

## **Support for S.B. 972**

I am the birthmother of an adoptee born in 1966, and surrendered to adoption at the age of 10 days, as well as the adoptive mother of an adoptee born in 1976. As a representative of two roles in the adoption process, I am most heartily in favor of this Bill which would allow access to their birth records for both my daughters upon their request.

As a birthmother, I was promised many things by social workers before I signed surrender papers -- that my life would go on as if my pregnancy never happened, that I would forget, that my daughter would lead a better life than I could have given her. I was never given any assurance of anonymity, and could not have been given such because records in CT were not sealed until 1975, at which point they were sealed retroactively. If an adoptee requests their original birth certificate, it should be available to them with all original information intact.

If my adopted daughter wants her original birth certificate, she should be able to obtain it without seeking permission from anyone. Adoptees, like everyone else, grow up and become adults who can sign contracts, get married, buy houses -- all without permission of a parent by birth or legality.

Please pass this Bill as written. If you want to discuss my thoughts further, please contact me at . Thank you for your attention to this matter.

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