

## Senate Bill 972

I am an adoptive parent who has three birth certificates for my child - two of which claim I gave birth to him in two different countries. While I understand how the amended birth certificate came to be and why it was easier, we have moved past the time when it was helpful. It is now a confusion and complication. A birth certificate should be about birth, and we can have an adoption certificate for adoption.

I am also an Adoption Therapist who specializes in working with adult adoptees. It is an honor to do this work, and yet our political system requires that I not only know about therapy and adoption therapy which is a specialty, but I also need to understand search procedures in a variety of states so I can assist my clients.

Out of my work as an Adoption Therapist I have organized and edited a book titled [It's Not About You: Understanding Adoptee Search Reunion & Open Adoption](#) for adoptive and birth parents and their therapists - because I have found too often that the INNATE desire for information regarding birth family is not accepted or understood. This is a deep psychological need for adoptees.

It is appalling that our government treats adoptees like second class citizens, denying adults their own information. It is way too reminiscent of the slave trade in my opinion. I implore you to open access to records.

Respectfully,  
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