

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



STEVEN LIBBY
Research Assistant
(904) 255-5147
SLibby@coj.net

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2026-186

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council Member Diamond

Date of Introduction: March 10, 2026

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, F

Date of Analysis: March 6, 2026

Type of Action: Appropriation; Provide for carryover; Provide for oversight

Bill Summary: The bill appropriates \$314,900 from the General Fund Operating Reserves to the FRFO Administrative Services – Fire Control – Specialized Equipment Account, to provide funding to JFRD for the purchase and installation of infant safety devices commonly referred to as “baby boxes” at 14 fire stations throughout Duval County. The bill also provides carryover to fiscal year 2026-2027 and provides oversight by JFRD.

Background Information: The State of Florida enacted the “Safe Haven law” in 2000 to allow for 24/7 anonymous, legal surrender of newborns and since the law went into effect more than 414 newborns have been surrendered at a safe haven in Florida. The purpose of the appropriation is to provide funding to JFRD for the purchase and installation of infant safety devices, commonly referred to as 'Baby Boxes.' The Baby Boxes will provide a safe, secure location where parents may anonymously surrender a newborn infant aged 30 days or younger in accordance with Florida's Safe Haven law. The Baby Boxes will be installed at 14 fire stations, one fire station within each Council District.

Policy Impact Area: JFRD, child welfare

Fiscal Impact: Appropriation of \$314,900

Analyst: Libby