

Dear Legislators,

I am writing in support of SB 113.

I am a former adoption social worker with over 10 years of experience. I have worked with birth parents, adoptive parents, adult adoptees and adopted children.

I believe that all adults should have access to their original birth certificates. Those who were raised in the family that they were born into have always been afforded this right. Adult adoptees born in 1983 or after, were given this right a few years ago. It is now time for ALL adult adoptees to be afforded this basic right. Everyone deserves to know their roots, who their birth parents are and why the decision was made to place them in an adoptive home. Adult adoptees are ADULTS and should not need permission from any government body or any person to access this information.

I performed many searches over the course of my career. Not all reunions were happy and some never happened because one of the parties refused to have contact with the other. Nonetheless, adult adoptees are well aware of the things that can happen if they obtain their original birth certificate and contact their birth parents or parents. They know that their search might not have a happy ending but they will at least know who their birth parents were. What happens after that, is unknown and as adults, they are well aware of this and accept this.

Please VOTE YES on SB 113

Respectfully

Mary-Beth Dobmeier, MSW

155 Prospect St.

Wethersfield, CT 06109