

**MASSACHUSETTS CATHOLIC CONFERENCE  
WEST END PLACE**

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June 18, 2003

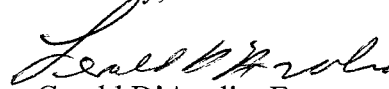
**To The Joint Legislative Committee on Human Services and Elderly Affairs**

I would like to place the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, representing the four Roman Catholic Dioceses of Massachusetts, on record before this Committee in **support** of the series of bills relative to the safe placement of newborn and infants: **S 766, H 2253 and H 2815**. These bills provide a mother with a responsible alternative to baby abandonment.

This legislation would simply encourage women and others in positions of authority in the child's life to begin making responsible decisions by assuring that the baby is turned over to people who can provide proper medical and other care for the child. It is a proper alternative for a woman who might be in a very stressful situation and by remaining anonymous, assures a safe, healthy environment for her newborn.

These bills reaffirm the sanctity of life for a child and ensures its well being. For the above-cited reasons, I respectfully request that these bills be given a **favorable report** by this Committee.

Sincerely,



Gerald D'Avolio, Esq.

Executive Director

Massachusetts Catholic Conference