

**MIKE MCKAY**  
*Legislative District 1*  
Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties



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Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

Senate Bill 873 – Courts – Immunity from Liability – Maryland Safe Haven Program

February 26, 2024

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chairman Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

The purpose of the bill is extending the time from ten to 60 days after the birth of a newborn baby in which a person can leave the unharmed baby with a responsible adult without the intent of returning for the baby. This bill will also protect those individuals from any liability or criminal prosecution in that 60-day timeframe. The bill also authorizes a designated facility to receive these newborn babies in a specified newborn safety device. This bill will authorize the Secretary of Human Services to develop the Maryland Safe Haven Program. This is highly important for the safety of these abandoned children, so they have a chance at a good and healthy life ahead of them. It provides a safe and anonymous alternative for young women who are currently unable or choose not to raise a child for various reasons. I thank you all for your time and ask for a favorable vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McKay".

Senator Mike McKay

Representing the Appalachia Region of Maryland

Serving Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties