**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**H. 4019**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Crawford, Erickson, Bernstein, Fry, Burns, Haddon, Oremus, Long, Chumley, Magnuson, Jones, Bennett, Huggins, G.R. Smith, McCravy, V.S. Moss, Bannister, Collins, Trantham and Matthews

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Introduced in the House on March 4, 2021

Introduced in the Senate on April 27, 2021

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Family and Veterans' Services**

Summary: Infant safe haven placement

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/4/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 3](file:///h:\hj\20210304.docx))

3/4/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 3](file:///h:\hj\20210304.docx))

4/21/2021 House Committee report: Favorable **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 13](file:///h:\hj\20210421.docx))

4/22/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Matthews

4/22/2021 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 19](file:///h:\hj\20210422.docx))

4/22/2021 House Roll call Yeas‑106 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 19](file:///h:\hj\20210422.docx))

4/22/2021 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\hj\20210422.docx))

4/23/2021 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\hj\20210423.docx))

4/27/2021 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\sj\20210427.docx))

4/27/2021 Senate Referred to Committee on **Family and Veterans' Services** ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\sj\20210427.docx))

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4019&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/4/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\4019_20210304.docx)

[4/21/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\4019_20210421.docx)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

COMMITTEE REPORT

April 21, 2021

**H. 4019**

Introduced by Reps. Crawford, Erickson, Bernstein, Fry, Burns, Haddon, Oremus, Long, Chumley, Magnuson, Jones, Bennett, Huggins, G.R. Smith, McCravy, V.S. Moss, Bannister, Collins and Trantham

S. Printed 4/21/21--H.

Read the first time March 4, 2021.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 4019) to amend Section 63‑7‑40, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to the placement of infants at designated locations without criminal liability, so as, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass:

CHRIS MURPHY for Committee.

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 63‑7‑40, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO THE PLACEMENT OF INFANTS AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS WITHOUT CRIMINAL LIABILITY, SO AS TO ALLOW THE PLACEMENT OF AN INFANT NOT MORE THAN ONE YEAR OLD AT A SAFE HAVEN AND TO CHANGE THE DEFINITION OF “INFANT”.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 63‑7‑40(G) and (J) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(G) A person who leaves an infant at a safe haven or directs another person to do so must not be prosecuted for any criminal offense on account of such action if:

(1) the person is a parent of the infant or is acting at the direction of a parent;

(2) the person leaves the infant in the physical custody of a staff member or an employee of the safe haven; and

(3) the infant is not more than ~~sixty days~~ one year old or the infant is reasonably determined by the hospital or hospital outpatient facility to be not more than ~~sixty days~~ one year old.

This subsection does not apply to prosecution for the infliction of any harm upon the infant other than the harm inherent in abandonment.

(J) For purposes of this section:

(1) ‘Infant’ means a person not more than ~~sixty days~~ one year old~~; and~~.

(2) ‘Safe haven’ means a hospital or hospital outpatient facility, a law enforcement agency, a fire station, an emergency medical services station, or any staffed house of worship during hours when the facility is staffed.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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