



The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

June 12, 2025

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

This month, as we celebrate the third anniversary of the Mississippi *Dobbs* decision, our mission remains the same: we continue to advocate for and support women so that they and their families can thrive. Our job did not end when *Roe* was overturned, rather it started a new chapter. That is what my Empowerment Project is all about:

- Making quality childcare more affordable and accessible;
- Promoting workplace flexibilities;
- Improving child support enforcement;
- Fixing broken foster care and adoption systems; and
- Giving young mothers the resources, upskilling, and support they need for a healthy, flourishing family.

I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made over the past three years. You can learn more about the 12 pieces of legislation we have passed in Mississippi, including paid parental leave, a Foster Parents' Bill of Rights and Responsibilities, Safe Haven baby boxes, and the Mississippi Access to Maternal Assistance (MAMA) website and app, on my [Empowerment Project website](#). I am excited for the work ahead as we continue to make strides. Together, we are building a stronger future for families everywhere. Thank you for joining me on this journey.

May God Bless You,

PS- Don't forget to [register for the Second Annual Mississippi Women's Summit](#), September 8-9 at The Refuge Hotel and Conference Center in Flowood, Mississippi. Our room block with a special nightly rate of \$169 is open, too. You can click [here](#) to make your reservation or call 601-936-4550 and use the mini code: **WS9**. This event is free and space is limited so register today!

WHAT WE'RE READING



WCBI- Safe Haven Baby Box installed at Fire Station #3 in Tupelo

The All-America City now has a space for parents to safely drop off their infant child, if they feel they can't provide adequate care for the baby.

A "Safe Haven Baby Box" has been installed at Fire Station #3 on Veterans Boulevard. The baby box is the result of House Bill 1318, passed in 2023. That law gives parents up to 45 days after a child's birth to surrender their baby, without prosecution.

Tupelo Fire Chief Brad Robinson says the box was installed, at no cost, by the non-profit, Safe Haven Baby Boxes. The chief says the baby box is a high-tech tool that ensures the baby's well-being.

Mississippi Free Press- Mississippi's Education Miracle: A Model for Global Literacy Reform

In a surprising turnaround, Mississippi, once ranked near the bottom of U.S. education standings, has dramatically improved its student literacy rates.

As of 2023, the state ranks among the top 20 for fourth grade reading, a significant leap from its 49th-place ranking in 2013. This transformation was driven by evidence-based policy reforms focused on early literacy and teacher development.

The rest of the country might want to take note.

SHARE ON SOCIAL



In honor of Parental Rights Month, we recognize the important role parents play in nurturing, loving, and guiding their children and our future. Government should promote and protect that special relationship. Learn more about how we are doing that in Mississippi with our [Parents' Bill of Rights](#) resources.



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

South MS Living Magazine- A Statewide Commitment to Protecting Mississippi's Children

"I have had the honor of working with the Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi, Child Protection Services, law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and other vital stakeholders to develop this Statewide Protocol for Child Abuse Response to provide a consistent, victim-centered approach for all the professionals who work on felony child abuse cases."

"Every person in this network brings unique knowledge to the table, and this protocol represents a unified, multidisciplinary approach to child abuse cases.

It outlines best practices for professionals across fields to follow – from investigators, prosecutors, and judges to therapists and healthcare providers. Most importantly, it is a blueprint to ensure that every child in every county receives a consistent, child-focused response that shows child-victims that despite all that the abusers took from them, they are loved, valued, respected, and protected," **said Attorney General Lynn Fitch** in her op ed for South MS Living Magazine.

Darkhorse Press- AG Lynn Fitch Visits with Border Patrol at Southern Border

The Attorneys General toured the recently resumed border wall construction, met with Border Patrol Agents, and visited the Yuma Regional Medical Center to discuss the impact of illegal immigration on the health care system.

The Mississippi Attorney General's Office is the only agency in Mississippi currently participating in the [ICE] program by training and certifying all of its sworn law enforcement officers as members of the 287(g) Task Force.

Daily Leader- Children's Advocacy Center Gains Grant to Help Fight Trafficking

The executive director of the Southwest Mississippi Children's Advocacy Center will use a recently-awarded grant to employ a full-time therapist to serve the victims of human trafficking. "It's a need that has not been fully met until now," said Nic Ricceri of Brookhaven. The grant will also provide for training for the staff to better respond to the needs of human trafficking victims.

Ricceri received the grant at an award ceremony hosted by **Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. SMCAC was also recognized for its work with victims of trafficking.

Fox 13 Memphis- Man arrested, five people rescued from human trafficking operation in Mississippi, attorney general says

"My office is committed to taking criminals who traffic people off the streets and equally committed to setting victims on the road to recovery," **said Attorney General Fitch**. "We are grateful to our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners who worked with us on Operation 806 and who are a part of our task force network."

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