

SB 972

Support for SB 972

My husband, Donald Cummings, and I are the birthparents of a baby girl, Karen Oestreicher Caffrey, born in Middletown, Connecticut in 1959. Our daughter, Karen, after many years of searching, was able to locate us in Irving TX. She was given our names and a few bits of information at Children's Services to help in the search.

However, she was never allowed to obtain her original birth certificate.

She was 19 years old when she found us, after taking many wrong turns, and making many wasted phone calls.

She had her mother's permission, but she did the search on her own.

Oddly enough, I had written a letter to Children's Services, asking them to pass it along to her, if she came there to get this information. The letter had our address, at the time, and a few years later,

I wrote to update our change of address. When she contacted the agency, my letter had been lost, so she had virtual no information.

At no time, was I pressured to give her up, and I was not promised sealed records to preserve our identities.

Ours has been the best possible reunion, and she has worked diligently to overturn this unfair law.

- Deniece Knight Cummings