

March 6, 2012

Co-Chair Terry B. Gerratana
Select Committee on Children
Room 011, Capitol Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Subject: Support for Raised Senate Bill 296

Dear Co-Chair Gerrantana:

As a birth mother, I'm asking for your support for allowing Connecticut adult adoptees to access their own birth certificates (Raised Senate Bill 296). In 1970, when I was living at the Florence Crittenton Maternity Home with 30 other girls/women, we were told that our babies, who were about to be surrendered for adoption, would be able to learn about us when they reached the age of majority. That was the one comfort we birth mothers "hung onto" as we lived through this difficult period.

Just as with medical records, this information is not accessible to the general public but is available to the individual named in the paperwork. Please allow our adult children to receive their birth certificates just like all other Connecticut citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Mendenhall Waugh, MA

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Adoption Concerns Triangle
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cc: Members of the Select Committee on Children