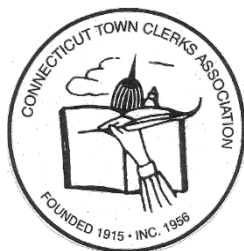


Connecticut Town Clerks Association, Inc.

Committee Members

Mark H. Bernacki, Chair, New Britain
Francesca Villani, Vice Chair, Hebron
Betsy Moukawsher, Groton
Barbara Thompson, Wallingford

Lobbyist: Michael Dugan



Advisory Board Members:

Anna Posniak, CTCA President
Patricia Riley, 1st Vice President
Kate Wall, 2nd Vice President
Antoinette Chick Spinelli, Immediate Past President
Essie Labrot, Past Chair
Debra Denette, Immediate Past Chair
Joyce Mascena, Legislative Advisor

Written Testimony

Mark H. Bernacki, New Britain Town & City Clerk and Legislative Chair

Connecticut Town Clerks Association

SB 113, An Act Concerning Access to Original Birth Certificates by Adult Adopted Persons

Planning & Development Committee

February 21, 2020

Good morning Senator Cassano, Representative McCarthy Vahey, Senator Champagne, Representative Zawistowski and the distinguished members of the Planning & Development Committee, thank you for affording me the opportunity to submit this testimony on **SB 113 An Act Concerning Access to Original Birth Certificates by Adult Adopted Persons**. My name is Mark Bernacki. I am the Town Clerk of New Britain and the Legislative Chair of the Connecticut Town Clerks Association.

Town Clerks are responsible for maintaining the vital records (birth, marriage and death) of our towns and support legislation to allow adoptees to receive an UNCERTIFIED copy of their original birth certificate. During the 2019 session, we had the opportunity to meet with the leadership of the Planning & Development Committee as well as Karen Caffrey, President of Access Connecticut Now, Inc. on this issue of access to original birth records by adult adopted persons and support SB 113. The timeframe and fees associated with all written requests for these vital records will be identical to current law.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.