



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, tragic cases of abandoned newborns have been frequent in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Safe Haven for Newborn laws in Missouri provide a safe and legal solution to the serious issue of infant abandonment, saving the lives of innocent babies who would otherwise be at risk of possible death, neglect, or abuse; and

WHEREAS, Safe Haven for Newborn laws provide adoption opportunities to many Missouri families who are eager and prepared to fulfill their dreams to adopt and raise children; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri recognized and addressed the need for protection of newborns whose parents are unable or unwilling to provide a safe home for their babies by approving Safe Haven for Newborn legislation; and

WHEREAS, children are the foundation for a prosperous and innovative society, and the foundation for a child's growth and development is established when every community and every citizen takes responsibility for creating healthy environments where our children can thrive; and

WHEREAS, the month of April is recognized as National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Safe Haven for Newborn laws represent primary child abuse prevention strategies; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs are essential and succeed because of community partnerships created among citizens, social service agencies, civic organizations, schools, businesses, law enforcement, fire departments, pregnancy resource centers, maternity homes, and hospitals.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Eric R. Greitens, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 5, 2018 to be

SAFE HAVEN FOR NEWBORNS DAY

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 14th day of March, 2018.



Eric R. Greitens
Governor

Attest:

Secretary of State