



**Testimony of Sheila Clough, CEO of Mercy Flights Inc.
Oregon House Bill 2901
2025 Legislative Session**

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sheila Clough, and I serve as the CEO of Mercy Flights Inc., a nonprofit air and ground medical transport organization that has been serving Oregonians for over 75 years. Mercy Flights was founded in 1949 by a group of visionary first responders who recognized the critical need for fast, reliable medical transport in Southern Oregon. Today, we continue that mission by providing emergency and non-emergency medical transport across the state, ensuring timely and lifesaving care for those in need.

I am here today to voice my strong support for House Bill 2901, which would expand access to Safe Haven Baby Boxes in Oregon. Mercy Flights is supportive of Safe Haven Baby Boxes because we have seen firsthand how they provide a safe and compassionate alternative for mothers who wish to confidentially and safely surrender their newborns. Across the country, these baby boxes have proven to be an effective solution, ensuring that infants receive immediate medical attention by being directly connected to EMS, fire stations, or hospital facilities. This rapid response is crucial for the well-being of these newborns and allows them to receive the care they need from the moment they are surrendered.

As a nonprofit dedicated to emergency medical services, we understand the importance of providing safe, accessible, and immediate options for those in crisis. House Bill 2901 aligns with our mission to protect and care for the most vulnerable members of our communities. By expanding Safe Haven Baby Boxes in Oregon, we can help prevent tragic outcomes and offer hope and support to parents in distress.

I urge you to support this legislation and help ensure that Oregon families have access to this life-saving resource. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Sheila Clough
CEO, Mercy Flights Inc.**