



VT Adoption Information Access Community Survey

The Vermont Legislature is currently considering a bill, [H.629](#), that would change the current rules for people who were adopted in Vermont. The proposal would expand access for adopted people to identifying information about their birth/first/biological parents and to their original birth certificate upon reaching adulthood.

Under current law, adopted people who have reached adulthood can have access to identifying information and a non-certified copy of their original birth certificate only under certain circumstances. People adopted before July 1, 1986 have access only if their birth/first/biological parent has explicitly consented to them having it. People who were adopted on or after July 1, 1986 can have access if their birth/first/biological parent has simply not objected.

The proposed law would apply the same rules to all adopted adults, regardless of when they were adopted.

The proposal would not expand access to the public, only to the adopted person, or if deceased, a descendent of the adopted person. The proposal would not expand the kinds of information that can be released to an adopted person upon request but would change the circumstances when the information can be released.

We want to hear from people impacted by adoption about this proposal.

The Vermont Commission on Women will share a summary of survey responses with Vermont policymakers.

* 1. What is your connection to Vermont? (check all that apply)

- Live in Vermont currently
- Born in Vermont
- Adopted in Vermont
- Placed a child for adoption in Vermont
- Adopted a child in Vermont
- Other (please specify)

2. Gender: How do you identify?

- Man
- Non-binary
- Woman
- Prefer to self-describe, below

Self-describe:

* 3. What is your connection to adoption? (check all that apply)

- Birth/First/Biological parent
- Birth/First/Biological family member
- Adopted person
- Adoptive parent
- Adoptive family member
- Adoption professional or service provider
- Other/additional detail:

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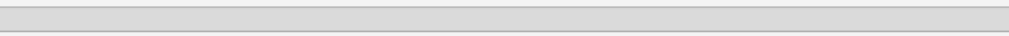
* 1. Please share your thoughts about this proposal.

2. Overall, are you supportive or opposed to adopted people having the right to access their original birth certificates once they become adults?

Strongly opposed

Neutral/I don't know

Very supportive



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* 1. Please share your thoughts about this proposal.

2. Do you have concerns about your privacy if adopted people have the right to access identifying information about their birth parents or their original birth certificates?

Yes

No

Other

3. Please share any concerns you have.

4. Overall, are you supportive or opposed to adopted people having the right to access their original birth certificates once they become adults?

Strongly opposed

Neutral/I don't know

Very supportive