use the box, however, are re-framed, redeemed, and praised by proponents for loving their babies so much they can't bring themselves to kill them. The Safe Haven Baby Box Movement with its boxes, in hand, in reality, are profoundly misogynistic presenting all girls and women of child-bearing age as potential neonaticists.

Who are these babies “saved” from?

When asked to provide evidence of the efficacy of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, who uses them, and why, advocates can cite no studies or any other facts because none exist. We have only their intuitive “ we just know.”

Does Alaska have a discarded newborn crisis? Only 3 reported cases of discard have occurred in the state since 2013 (Eagle Rock, Fairbanks, Anchorage)

To top it off, the number of reported discard cases throughout the US has remained steady since the Safe Haven Baby Box concept was introduced 10 years ago. The only thing baby boxes have accomplished it making it easier for a small number of parents to do drive-by child relinquishments without informed consent, non-directed counseling, informed consent, and pesky paper-signing.

Safe Haven Baby Box advocates claim that traditional Safe Haven laws, with their anonymous personal hand-off “relinquishment” provisions, are tricky and dangerous. “Women demand anonymity” leading proponents insist--granted total anonymity in child relinquishment, in order to be protected from shame and guilt. But what says more about shame and guilt than promoting a program where women are taught (the baby box company offers a training video) how to hide pregnancy and childbirth, skip pre- and post natal care, and encouraged to skulk around dark obscure (but “prominent”) spots outside of hospitals and fire or police stations to drop their babies into a box, like trash, and walk away. “No one will ever have to know” (See *Document 2* below for details)

But people will know!

Under Alaska law, and proposed in HB64, babies up to 21 days of age can be dropped off at state-designated locations such as hospitals and fire stations or just left in a box. These babies potentially have known identities parent(s), families, medical providers, social connections, birth certificates, Social Security cards, and any number of other ties to their families and communities. With passage of HB64, they will be unceremoniously disappeared inside a box. And no one will ask “Where's the baby?”???? Seriously!

During the March 31, 2025 hearing for SB9, the companion to SB64, OCS Director Kim Guay, answered questions about the bill. Below is her enlightening response regarding departmental knowledge of the identities of parents and babies in safe haven cases: Alaska parents either self-report or the event is an open secret in their community.

1:43:33 PM SENATOR TOBIN asked how OCS finds who the parent of a surrendered child is, and in a case where no information is provided, what the process is to determine a parent's identity. She said a child placed in a safe-surrender device is essentially abandoned, without identifying information, and no way to know from where they came or who they are.

MS. GUAY replied that OCS typically learns the identity of a surrendered infant through community members, or at times a parent will contact OCS to report that they surrendered the child.

(Short cease)

1:45:02 PM MS. GUAY continued her answer, stating that OCS generally finds out who the parent is through community providers or through direct contact with the parent. She said OCS typically identifies the mother first, and then OCS seeks information about the father or the tribe if the child is Alaska Native.

This personal hand-off practice that occurs currently in Alaska offers but does not force interventions: crisis counseling services, support, family preservation options. In other words, decompression and reconsideration. Traditional safe haven advocates, in fact, report that about 30% of mothers who initially plan to use their state's safe have law, change their minds and retain custody, transfer custody to a family member, or place their babies in open adoptions.

The Safe Haven Baby Box makes this nearly impossible.

Connected to this: Rep Andrew Gray, during the February 13 , 2026 hearing for SH64, voiced concern over the state's high rate of rape, and female and child sexual abuse. How could we even know who is using the box and if they are coerced? Last session, Rep Gray asked a similar questions but included kidnapping in his question. That is, someone (boyfriend, parent, trafficker) could take the baby without the non-custodial parent consent, and toss it I the box in the wall. There was a sort of response that the police would be called. Women, living in abusive and dangerous conditions , of course, live in dangerous conditions and would not make that call.

Baby Box proponents say often that they don't care what causes mothers to discard their newborns—or why they use a box. They just want them to use them; thus ignoring the complex and messy causes of infant discard:

- poverty
- inability to secure affordable medical treatment and reproductive health care; decrease in reproductive rights
- denial or ignorance of pregnancy
- draconian immigration policies and practices
- substance abuse and physical and sexual abuse
- shame, crime, mental illness, dysfunctional families, social isolation, and poor communication skills.

Safe Haven Baby Boxes do not even act as a band-aid for what is going on—especially under the current drastic cutback of social services and disregard for civil and human rights.

Events leading to the relinquishment of a child by any means is not the first crisis in a mother's life. Ultimately, how does sticking a baby in a box anonymously and walking away arrest that crisis and improve the lives of girls and women subjected to domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, poverty, substance abuse, lack of health care services and counseling, or suffering from the social and economic disconnect and dysfunction rampant in the US today? Add the overriding personal shame embedded in this Devil's mix, and you've got a recipe for disaster stamped with the promotion and approval of the state and special interests.

What is needed is programs that serve women and children and families in crisis, not endorse and legalize programs that sever familial relationships, create a permanent “solution ” to a temporary problem, and abrogate the civil rights of babies, the adults they will become, and their parents. Alaska is not in the midst of an epidemic of newborn discard and neonaticide. There are concrete issues to address concerning the welfare and safety of mothers and children and families.

Please Vote NO on HB64. Thank you!

DOCUMENT A

STOP SAFE HAVEN BABY BOXES NOW

Why We Oppose Safe Haven Baby Boxes

Adoptee rights and adoption reform organizations throughout the United States oppose deceptive relinquishment practices that are rooted in shame and secrecy, lead to drastic permanent solutions to temporary problems, and create a population of adopted people who have no birth records, identity, or history.

We seek ethics, transparency, and accountability in adoption and in related child welfare practices, not band-aid and gimmick solutions to social, political, and mental health problems that cause newborn discards. Contrary to long-standing and established child welfare policies, the use of baby boxes (sometimes called “newborn safety devices”):

- Creates a secretive and shadow child welfare system that eliminates informed consent, a child’s identifying information, and any record of the social and medical histories of newborns. Baby boxes operate to eliminate a child’s right to identity by eliminating accurate birth registrations and records.
- Commodifies infants and normalizes “legal” baby abandonment as a consumer choice, without acknowledging the lifetime psychological consequences for the baby and the mother, including, but not limited to, abandonment issues, shame, guilt, substance abuse, depression, low self-esteem, and suicidal ideation. Boxes represent state-promoted throwaway culture; some critics call them instruments of child abuse.
- Replaces professional best practice standards with unprofessional and unethical “relinquishment” procedures. Baby boxes instead give vulnerable parents a right to abandon an infant out of convenience or ignorance, with no counseling, documentation, or discussion of established alternatives, such as adequate medical care, financial and material family preservation assistance, or crisis nurseries.
- Deprives the non-surrendering parent of the right to rear her or his own child. Baby boxes eliminate any protections to prove that a person using the box has a legal right to surrender the baby. Embarrassed, frightened, or abusive partners, spouses or family members, and even sex traffickers, will use (and undoubtedly have used) baby boxes without the consent or knowledge of the (other) parent, with no repercussions. Baby box proponents dismiss the real, dangerous, and violent situations experienced by women, simply advocating that “if your baby is taken, just call the police.”
- Disenfranchises natural parents—particularly the non-surrendering parent (usually the father)—of their right to due process by eliminating their ability to locate the child, thus denying them knowledge of (among other things) the dependency proceeding to which they are a party. State-based Putative Father Registries, touted as a safeguard, are rendered useless since records are filed by the name of the mother who remains anonymous by law.
- Creates at-risk adoptions due to possible litigation from the non-surrendering parent or biological family members who may learn of the abandonment and seek custody.

- Contravenes family reunification guidelines of the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act (AFSA) and dispenses with tribal rights embedded in the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), which can also lead to federal litigation.
- Encourages women to keep problematic pregnancies a secret. The promotion of baby boxes discourages family and professional communication and eliminates assistance for sexual and physical abuse, mental illness, substance abuse, and social isolation—factors that cause nearly every newborn discard. Studies indicate that once a pregnancy is acknowledged and discussed the chance of discard almost always disappears.
- Hides crimes such as rape, incest, spousal and partner abuse, and human trafficking.
- Promotes and supports the non-profit ministry Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Inc., a million-dollar corporation that controls the manufacture, promotion, sales, installation, and referral of women to baby boxes in the United States. It has created the baby box market and lobbies legislatures, produces boxes at its own factory, installs the devices, operates a hotline that refers pregnant women to box locations near them, and holds press conferences when a newborn is left in a box. Rather than protect legitimate privacy interests of the infant, it uses boxed children as fundraising tools for its ministry.
- Discourages women from seeking pre-and post-natal care, instead encouraging dangerous and unsafe unattended births in the community, outside of a hospital.

Baby boxes do not address the causes of infant discard. Anonymously dropping a baby into a box and walking away does not obviate or solve the root causes of newborn discard/neo-naticide, which are:

- poverty
- inability to secure affordable medical treatment and reproductive health care
- denial or ignorance of pregnancy
- draconian immigration policies and practices
- substance abuse and physical and sexual abuse
- shame, crime, mental illness, dysfunctional families, social isolation, and poor communication skills.

Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now!

6537 S. Staples Street, Ste 125, Corpus Christi Texas 78413
 (614) 795-6819
 stopshbnow.org

Safe Haven Baby Boxes: Concerns Beyond Adoption and Child Welfare Practices. Monopoly Control, Policy/ Procedures, Funding/Cost, Safety/Health/ Welfare/ Regulation

Monopoly Control

Bills to legalize the use of Safe Haven Baby Boxes are vendor bills that benefit one company, Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc in Woodburn, Indiana, a **multi-million-dollar ministry that is the only source of the devices in the US**. The company invented the Baby Box Movement and market it, writes bills and lobbies lawmakers, produces baby boxes at its own factory, installs the devices, trains location staff, runs a hotline that refers pregnant women and new mothers to box locations near them, and holds press conferences when a newborn is left in a box. Rather than protect legitimate privacy interests of Box Babies, it uses boxed children as fundraising tools for its ministry.

Box Operation, Policy, and Practices

The signage on and around Safe Haven Baby Box locations serves as an advertisement for Safe Haven Baby Boxes Inc. Some locations reportedly attempt to include their own signage that would direct parents to consider a traditional personal walk-in hand-over or other related services, which the company denies. Some locations reportedly ask to literature on local medical, legal, and other support resources available to baby box users, which again the company denies.

Instead, SHBB Inc offers their own information packet in an orange bag found inside the box. From what we have observed in SHBB Inc online posts, news stories, and in legislative and committee meetings, the packet contains advertising about the company along with minimal and possibly wrong medical and legal information. A box located in the Cincinnati-area referred mothers to a midwife in Fort Wayne, Indiana, approximately 180 miles away. The box in Norwalk, Iowa, refers them to a medical service in St. Louis 350 miles away. [The information sheet on post-natal care](#) (also online in FAQ form) is minimal and unprofessional. The Ohio Health Review Board considers the bag, “debris” as per state law, and banned the orange bag from the device, suggesting that it could be placed in a container or rack next to the box. The board also ordered the company to include Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services literature regarding state services and other information (we are not sure what) in the orange bag, but have no idea if the the company complied.

SHBB locations are required to inform SHBB Inc within 2 hours of a drop-off; then prohibited from announcing the case publicly until the company shapes an official announcement that appears in news and social media .In 2025, a fire station in Alabama was taken to task by SHBB Inc social media when the local newspaper reported a drop-off before the company issued an “official” statement.

Finally, SHBB Inc runs its own private “family registry.” The company’s low info orange bag includes a printed form that parents can fill out at the time of drop-off or submit any time later to the company to record health and social histories—and even include parent identities. This

form compares poorly to the professionally designed detailed voluntary medical and social history forms available to parents through state agencies across the country at traditional Safe Haven locations. The SHBB Inc form is held “anonymous” and as far as we know, is not available to appropriate state agencies or child placing agencies appointed by the state to administer custody, care, and baby placement, Nor, as far as we know, is this information given to the adoptive parents of Box Babies. The company for its own unknown purposes, seems to squirrel away personal and “private” information about babies and parents that in normal adoptions would most likely be shared and the adopted individuals could later obtain.

Funding and Cost of Safe Haven Baby Boxes

SHBB Inc sells its product and service to lawmakers and the public claiming the acquisition/lease of a box is a voluntary, local initiative funded not by public funds but by voluntary donations from individuals, ministries, churches, businesses, fraternal organizations, non-profits, anti-abortion organizations, and foundations. Original SHBB legislation usually does not include state funding, but over the last few years some states have amended their laws to add taxpayer funding. Some cities have taken money from COVID, Homeland Security, and other special government accounts.

SHBB Inc initially operated on these private donations, and still collects them. but through various 990s posted online we have documented over \$2 million in state and local taxpayer funded allocations for boxes (there is probably more) for a “service” that is publicized free of public funding and paid for by voluntary contributions. The company does not publicize these taxpayer funds and insists that it does not take any.

Representative tax payer direct funding or through grants include, but not limited to: Indiana (\$1,000,000); Arkansas (\$230,000) Alabama (\$20,000). Montana (\$160,000), Cold Lake, Florida (\$25,000), Beech Grove, Indiana (\$19,000) Helena, Montana (\$15,000), Big River, Montana (\$15,000). New Mexico, with no box law on the books, allocated \$330,000.

San Antonio, Texas, allocated nearly \$450,000 for 12 boxes (reduced to 10) that remain uninstalled [due to the City Attorney’s unspecified concerns about SHBB Inc’s proposed contract with the city.](#)

Trustees at Union Township, Ohio, outside of Cincinnati, decided it was OK to pay outright the approximate \$16,000 lease fee and other costs in their entirety with taxpayer money, not donations. When local pro-life conservative political watchdog Chris Hicks visited the fire station, to see what the box was about, he found the facility empty with a working box in its wall. He continued his investigation, chronicling it on Facebook and YouTube. Digging in, the over-spending trustees dug in and hired an extra firefighter to babysit the facility and keep the box running. SHBB Inc promised to fund the new firefighter but did not. ([See video, courtesy of Chris Hicks.](#)) Thus, local taxpayers were dunned not only the cost of the box but for an extra full-time firefighter at union scale with benefits Hicks reported his findings (which included other violations of Ohio law regarding maintenance and sanitation) to the Ohio Public Health Review Board. His documented report led to the Ohio Department of Health shutting down out-of-compliance boxes until problems were fixed. (*See below for more safety issues.*

Safety, Health, and Welfare of Mother and Child

Promotion and the availability of baby abandonment boxes discourages women from seeking pre-and post-natal care. Instead, SHBB Inc facilitates those in “crisis pregnancies” to undergo dangerous and unsafe unattended births and care outside of a medical and safe setting.

Unsafe Pregnancy and Birth Practices: SHBB Inc says that it suggests its callers seek medical and counseling services, pre- and postnatal care, safe delivery, financial assistance, etc, **but its 9 minute video (deceptively called a Public Service Announcement) with over 28K views on its YouTube channel, is a step-by-step guide, targeting teenage girls, on how to keep pregnancy, childbirth, and “relinquishment-by-box concealed—a secret.** The video panders the weird idea that secret pregnancy, is physically and emotionally easy to pull off, and that unattended childbirth is pristine, uncomplicated and safe. We have shown this video to professionals in OB care and child welfare, and they have been horrified by this message. Those who follow the guidance of the video could die. Their babies could die.

According to SHBB Inc, the youngest mother they have guided anonymously to the box was 12. Would you want your 12-year old daughter or granddaughter, or sister, or neighbor to follow this message?

This is the link to the [video](#).

Health of Box Babies and Mothers: Advocates and news reports routinely claim that babies left in boxes are “healthy and well cared for:”contradicting their “fact” that their mothers would not care for them and might have killed them without the box option. We know, however, of 4 cases (very possibly more) where babies were announced “healthy” but weren’t; and another case where a deceased newborn was dropped off.

- April 2022: a baby girl boxed in [Hammond, Indiana](#), had a stroke either during or shortly after birth and reportedly may suffer lifelong neurological problems.
- May 2023: a newborn boy was boxed in [Benton, Arkansas](#) and pronounced “healthy” though transferred to hospice 1 month after birth diagnosed with pseudo-Zellwegers (D-bi functional protein deficiency), other serious medical issues, and suffered 30-40 seizures a day. He died at 11 months of age.
- February 2024 a newborn boy boxed in [Belen, New Mexico](#) was immediately admitted to the local neonate ICU suffering from pneumonia and hypothermia, and was hospitalized for a month.
- October 2024 : a deceased newborn was left in a box in [Blackfoot, Idaho](#). The mother was located and eventually sentenced to 10 years probation an 100 hours of community service. Moreover, in February 2024, SHBB Inc announced on TikTok that one of its Box

Mothers OD'd and died shortly after boxing her baby—a suspected suicide. (The video seems to have been taken down [but here is what we wrote about it](#))

Safe Haven Boxes are Unregulated

The USDA does not consider SHBBs to be medical devices, Furthermore, they **are not tested by Underwriters Laboratory; thus, not UL certified.**

According to the [Quality Inspection.org](#) website, equipment that should have UL certification includes (1) *Electrical and electronic equipment (appliances, power supplies, etc.)* and (2) *Alarm signaling devices (smoke detectors, fire suppression and alarm monitoring)*. **This means that your microwave, TV, nightstand lamp, and even your power cords should be UL compliant, but electrically- operated baby boxes, that contain a multiple alarm system, are not.**

Importantly, manufacturers of electrical devices that are not certified and 3rd parties that utilize them—in the case of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, the state, locations and municipalities that authorize their use—could be held liable for death, personal injuries, or property damage caused by non-complaint devices.

Last year the SHBB Inc CEO said that getting UL certification is expensive and they have been working on getting it for 2 years. According to the Quality Inspection site, “A small and simple product could cost between \$2-5k, requiring several samples per test, and take about 3-4 weeks to complete the testing.” More complex products can cost more \$50k and take over a month. SHBB Inc’s published 990s indicate the company can well afford certification even for high-end testing. Their 2024 990 (November 11, 2025) indicates an income of over \$4.5 million.

Revised February 17, 2026

Stop Safe Haven Baby Boxes Now!

6537 S. Staples Street, Ste 125, Corpus Christi Texas 78413
(614) 795-6819
stopshbbnow.org