

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Newborn infants have been abandoned to unsafe  
3 environments or other circumstances that can result in death  
4 or injury to those infants and that can result in civil or  
5 criminal liability for parents who may be under severe  
6 emotional distress; and

7 WHEREAS, There is a need for a mechanism whereby a  
8 parent may relinquish a newborn infant to a safe environment  
9 while maintaining anonymity and avoiding civil and criminal  
10 liability; and

11 WHEREAS, Such a mechanism, while not preferable to a  
12 plan for the infant's adoption, is a safer alternative than  
13 the infant's abandonment; and

14 WHEREAS, Illinois has taken steps to implement such a  
15 mechanism by enacting the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection  
16 Act, Public Acts 92-408 and 92-432; and

17 WHEREAS, Parents in every state ought to have a means  
18 for relinquishing a newborn infant to a safe environment; and

19 WHEREAS, H. R. 2873, the "Promoting Safe and Stable  
20 Families Amendments of 2001", has passed the United States  
21 House of Representatives and is presently being considered in  
22 the United States Senate; the bill appropriates federal funds  
23 to support infant safe haven programs such as the program  
24 established in Illinois under the Abandoned Newborn Infant  
25 Protection Act; and

26 WHEREAS, Passage of H. R. 2873 will be of invaluable  
27 benefit to infants and their families in every state;  
28 therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-  
30 SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1     urge the United States Senate to pass H. R. 2873, the  
2     "Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001"; and  
3     be it further

4             RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this Resolution be  
5     sent to each member of the United States Senate.