

Delegate Luke Clippinger
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee Maryland General Assembly
House Office Building, Room 101 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Maryland General Assembly
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB1039/SB0743

Dear Chairman Clippinger, Chairman Smith, and Members of the Committees:

As an adoptee and one who has spent thousands of hours and dollars to learn the truth about my origins, I strongly support HB1039 and SB0743 and all legislation that ends the discriminatory practice of denying me access to an official government record that every other non-adopted person is entitled to possess and that restores my right to obtain my original (pre-adoption) birth certificate. In spite of the conspiracy of secrecy, through a chance encounter by a dedicated Search Angel with a local legal notice concerning my birth in 1952 in Washington, D.C., and **my subsequent adoption in Maryland**, and later, through Ancestry and AncestryDNA testing, I am one of the grateful adoptees who searched and found both my maternal and paternal heritage and have been lovingly welcomed by many family members.

If the government is to be trusted to maintain accurate records on every individual, they should carefully consider the continuation of the practice of falsifying/amending them for spurious reasons and diligently work to address the injustices done to those of us affected by their questionable action in the past. I offer my thanks to the many community organizations and activists that continue to champion this noble but difficult cause throughout the USA and would just remind Legislators that, not only are adoptees' and their families' health and well-being at stake but also our birth Parents and Grandparents, our siblings and our Aunts and Uncles and Cousins and each of their family members too who are forced to endure the cruel and unfair consequences of keeping secrets.

Please feel free to share my story as you may deem appropriate and please feel free to contact me via email truthseeker52@aol.com should you have any questions or wish to know more of my story.

Carol Fox
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