

Support for S.B. 972

Dear Senators,

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 972 that would provide adopted adults access to their original birth certificates. I support this bill because it is an important civil rights issue and quite frankly, I feel, is unconstitutional--withholding a document from one class of people that is a natural right for other citizens of this country.

In addition, I am a mother who lost her son to adoption in the late 1960s. When I signed his birth certificate I, and numerous other mothers, had no idea they would be sealed. And we must be clear, they were not sealed to protect us but were laws that were in place for decades by all states, except Alaska and Kansas, to prevent mothers from finding their child.

Given that DNA allows for mutual contact with lost family members and that mothers are adults who do not need the "protection" of the State, I respectfully request that those opposed to Senate Bill 972 cease using the specious argument of "privacy"---that doesn't exist anymore--- as a reason to deny adopted adults what rightfully belongs to them---a simple piece of paper. A Birth Certificate. Please vote Yes on Senate Bill 972.

Respectfully,
Barbara Shaw

Snowmass, CO