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To State of Connecticut, Public Health Committee:

My name is Jessica Teta and I am a 34 year old adult adoptee from Colombia, South America. I was fortunate enough to be adopted when I was a newborn in 1980. I grew up in a suburban town in Connecticut and I was very blessed to have been given the opportunity to live an incredible life filled with love and family.

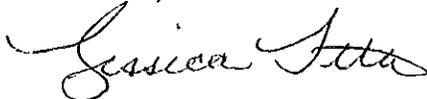
Throughout my life my parents were very open with me regarding my story. I had many questions and they did their best to explain to me in ways that I could understand. Being adopted is a unique experience for everyone, whether one is adopted internationally or domestically. For me, my curiosities and questions have never dissipated. The unknowns about my life continue to be a part of me and my character. However, as I am coming into what I feel is the prime of my life, I continue to struggle with those questions, particularly regarding my medical history, as I am hoping to have children of my own soon. This information would really help me to make the best informed decisions for my future and the future of my children.

I truly feel adult adoptees should have the right, if they choose, to seek information about their history, medical or otherwise. The questions of who, what, where, when and how, I continue to ask myself everyday. Why am I so short, why am I good at sports, what was my name, why am I allergic to dust, why is my skin so tan, who is my mom, who is my dad, where was I born, when was I born, who are my siblings, what diseases run in my family, why can I dance salsa and I was never taught, who do I get my temper from...I can go on, but you get the point. These questions I feel every adoptee is entitled to and should have the access to such information without complication or cost.

I realize having access to **my** records may not answer all of my questions but it's a start and that's all I want. I support the Access Bill and it is my hope every adoptee receives the opportunity to learn about their life and where they came from. Information is power and can be truly impactful on a person's life and their children.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation that can potentially change a life forever!

Best,



Jessica Teta