



Access Massachusetts

is a grassroots effort dedicated to passing legislation that will restore the **human right** for all adopted persons to have access to their original birth certificates (OBCs).

Please sign on to co-sponsor

SD.1123/HD.1801 An Act granting equal access to original birth certificates to all persons born in MA

Filed by Senator Anne Gobi, Representatives Sean Garballey & Daniel Cullinane

Because having a record of one's birth is a human right.

Background

Current Massachusetts law denies this basic human right to adopted persons born in Massachusetts between July 17, 1974 and January 1, 2008. Adopted persons born in the "gap years" should have the same human right as all other people born in Massachusetts.

Don't adopted people have birth certificates?

Yes, but their birth certificates are amended at the time of adoption. The names of the birth/first/original parents are deleted, and replaced by the name(s) of adoptive parent(s). The adopted person's original name is deleted, and replaced with the name chosen by the adoptive family. There is no indication that the certificate has been amended.

Would this bill open adoption records?

No. This bill simply allows all adopted persons equal access to their original birth certificates, regardless of the years of their birth. Access to adoption records is governed by M.G.L. Chapter 210.

Support for original birth certificate legislation



National Adoption Center



Contact Access Massachusetts: website: www.OBCforMA.org
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