

I, Simone Martinez (Silver), support Maryland HB 1039 & SB 0743 and I urge you to vote in favor of this bill. I am 62 years old, born and raised in Maryland. I am also an adoptee that was born on 4/10/1957 in Baltimore City.

I was fortunate enough to have wonderful loving adoptive parents and extended family but have always wondered about my heritage and bio family. About five years ago I did my DNA with Ancestry, My Heritage and Gedmatch and have recently been in contact with second and third cousins that have been sweet and kind to me but unfortunately no one closer in DNA. I strongly believe that I and other adoptees over the age of 18 should have non-restrictive access to our original birth certificates as a matter of our civil rights and equality. Thank you for the opportunity to share my views and personal story.

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