

I am adoptee, directly affected by the passage of Senate Bill 113. Please pass this bill and provide fair access to Connecticut-born adoptees wanting access to their original birth certificates. We have waited long enough.

This bill would allow adult adoptees born before 1983 to access their original birth certificates. As a 65-year-old adult adoptee, this bill directly affects my ability to access my original birth certificate.

Popular DNA testing services (such as 23-and-Me) make the existing law archaic, and in some cases, barbaric. Parent-not-expected discoveries are occurring regularly on these DNA testing websites. Please see this article for a glimpse into this phenomenon: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/when-your-ancestry-test-entangles-others-11581696061>

In my case, 23-and-Me allowed me to discover the identity of my birth father in one evening, despite the fact that he has been dead for 50 years. I discovered several of my paternal cousins, who helped me put the puzzle pieces together. I find no fault with these DNA testing services, but I must point out that these family epiphanies often occur without the birth parents' knowledge. Often, it is the siblings, children, and nieces and nephews of the birth parents who make these discoveries first before the actual birth parents do. If this bill were to be implemented, adoptees such as myself would have much easier access to information about their biological families, which is beneficial for both personal and health reasons. It could be done privately with just the parties who are directly involved.

I appreciate your hearing me out, and considering my request to support this bill. If any additional information about my situation or knowledge is needed, please feel free to contact me at this email. Thank you.

Linda LaRue New Hartford, CT