

## Taylor Thrush

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**From:** Babysafehaven <babysafehaven@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 4, 2018 1:27 PM  
**To:** Taylor Thrush  
**Subject:** Fwd: HB 5750 & HB 5751

Please distribute the information about this so-called "baby boxes" scam bill to all committee members.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Babysafehaven <babysafehaven@aol.com>  
**To:** DaireRendon <DaireRendon@house.mi.gov>; BronnaKahle <BronnaKahle@house.mi.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon, Apr 2, 2018 2:49 pm  
**Subject:** HB 5750 & HB 5751

### ***Editorials comparing Massachusetts to Indiana, Michigan, and Illinois.***

<http://www.journalgazette.net/opinion/editorials/20170505/out-of-the-box>

#### **Out of the box - New law reinforces safest method for surrendering abandoned infants**

Friday, May 05, 2017

With the governor's signature this week, Senate Bill 246 effectively ends the idea of placing insulated boxes for unwanted babies in fire stations and other public places. Now attention should turn to promoting the state's safe-haven law as the best approach to protecting infants.....

Better to promote the law with a message that leaving a baby in the safe arms of a nurse or emergency medical provider is easy, is the right thing to do and will have no legal repercussions.

[http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/opinion/our\\_opinion/our-opinion-baby-boxes-are-not-the-answer/article\\_c2baf687-7ade-5153-a34d-e4a732e5560a.html](http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/opinion/our_opinion/our-opinion-baby-boxes-are-not-the-answer/article_c2baf687-7ade-5153-a34d-e4a732e5560a.html)

#### **Our Opinion: Baby boxes are not the answer**

Apr 19, 2017

In its quest to provide better, safer options for desperate mothers looking to surrender an unwanted newborn, Indiana is looking to baby boxes.

Senate Bill 246, which is sitting on Gov. Eric Holcomb's desk, seeks to expand the use of those boxes by providing civil immunity to hospitals that install them and receive a baby, and allows two existing boxes at fire stations near Michigan City and Woodburn to continue operating.....

Another key to Massachusetts' success was the promotion of the Safe Haven law through a series of public service announcements taped by young volunteers that young pregnant mothers related to.

Indiana would do well to follow Massachusetts' lead and do more to promote its Safe Haven law, but baby boxes shouldn't be part of it.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/opinion/editorials/Outside-the-box-10156099>

#### **Safe Haven law offers best chance for moms, infants**

November 30, 2015

"Dr. Jennifer Walthall, deputy state health commissioner, told the commission that while the baby box idea is "compelling at first blush," the Task Force on Infant Mortality and Child Health recommended against the use of baby boxes because it could find no evidence of a decrease in infant mortality or the number of abandoned babies in other places the incubators are used."

[http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/opinion/our\\_opinion/our-opinion-indiana-should-think-outside-the-box-on-newborn/article\\_788f34a5-6823-5381-93db-b192d7baf696.html](http://www.southbendtribune.com/news/opinion/our_opinion/our-opinion-indiana-should-think-outside-the-box-on-newborn/article_788f34a5-6823-5381-93db-b192d7baf696.html)

#### **Our Opinion: Indiana should think outside the box on newborn abandonment**

July 17, 2016

"Baby Boxes are not the answer. Massachusetts' experience could serve as a better model for Indiana, which has had 31 infants safely surrendered since 2001, when its Safe Haven Law was passed. Replicating Massachusetts' results would mean more Hoosier lives saved. There should be no arguing with that kind of success."

<http://www.journalgazette.net/opinion/Out-of-the-box-17602164>

### **The Journal Gazette Opinion**

February 03, 2017 1:01 AM

Out of the box

Animal depositories offer lesson on care of babies

In the debate over so-called "baby boxes," there's a lesson, interestingly, from Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control. Shelter officials announced this week they will remove the depository boxes where unwanted animals are left after hours. Why? "The use of unattended drop boxes where live animals are placed in receptacles by the public may result in animal suffering or death and should be avoided," according to the "Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters." Advocates for the Safe Haven Baby Boxes, first installed at a fire station in Woodburn, will insist the temperature-controlled and alarm-equipped boxes are safer than an animal shelter dropbox, but even the small chance of a newborn being harmed or killed in such a device is reason to avoid them. That's why Indiana's Commission on Improving the Status of Children and the Indiana Task Force on Infant Mortality and Child Health don't condone their use.

<http://www.macombdaily.com/article/MD/20150131/NEWS/150139919>

### **New England group's approach to Safe Haven Law might work in Michigan**

By Jeff Payne, The Macomb Daily

POSTED: 01/31/15

If you buy the premise of a New England-based group promoting the Safe Haven law, as a Generation X-aged guy I'm probably the last person who should be writing about this subject.

Perhaps they are on to something.

<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160817/news/160819211/>

### **Massachusetts advocate: Let young people market baby safe havens**

posted: 8/17/2016

Ask teenagers if they know what a baby safe haven is and their response likely will be "No."

A Massachusetts group says while safe haven laws across the country are well-written -- including the one in Illinois -- most are not properly marketed. The problem, a group leader says, is the folks promoting the law often are in their 50s or older and simply don't know how to reach young people.

<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160819/discuss/160818961/>

### **Editorial: Save babies' lives with modern marketing of safe havens**

posted: 8/19/2016

"None of the laws are the problem. It's the marketing. It's 100 percent the marketing," said Baby Safe Haven New England co-founder Mike Morrissey in a story by Daily Herald staff writer Jessica Cilella. He said the people who worked on and passed the laws are now mostly 55 to 70 years old.

"You cannot bridge that communication gap. In Massachusetts, we're not afraid to bring out a 15-year-old as the visage of the safe haven law."

Morrissey makes sense. Marketing needs have changed in the 15 years since Illinois' law was passed. Teens today are connected to social media in ways unheard of in 2001.

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