

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

REASON FOR THIS TRANSMITTAL

744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov

	<u>112/10011 </u>
June 12, 2012 ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-35-12	[] State Law Change [] Federal Law or Regulation Change [] Court Order [X] Clarification Requested by One or More Counties [] Initiated by CDSS

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ALL CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGERS

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS

SUBJECT: SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY (SSB) LAW TRANSLATED

PUBLICATIONS, STATEWIDE LOGO, AND CERTIFICATE OF FINDING OF UNKNOWN CHILD OR SAFELY SURRENDERED

BABY (FORM VS-136)

REFERENCES: HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE (H&SC), SECTION 1255.7; ALL

COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-88-10

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to announce that several publications relating to the SSB Law (H&SC § 1255.7) have been translated into Spanish, Chinese and Russian, to announce that the statewide SSB logo is now available for download by safe surrender sites, to announce updates to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) SSB webpage, and to provide contact information for counties to obtain the Certificate of Finding of Unknown Child or Safely Surrendered Baby (form VS-136).

Translated Publications: Spanish, Chinese, and Russian

For several years, the Department has made SSB outreach publications available to counties and to the public on the website www.babysafe.ca.gov. Now available to view and download on the Publications page are a brochure and a poster with program and hotline information, both of which have been translated in Spanish, Chinese, and Russian. All translated publications are available for counties that utilize the 211 hotline as well as counties with the 1-877-BABYSAF hotline.

An SSB Law Fast Facts sheet is available for counties and the public at the CDSS babysafe website. This publication provides a quick reference to common SSB Law

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questions and has now been translated into Spanish, Chinese, and Russian, each of which can be viewed and downloaded at the CDSS babysafe homepage.

Additionally, the SSB Medical Questionnaire (SOC 861 rev. 10/10) had been previously made available to counties with the release of ACIN I-88-10. This form must be offered by safe surrender site staff to the parent or individual that surrenders this infant; however, it is a voluntary document and can be declined by the surrendering individual. The questionnaire is offered solely for the purpose of collecting medical information critical to the health and survival of the infant. All identifying information that pertains to a parent or individual who surrenders a child is strictly confidential. This form has been translated into Spanish, Chinese, and Russian and can now be viewed and downloaded at the CDSS babysafe homepage.

County Letters and Notices

The CDSS babysafe website has been updated with an SSB County Letters and Notices page, from which one can view and download copies of each All County Letter (ACL) and ACIN that has been released by CDSS regarding the SSB Law. The page also provides All Facility Letters (AFL) from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and All County Welfare Director Letters (ACWDL) from the Department of Health and Human Services that have been released to hospitals and Medi-Cal providers regarding SSB issues.

Safely Surrendered Baby Logo

State Law (H&SC § 1255.7(a)(4)) requires each safe surrender site – a hospital or a safe surrender site designated by the county board of supervisors or by a local fire agency, upon the approval of the appropriate local governing body of the agency – to post a sign displaying the statewide SSB logo that was developed by CDSS and that notifies the public of a location where a minor child 72 hours old or younger may be safely surrendered. This logo is now available for safe surrender sites across the state to view and download on a web page hosted by Los Angeles County at http://www.babysafela.org/logo.htm, and as a matter of convenience, this web page can be accessed from the CDSS babysafe website on the Publications page.

Certificate of Finding of Unknown Child or Safely Surrendered Baby

In order to maintain the confidentiality of the surrendering individual, a safely surrendered baby is issued a Certificate of Finding of Unknown Child or Safely Surrendered Baby (CDPH Form VS 136) rather than a birth certificate. This form is filed without indicating the name of either birth parent, whereas a birth certificate must typically include the name of the mother and may contain the names of both parents. The form can be obtained by contacting the CDPH Birth and Marriage Registration Section at (916) 445-8494. For further details regarding the use of this form, see ACIN I-88-10.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this ACIN please contact the Child Welfare Policy and Program Development Bureau, at (916) 651-6160.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

GREGORY E. ROSE
Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division