



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

***Proposed Bill No. 6549***

LCO No. 2319



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:

REP. DAUPHINAIS, 44<sup>th</sup> Dist.

***AN ACT AUTHORIZING HOSPITALS TO INSTALL DEVICES ON AN EXTERIOR WALL OF AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT TO FACILITATE THE VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF INFANTS TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT STAFF.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 That chapter 368v of the general statutes be amended to authorize
- 2 hospitals to install a climate-controlled device on an exterior wall of an
- 3 emergency department that includes (1) a bassinet, (2) an exterior door
- 4 that automatically locks upon being closed, and (3) an alarm that sounds
- 5 to alert hospital staff that such device has been used.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To prevent infant abandonment and provide a safe and legal option for parents in crisis to voluntarily surrender an infant to emergency department staff.