

- Dear Members of the Planning and Development Committee ,
Please support SB 972 which would grant access to original birth records to all adopted persons eighteen years of age or older who were born in Connecticut regardless of date of birth.
- I am an adoptee born in Hartford CT in 1971 and now living in Wilton CT. I have had a wonderful life but I believe all people have a right to information about themselves and this includes my original birth certificate. With the widespread availability of DNA tests, I can get closer to knowing who my biological family members may be , but the fact that in this day and age I need to go that route is frustrating. Finding relatives through DNA is also **far** less private than having access to my Birth certificate but that is what is happening with DNA tests because they are so easily available. I am also being penalized because of the fact that I was born before 1983 so I don't have access to my original birth certificate . My family and friends have been very supportive on this journey and they can't believe that I do not have the same rights as they do. It is a basic human right that I am being denied. Widespread DNA tests are causing extended family members to be contacted without prior knowledge of a birth therefore exposing information . Having access to birth certificates would make any contact **much more private** . Now is the time that adoptees of all ages in Connecticut have access to their original birth certificate.
- Sincerely , Eliza Brown