



## **\*An Act Further Regulating Access to Birth Certificates\***

HB 2190

Lead Sponsors: Representative John Lepper  
Senator Frederick Berry

Background: People who are adopted are the only people who are not allowed to access to their original, uncertified birth certificate. In 1974 the records were closed. For the past 10 years the Access to Uncertified Birth Certificate Committee (ABC Committee) has been working to once again allow adopted persons access to this document. Last session the bill reached the Governor's desk, but was pocked vetoed.


What this bill would do: The bill allows adopted persons over age 18, or their adoptive parents, access to the adopted person's original birth certificate if they were born on or before July 14, 1974 or after January 1, 2008. Adopted persons who were born between July 14, 1974 and January 1, 2008 will still need to use the court process available under current law to gain access to the birth certificate. To ensure that as many people as possible are successful in obtaining a court order, the bill establishes an Adoption Contact Information Registry at Vital Statistics for the purpose of housing information indicating whether or not a birth parent wishes to grant access to the original birth certificate. The bill further stipulates that evidence of a birth parents willingness to provide information about their identity to the adopted person shall serve as sufficient evidence to grant access to the birth certificate.

MSPCC Position: Strongly Support

Current Status: Joint Committee on Children and Families

Other Supporters:

For More Information: Please contact Nancy Scannell, Director of Policy and Planning at MSPCC at 617-587-1514 or [nscannell@mspcc.org](mailto:nscannell@mspcc.org)



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