

Brain Dead Mother from Georgia Delivers Baby Boy Named 'Chance'

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In an extraordinary emotionally charged case from Georgia, Adriana Smith, 31, a nurse and mother, suffered from a brain hemorrhage from blood clots during early pregnancy which led to her being declared brain dead in February 2025. Medical staff kept her on life support for over three months to enable her fetus to grow. Under Georgia's strict abortion laws, which give embryos legal personhood around six weeks, Smith's family reported they were told that life support termination was out of the question.

An emergency caesarean section performed on June 13, resulted in the birth of a 1 pound 13-ounce premature baby boy named Chance. He was born 26 weeks into gestation. Chance was being treated in a neonatal intensive care unit when the news was published.

However, in May 2025, Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr released a statement stating Georgia's six-week law does not require medical professionals to keep women alive on life support after being declared brain-dead.

"Removing life support is not an action with the purpose to terminate a pregnancy," Mr Carr's spokesperson, Kara Murray, said in the statement.

This has raised significant concerns regarding the legal rights of the family and the emotional distress they experience during such a sensitive time. This case has reignited discussions around the blend of legal abortion, life sustaining treatment and the rights of families dealing with such enormous implications.

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