Dear **Insert Name of Rep or Sen (ie. Sen Flanagan),**

I hope your new year is off to a great start!**Insert personal connection to Legislator if this exists. ie. We met during this meeting...or I am a member in your district. etc**

I'm writing now to **request your consideration of co-sponsorship** for a *An act granting equal access to original birth certificates to all persons born in Massachusetts.*

This Bill has been refiled for 2017 by **Rep Sean Garballey** and **Sen Jamie Eldridge**. [Here are some answers to FAQs](http://www.obcforma.org/faq%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) regarding this importance of this bill.

Here are the docket numbers:

* **SD.411**An Act granting equal access to original birth certificates to all persons born in Massachusetts filed in the Senate by Senator Jamie Eldridge
* **HD.557** An Act granting equal access to original birth certificates to all persons born in Massachusetts filed in the House by Representative Sean Garballey

**Insert personal sentence about why this bill is important. (ie. This bill is important to me personally as a foster care alumna and adoptee from Ohio. I know adoptees who have experienced not being able to access their original birth certificate. I have seen this effect their lives in the following way.** ) Example: Last year my home state of [Ohio opened birth certificate records for 400,000 adopted persons](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/mar/18/adoption-records-unsealed-as-ohio-law-makes-400000/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) including myself, and I would love to see all adopted persons in MA have the same access to their original identity.

**As an adoptee (or resident or district member) and almost 8 year resident of MA,** I would be incredibly grateful of your consideration in signing on as a co-sponsor to this bill. I would be happy to talk with you on the phone or meet in person to discuss any questions you have about the bill and its importance before the Feb 3rd deadline. **(Insert the ways you would feel most comfortable advocating for this bill which could mean connecting a legislator with one of us who could meet with them or have a phone call.)**

**Attached**you will find some materials compiled by the **grass roots group Access MA**which explains further the importance of opening birth certificate records for adoptees.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards,

**(insert Full name, Phone, Mailing Address)**

