



Agenda Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

File Code No. 520.03

# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** July 26, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administration Division, Fire Department

**SUBJECT:** Safe Surrender Of Newborn Infants Program Resolution

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Designating Fire Stations as Safe Surrender Sites for Newborn Infants.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The 2001 California Safe Haven Law (SB 1368) allows a person to surrender a minor child, less than 72 hours old to a person at any designated fire station or emergency room without fear of arrest or prosecution, provided that the infant has not been abused or neglected. Related legislation is contained within Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7, Penal Code Section 271.5 and Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14005.24. Currently, only Cottage Hospital Emergency Room is designated as a Safe-Surrender Site within the City of Santa Barbara. Adoption of this resolution will expand the number of sites to include all eight City Fire Stations. The Fire Department will follow the policy of the Santa Barbara County Public Health Emergency Medical Services Agency for Safely Surrendered babies and ensure that the infant is protected and medically cared for until being delivered to the closest hospital by emergency medical personnel.

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The estimated total cost to implement this program is under \$200, which includes signage at each Fire Station, and 10 newborn identification kits.

**PREPARED BY:** Andrew J. DiMizio, Fire Chief

**SUBMITTED BY:** Andrew J. DiMizio, Fire Chief

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office