



New Mexico State Senate
State Capitol
Santa Fe

March 20, 2026

Honorable Liz Thomson, Chair
Honorable Linda Lopez, Vice-Chair
Legislative Health & Human Services Committee
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Madam Chair & Vice-Chair:

We are writing to request that our Legislative Health & Human Services (LHHS) Committee add the much-needed expansion of Safe Haven Baby Boxes to its interim work plan.

The news reported that, while the legislature was in session this year, a mother drowned her newborn infant in the blue chemicals of a portable toilet. And last year, another mother discarded her newborn in a northwest Albuquerque dumpster.

Both of these tragedies would likely have been prevented had these women not feared prosecution for their use of a Safe Haven Baby Box. While the availability of baby boxes is increasing, current law does not safeguard the anonymity of the mother, leaving women fearful about safely relinquishing their babies.

[Senate Bill 206](#) was introduced during the 30 day session, but its consideration was unfortunately not authorized by the executive. Nonetheless, we call upon your interim committee to dedicate time to exploring this topic during the 2026 interim, so we can develop consensus on how to safely expand the statewide use of these boxes—protecting both the precious lives of these infants and the anonymity of mothers—in the next session.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Senator Jay Block in black ink.

Senator Jay Block
Senate District 12

Handwritten signature of Senator Rex Wilson in black ink.

Senator Rex Wilson
Senate District 33

Handwritten signature of Senator David Gallegos in black ink.

Senator David Gallegos
Senate District 41

Handwritten signature of Senator Larry Scott in black ink.

Senator Larry Scott
Senate District 42