

February 29, 2024

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

Last year, we helped thousands of families find the resources they need to care for their children, extended healthcare coverage for new mothers, assisted parents who lovingly offer forever homes to a child in need, and offered tax relief to make childcare more affordable.

This month, I unveiled The Empowerment Project's 2024 legislative agenda, which includes proposals to enhance child support enforcement and promote workplace flexibility by enacting paid maternity leave for state employees and offering state tax credits to employers who also offer paid leave for pregnancy, childbirth, adoption and foster placement. Together with our partners at Child Protection Services, we have also crafted legislation to implement the recommendations of the legislature's Task Force on Foster Care and Adoption to streamline the foster care and adoption process. Click **here** to learn more.

I am proud of the meaningful impact Mississippi has made in a short time, and I am eager for Mississippi to continue showing the nation what it means to offer hope, love and support for all women and all children.

May God Bless You,





WHAT WE'RE READING

WLOX: <u>Gulfport taking steps towards installation of Safe Haven</u>
<u>Baby Box</u>

The city of Gulfport is working towards the installation of a Safe Haven Baby Box, which would be the third in Mississippi.

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, the board approved donated funds and services from one local family, as Gulfport resident Gerald Sanchez is donating \$24,000 for construction and materials...Sanchez is happy to partner with the city and give a child another fighting chance at life...

... "Firefighters and the paramedics will take that little one to the ER and check it out. They give mothers a 45-day window if they decide to change their mind and want their baby back. If not, the child is put up for adoption to a family that wants a child but can't have a child."

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ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

WLOX: AG Fitch and CPS to offer free adoption CLE

"Finding good legal representation and paying for an adoption proceeding should not be barriers to connecting [loving families with children in need]. Regardless of the type of law you practice, all lawyers have a special ability to help these families." -Attorney General Lynn Fitch

<u>Magnolia Tribune: Attorney General Lynn Fitch shares legislative</u> <u>agenda items</u>

"As lawmakers near their first filing deadline of the session, Attorney General Lynn Fitch shared her legislative priorities with Magnolia Tribune. She says this year's legislative package includes many priorities already being addressed by the office. 'It certainly goes back to many things we've been doing in this office with our partners, protecting women and children, making our communities safer, and certainly campaign finance law,' said AG Fitch."

Fox News: GOP AGs press Biden admin to act after reports that 85,000 migrant children are missing, possibly trafficked

"President Biden's own Department of Health and Human Services is sounding the alarm that unaccompanied children are being released into compromising situations but seems unwilling or unable to devise a strategy to address these concerns," **Fitch told Fox News Digital.** "This may end up one of the greatest tragedies to come from the chaos they have created at the border."

