

I am an Ohio birthmother, a "senior citizen" as Representative Kokoruda referenced last year in opposition to HB 5408, in successful reunion with my son that I placed for adoption in 1975. This was after he obtained his original birth certificate under new Ohio law effective in 2015. I'm urging Connecticut legislators to follow suit and open birth records to all adoptees, as the argument that mothers were assured protection is ill-considered. Like so many of us, I was never promised, nor wanted, anonymity. To the contrary, I insisted on a notation in his adoption file that he had my unequivocal permission to contact me if that option was ever available to him.

Connecticut legislators have an opportunity to right the destructive practice of closed adoption records. All adoptees deserve access to their biological origins. Secrecy was never a good objective; it needs to end now.

Respectfully,

Jan Frey