



**Connecticut Conference  
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street  
Hartford, CT 06105-2281

**Testimony in Support of the proposed amendment to Senate Bill 977 to support  
adult adoptees access to their original birth certificate  
Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate  
Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ  
March 20 , 2017**

Senator Cassano, Senator Logan, Representative Lemar, and distinguished members of the Planning and Development Committee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ and I am writing today in support of the proposed amendment to S.B.977 which would support adult adoptees born and adopted before October, 1 1983 to obtain their original birth certificate.

I am writing on behalf of the 237 congregations and more than 67,500 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 2015 the assembled delegates and ministers of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on a Resolution for the right of all adult adoptees to access their original birth certificates and true and accurate information about their origins.

This Resolution acknowledges original birth certificate access is a matter of equal justice, equal civil rights and equal standing for adult adoptees who have the need to know their human story, original identity and genetic information.

All of God's children deserve access to their original birth certificate so they can gain true and accurate information about their biological origins and gain further knowledge about their ancestry and ethnicity. We support adult adoptees access to their original birth certificates to gain fuller knowledge of their medical histories in order to make decisions about their health care throughout their lives, including care to save their lives.

Thank you for your work and the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of an amendment to S.B. 977 to support adult adoptees born and adopted before October 1, 1983 to obtain their original birth certificate.

Blessings,  
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