

Support for S.B. 972

Dear Senators and Representatives: Dear Legislators on the Connecticut Judiciary committee

I am employed as a clinical social worker. More importantly, I am an adoptive parent of two young girls who are eligible to receive their original birth certificates, I know how important it is to change the law so ALL adoptees can receive what should be legally theirs. It is so important for all human beings to receive information regarding their origins. Psychologically all human beings need to know the truth about their genetic identity. Many adoptees may not seek out the information but for them to know they are entitled to this information is extremely important. All human beings need a connection to know their original ethnicity, culture, and genetic information. This is true whether one is adoptee or not. Secrecy is harmful to all involved. The government should not have secrecy in regards to the people they represent. Often the rights of the children is out weighed by the rights of the adult. In this situation there is general agreement because many adult adoptees and biological parents want this to occur.

I ask you to help bring peace and truth in relation to ALL adoptees. The practice of withholding the information does not begin at the time of the termination of parental rights but at the time of adoption shows this practice of withholding the original birth certificates was not made to help biological parents. Many women made the decision of having their child adopted rather than choosing abortion because they wanted to give the gift of life to their child. Some made this decision with the hope that there may be opportunity later in life to have some form of contact with their child. This provided some women peace of mind. The denial of their being able to access the original birth certificate has caused some distress according to the Concerned United Birthparents.

Many adoptive parents also want their children to have their information. We realize the importance of openness and transparency in our children's lives.

As a resident of Connecticut, I ask you to change the law in this state to help bring about truth and transparency in this state. It would bring psychological comfort to so many.

Daphne