

LATE TESTIMONY

Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2016, 10:01 a.m., Conference Room 016, State Capitol

TO: Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
The Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FR: The Rev'd Mark Diebel, Rector
Christ Episcopal Church, Greenville, New York

RE: SB 2153
Relating to Adoptions Records

I am submitting testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2153.

Honorable Members:

I am an adoptee in support of adoptees and other parties to the adoption, 18 and over, to access their own sealed adoption records.

My own story of adoption began in Colorado which sealed records and amended the birth certificate. I was forty-nine when I was able to learn the name of my natural mother who lives in Hawaii and remains a native Hawaiian. The information has allowed me to learn the first chapter of my life and meet people who are indelibly part of me. This information and the possibilities of meeting is a fundamental part of self-knowledge. This knowledge was necessary for me to understand my roots and origin.

The Episcopal Church in Resolution 1982-D082 urged its members to advise State Legislatures to make identifying information available to adoptees.

The resolution reads:

Resolution Number: 1982-D082 Title: Urge State Legislatures to Make Information Available to Adoptees Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended Final Text: Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That state legislatures be urged to establish procedures that would enable adoptees [upon reaching legal age] to secure current information regarding their historical heritage, medical history, and genetic derivation: (1) without the necessity of court action, and (2) with sufficient safeguards provided for the protection of all parties in the adoptive triangle--the adoptee, the adoptive parents, and the biological parents; and be it further Resolved, That every Diocese and Parish be encouraged to support such action in every state.

Citation: General Convention, Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982 (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-149.

SB 2153 is consistent with this intention of increase access to information and helpfully extends it to other parties involved with the adoption.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev'd Mark Diebel

LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2153 on Mar 2, 2016 10:01AM
Date: Tuesday, March 01, 2016 5:05:04 PM

SB2153

Submitted on: 3/1/2016

Testimony for JDL on Mar 2, 2016 10:01AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Oakwood Hirata	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support SB 2153

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE TESTIMONY

Date: March 3, 2016, 10:00 am, Rm 16

To: Representative Keith Gilbert S.C.-Agaran
House Judiciary Committee

From: Linda Wong: Private Citizen
3071 Pualei Circle
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815

Re: S.B. 2153, Relating to Adoption Records

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran and Judiciary Committee

I am in strong support S.B. 2153:

I am an adult adoptee and this law change means a great deal to me. I truly believe the changes are fair and needed. I have been looking for my birth family, some semblance of who I am and/or my medical history since 1988 to no avail due to overly stringent adoption laws. I feel something like an amputee being stuck with out of date adoption laws. I imagine this injustice has contributed to my looking for right action in the Neighborhood Board System for many years here in Honolulu.

I was born in NY, which has somewhat 'closed' adoption laws like Hawai'i. I definitely have a right to my medical information and birth ethnicity. No one should be able to sign away my birth rights. My birthparents are no more important than I and our relationship possibility should not be taken away.

Mahalo mai for having the patience to read and consider my testimony.

Sincerely,
Linda Wong

DATE: 3/1/16

TO : Senator Keith-Agaran, Chair,
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

FR : Name
Organization -or- City, State

RE : S.B. No. 2153
Relating to Adoption Records

I am submitting testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. No. 2153

I fully support allowing adult adopted persons and other parties to the adoption, 18 and over, access to their own sealed adoption records.

Please support SB 2153, which will allow ALL adopted persons 18 and over access to their own adoption records.

Among the many reasons to support this bill are:

- 1. Adults adopted as children no longer in need of the State's protection. As autonomous adults, they can make their own decisions that they feel are in their own best interests.**
- 2. Denying adult adopted persons their fundamental information raises significant civil rights concerns, as all other Americans have access to their birth records.**

Please support SB 2153!

Sincerely,

Cathy Murray

555 University Ave. #1800
Honolulu, HI 96826
(808) 387-1811

LATE TESTIMONY

DATE:

TO : Senator Keith-Agaran, Chair,
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

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Please support SB 2153!

Sincerely,

Jan Cook
111 Hekili St. # 390
Kaiwa HI 96734

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Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
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Please support SB 2153!

Sincerely,

Kaleo Schmalz

33 Aulike St.
Kailua Hawaii
96734

DATE: March 1, 2016

TO : Senator Keith-Agaran, Chair,
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

FR : Name
Organization -or- City, State

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Sincerely,

Marilyn Kay Larsen
77 Karsten Dr. #23D
Wahiawa, Hi. 96786

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Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
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Sincerely,

Pete Ahlan
Pete Ahlan
254 Kaha St
Kailua, HI 96734

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3680 Lilioe Pl.
Honolulu, HI 96816

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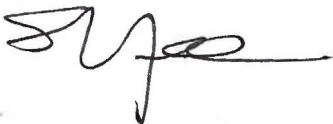
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