

February 4, 2025

Rep. Martin LaLonde, Chair Rep. Thomas Burditt, Vice Chair State House, Room 1 Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Chair LaLonde, Vice Chair Burditt, and House Judiciary Committee members:

AllPaths Family Building (formerly named Resolve New England) is a non-profit organization that provides emotional support, education and advocacy for anyone struggling to grow the family of their dreams. I am writing to express our strong support of H. 98, an Act relating to Confirmatory Adoption.

H.98 would streamline the process of confirmatory adoption for parents who planfully and lovingly built their families through assisted reproduction. The purpose of these types of adoption is to legally confirm the *existing* parent-child relationship that the child has known since birth. Confirmatory adoption can be vitally important to provide security and stability for families, but it does not make sense for these to have the same complex requirements that are necessary for legally *creating* a family.

AllPaths is active in advocacy throughout New England, and as such, we have been proud to be part of successful, collaborative efforts to pass confirmatory adoption reform in Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. We would be thrilled if the Green Mountain State were next on this list! These updates are helpful to families and to the efficiency of courts.

Thank you for your consideration of our written testimony and of this bill.

Sincerely,

Kate Weldon LeBlanc Executive Director

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