

To whom it may concern,

I am submitting my testimony in support of Senate Bill 972 which is an act concerning access to Original Birth Records by adult persons.

This Senate Bill 972 allows all adoptees, including persons adopted before October 1, 1983, and their adult children or grandchildren, to obtain uncertified copies of their own original birth certificate from the state Department of Public Health.

I am the adoptee born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1958. My adoption was finalized in New London and my adoptive parents resided in Waterford at the time of my adoption. I have birth family that live in Sandy Hook, Danbury, Bethel, East Haven, New Milford and other towns.

I believe that it is my civil right to have access to my original birth certificate for medical history and my origin. Non-adoptees have always had access to their original birth certificate. I believe that it is truly unfair that adoptees do not. It is truly unjust for adoptees to have to pay to do a search for medical history and origin when non-adoptees have access immediately to that information.

I support Senate Bill 972 and the right for adoptees born prior to October 1, 1983 to obtain their original birth certificate.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony,

Lori Westover Gall