



**State Representative Robert McColley**  
**Interested Party Testimony - SB 332 - 131<sup>st</sup> General Assembly**  
**House Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Committee– November 17,**  
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Chairman Sprague and Members of this committee, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony for this important piece of legislation. Modeled after Indiana law, the amendment I'm proposing changes current "safe haven" laws in Ohio to allow someone to place their child into a newborn safety incubator which can be provided by law enforcement agencies, hospitals, or other emergency medical service organizations.

In practice, these safety incubators would be used as follows:

- 1) The materials used to assemble the incubators would be available at the organizations described above and these facilities would be responsible for assembly.
- 2) The incubators would be placed outside these facilities where one would be able to anonymously place a newborn. The incubators would lock immediately after to ensure that only those in the emergency medical service organizations could gain access.
- 3) Within thirty seconds of a child being placed in an incubator, notification would be sent to a centralized location as well as a 9-1-1 call should if a facility does not respond in a reasonable amount of time.

The Director of the Department of Health would be required to adopt rules which govern all of the above as well as the sanitation standards, manufacturing standards, and the design and function requirements of these safety incubators, all of which would be in place to ensure the safety and welfare of the abandoned child.

Thank you, Chairman Sprague and the rest of the committee. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have.