



CHAPTER 7B
ARTICLE 5A - SAFE SURRENDER OF INFANTS

N.C.G.S. § 7B-520.

Purpose; limitations.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 01:23 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT e87f6079f351ab0a14b46df8 - ccb6430c6cd42cde80fb0832 - 5c32247308166f40
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§ 7B-520(a) Purpose. - The purpose of this Article is to protect newborn infants by providing a safe alternative for a parent who, in a crisis or in desperation, may physically abandon or harm his or her newborn and to provide information for the parent regarding the parent's rights and alternatives.

§ 7B-520(b) Limitations. - The provisions of this Article apply exclusively to safely surrendered infants as defined in G.S. 7B-101(19a). No person or agency shall act under the provisions of this Article if it is determined that any of the following are true:

- (1) A surrendered infant is reasonably believed to be more than 30 days old.
- (2) The infant shows signs of abuse or neglect.
- (3) There is reason to believe the individual surrendering the infant was not the infant's parent.
- (4) At the time the infant was surrendered, there was reason to believe the parent intended to return for the infant. (2023-14, s. 6.2(a).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
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G.S. 7B-101(19a)

(b)

"safely surrendered infants as defined in"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-520 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-520(a) (2026).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

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