

Support for SB 972

14 March 2019

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to you as a birthmother who has been in reunion for 22 years. In that time, I have heard many stories about “what birthmothers were promised” when they relinquished their babies. Those accounts don’t line up with my experience, or the experience of any birthmother I have ever met in the 43 years since I gave birth.

I was promised I would be able to meet my son when he turned 18. I was promised I would forget the relinquishment ever happened. I was promised that I would “go on and have other children” that I could raise, “when I was older.”

None of those “promises” ever turned out to be true.

The only thing I was not promised was “privacy” — whatever that means — nor would I have wanted it if such a thing had been suggested. I don’t understand any argument that seeks to deny adult adoptees access to their own records. It is a civil right that everyone deserves.

I fully support SB 972, which would restore the rights of adoptees born before October 1, 1983 to their original birth certificates.

I urge you to support this important bill too. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further help in this conversation.

Thank you,

Eileen M. Drennen

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