



Where is it legal to bring your baby home?

Information and resources for bereaved parents about the option to bring your stillborn or deceased baby home.

As of March 2013, it is legal to bring your stillborn or deceased baby home in the following US states and other countries. Where possible, we've provided links to our source documents.

US states:

[Alabama](#), [Alaska](#), [Arizona](#), [Arkansas](#), [California](#), [Colorado](#), [Delaware](#), [District of Columbia](#), [Florida](#), [Georgia](#), [Hawaii](#), [Idaho](#), [Iowa](#), [Kansas](#), [Kentucky](#), [Maine](#), [Maryland](#), [Massachusetts](#), [Minnesota](#), [Mississippi](#), [Missouri](#), [Montana](#), [Nevada](#), [New Hampshire](#), [New Mexico](#), [North Carolina](#), [North Dakota](#), [Ohio](#), [Oklahoma](#), [Oregon](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [Rhode Island](#), [South Carolina](#), [South Dakota](#), [Tennessee](#), [Texas](#), [Utah](#), [Vermont](#), [Virginia](#), [Washington](#), [West Virginia](#), [Wisconsin](#), [Wyoming](#).

In some states, it is legal to have a home funeral, but only under the management of a Funeral Director. These states include: [Connecticut](#), [Illinois](#), [Indiana](#), [Louisiana](#), [Michigan](#), [Nebraska](#), [New Jersey](#), [New York](#), (you may have a home funeral but this has to be managed by a Funeral Director),

If you've printed this pamphlet, you can go here for information about the legal restrictions and rights in each US state: <http://funeralethics.org/rights.htm>

Other countries where it is legal to bring your baby home or have a home funeral:

[Queensland](#), [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [New Zealand](#), [Scotland](#), [United Kingdom](#) (This is a [helpful brochure](#) from the Gloucestershire NHS).

Be sure to check the latest laws in your state/ country!

Laws may change or be subject to interpretation, so treat this list as a guideline and find out the current state of the law in your home state/ country. In addition, even if it is legal, some religious groups may prohibit seeing or touching a deceased body.



The author: Cath Duncan is a Social Worker, Grief Educator at www.griefcoachingcertification.com, author of the grief workbook, "Remembering For Good" (<http://www.rememberingforgood.com/the-book/>), and also a bereaved parent.

For more answers to your questions about bringing stillborn and deceased babies home, go to <http://whenyourbabydies.com/support-resources/>