

Nancy Horgan HB 5144

Dear Sir~ I am an original Mother from RI who surrendered my newborn to adoption son in 1968.

Thankfully, my son and I were reunited in 1989 and remain close today..decades later. I worked tirelessly for 20 years to help educate the RI General Assembly on the emotional and physical needs of adopted people to have unrestricted access to true information about their birth. We are grateful that our General Assembly and Governor saw the light and passed legislation restoring this access in May 2011. Since July 2012, when the law went into effect, nearly 1000 original birth certificates have been requested and delivered with no issues or problems at all. The RI DOH has expressed no hardship issues with either handling the requests or the few 'contact preference forms' that have been filed. The effort has been seamless in RI.

We are your border state ! Original parents and adoptees share the same needs regardless of where each state marks their line. We have met with huge success and faced the same opposition misunderstandings that CT faces. There is overwhelming support for passage of this bill in CT. YOU can make this happen ! This is 2014 and there is no longer any need for the state to take charge of "protecting" someone from perceived embarrassment. We are adults who can manage our interpersonal relationships without the interference of the government.

Please be the next state to restore this important right to adult adoptees ! Pass HB5144

**Sincerely,
Nancy Horgan
Wood River Junction, RI 02894**