

William Bradley

To Public Health Committee Co-Chairs Representative Terri Gerratana and 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 a 48 year old father of three who struggles every single day with who I am. I dread every school project that comes home and asks for information about family trees, ethnicity, heritage, and customs. I cringe at every doctor visit that asks for family medical history. And mostly, I just simply want to know who I am.

I often question if I live in a free country when I can't even see my original birth certificate. I recently had to get a certified copy of this forgery at city hall in Hartford, and asked if they had my real one at that location. They did, in the same sealed folder as my forged one. But I am not allowed to view it, even though the worker on the other side of the counter was. Think about that for a moment, an employee of that city hall knows more about me than I ever will. She knows my birth mother's name, my true birth date, and my given name.

Please, I am asking on behalf of the many people just like me, just let us know who we are. It's not asking too much.

Sincerely,

William Bradley

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