

## **Support for S.B. 972**

My name is Kathleen Aghajanian.

I am a Birthmother and also an Adoptive Mother.

It is my strong hope that you will vote

favorably on S.B.972 allowing adopted adults access to their own original birth certificates. I believe this is the moral, ethical and just thing to do.

I have been in reunion with the son I

surrendered for 30 years without issue.

I helped the son I adopted to reunite with his family of origin and we all continue to have a healthy relationship.

Today we have organizations such as

Ancestry.com & 23&me etc., which are heralded as excellent avenues to research one's family tree and yet in Connecticut, adopted ADULTS are still denied their own original birth certificates.

The reason given for denying birth certificates to adoptees is "adoptive parents were guaranteed anonymity and Birthparents were guaranteed secrecy. This is simply not true.

As I stated, I am a Birthmother, now

age 73. I was shamed by social workers telling me never to tell any person about this, including a future husband; but not guaranteed secrecy.

Also, as an adoptive mother, I was

never guaranteed anonymity, nor did

I request it.

I worked for Catholic Charities, one of the largest adoption agencies for over 12 years. Never did I see any document guaranteeing anonymity; because there wasn't one.

I beseech Members of this Committee to lift the veil of secrecy and lies and make the moral, ethical and just choice to vote favorably on SB 972 & give adult adoptees what is rightly theirs.

"What is Right will Always be considered Radical by Those With a Stake in What is Wrong"

Kathleen Aghajanian