

6/6/13

The Honorable Katharine M. Watson  
Chair, Committee on Children & Youth  
41A East Wing  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2144

**RE: HB 162 – Adoptee Access to Birth Certificate**

Dear Rep. Watson:

I am adopted person born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1969. I am writing in support of HB 162.

It is long past time that the law grant adoptees the same rights as all non-adopted Americans- the right to know who they are, including the legal documentation (Original Birth Certificate) that is afforded to all other (non-adopted) citizens. The “confidentiality” of the inhumane adoption practices of the past is inherently cruel, demeaning and harmful to individuals. Secrets and lies only feed mistrust and ill-health to all parties involved. These facts are evidenced in the outpouring of adoptees’ demands for legal access to the core truth to their lives- their inherent origins, which form the roots of individual identity and connection to history and the world.

I urge you to support HB 162 by voting it through Committee and on to the full House of Representatives for its rightful vote. Adoptees expect- and demand- their full societal and human rights.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Miller  
Mesilla, New Mexico, USA