

Valerie Oren Stewart HB 5144

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

I am asking 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 with fifty years experience in the good and the bad of closed adoption. All adult adoptees should have the right to unrestricted access to their original birth certificate. Without this right, we are never truly adults, because we are not trusted with our own information. 5144 should be both retroactive and prospective, to ensure all adoptees age 21 or over are treated with the same respect as given to any non-adopted citizen.

Thank-you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie Oren Stewart

143 E 58th St

Tacoma, WA 98404