

Carol A. Kirkwood

To Public Health Committee Co-Chairs Representative Terri Gerratana  
& Representative Susan Johnson,  
and Members of the Public Health Committee:

I am writing to ask for your support of Raised Bill 5144, An Act Concerning  
Access to Birth Certificates and Parental Health Information for Adoptive  
Persons.

I am an adoptee and I strongly believe that ALL adult adoptees should have  
access to their original birth certificates, and the bill should be both retroactive  
and prospective.

Years ago through other means I searched and found my natural mother who  
has not wanted to have contact, which I respect. Since my original birth  
certificate pertains to me and my birth I truly believe I should be able to have a  
copy of my birth certificate and its content. It isn't just about finding out who  
your natural parents may be, but goes way beyond that by giving you back a  
human right that belongs to all others.

A few years back I had a doctor who insisted and fought with an insurance  
company for medical testing for me due to a health concern, as she knew I  
had no access to family health info. I am lucky for that doctor's perseverance  
and insistence as it saved my life. Since then I have found and reunited with  
a sibling and found that the health issue was part of my family history!!!!  
Please SUPPORT Raised Bill 5144 as it is the right thing to do!!!

Thank-you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Carol A. Kirkwood  
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