

## Support for SB113



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I am writing to show my support for this bill and ask that you support and pass SB113.

I was adopted in August 1968, a month or so after my birth, by two wonderful, but deeply troubled people, who had lost a biological child. My childhood was not terrible, but I grew up with this nagging feeling that I was with them to help them heal; I don't have many memories of my childhood, but I do remember ALWAYS feeling that I had to be PERFECT. I only tell you this so that you have a context to understand my situation.

My adopted mother always said I could find my birth parents if I wanted to, but I was afraid that it would "kill" her emotionally (she has always been emotionally unstable since the death of her child). She also said that they would not pay for the search. Although I do not have memories of people and experiences of my childhood, I do remember this always present and overwhelming sense of responsibility for her well-being, and need to be the perfect daughter. At various times in my early adulthood, I looked into private investigators, and internet adoption search agencies, but none of these were possible as I did not have the financial resources (I hope this fact speaks to the right to access question...financial ability should not determine a person's right to his/her birth information). Every time I researched the possibilities, I hit the road block of the lack of access in the state of Connecticut. If it had all happened in Massachusetts (where I lived from the age of two through 21), my search would have been SIGNIFICANTLY easier, and the outcome REMARKABLY different!

As I was soon turning fifty, and with the wealth of info on the internet, I somehow found the right people and within a few days had the name of my birth mother (she had passed away in 2001, so the kind woman was able to give me the info). It is very sad that it is only because she had passed away that I was able to get the information. Are the birth parent rights more "important" than that of the adopted child? I was also told that there was no mention of a birth father (they were in college and not married), but that there were extended family members. On a positive note, I have met them all!!!

I could go on and on. Ultimately, I am not blaming anyone other than myself for NOT trying to get my birth information sooner. What I would like to say is that had the state of Connecticut had different laws, I would have had access to my birth information sooner, and WITHOUT A DOUBT, would have been able to find my birth mother before she passed away, and possibly been able to get the name of my birth father too. I pray every day that I am not too late to meet him. Please support this bill and help make that happen.

Sent from my iPad