



**Connecticut Conference
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street
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**Testimony in Support of S.B. 972 :An Act Concerning Access to Original Birth
Records By Adult Adopted Persons
Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate
Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ
March 11, 2019**

Senator Cassano, Representative McCarthy Vahey and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ and I am writing today in support of House Bill 972 to grant access to original birth records to all adopted persons eighteen years of age or older who were born in Connecticut regardless of date of birth.

I am writing on behalf of the 233 congregations and more than 67,000 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 2015 the assembled delegates and ministers of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on a Resolution for the right of all adult adoptees to access their original birth certificates and true and accurate information about their origins.

This Resolution acknowledges original birth certificate access is a matter of equal justice, equal civil rights and equal standing for adult adoptees who have the need to know their human story, original identity and right to their medical histories and genetic information.

All of God's children deserve access to their original birth certificate so they can gain true and accurate information about their biological origins and gain further knowledge about their ancestry and ethnicity. We support adult adoptees access to their original birth certificates to gain fuller knowledge of their medical histories and genetic information in order to make decisions about their health care throughout their lives, including care to save their lives.

Thank you for your work and the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of Senate Bill 972

Blessings,
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God is still speaking,

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