

SB 972

March 15, 2019

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 972 to allow adult adopted persons access to their original birth certificate.

As I have told many committees at many public hearings, Being 18, unmarried and unintentionally pregnant in 1975 was scary and humiliating and I wanted privacy to shield me from being judged and degraded but I never wanted my identify to be kept secret from my child.

2019 marks my 30th year as an advocate for restoring the rights of adult adopted persons to have their original birth certificates. Connecticut did the right thing by restoring those rights for some adoptees. Now Connecticut, let's finish this.

Secrecy in adoption is from a bygone era and many states across the country have come to that realization. It is time for Connecticut to join them. In light of the introduction of DNA research companies, the perennial argument, that keeping original birth certificates sealed protects mothers, losses its meaning. Restoring the right of adoptees to access their original birth certificates has to be the only way forward.

Please support SB 972.

Thank you.

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