

**Testimony**  
**SB 2284**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**February 4, 2025**

Chairman Larson, for the record, my name is Kathy Hogan, and I represent District 21 which is central Fargo and a portion of West Fargo.

Last summer a friend of mine requested that I consider introducing a bill regarding the ability of adults who had been adopted getting access to the name/names on their birth records. This started a bit of a journey because this is not an issue, that I had worked with previously. As I researched the topic, I discovered that this is a national initiative that is being considered or adopted in many states. Here is the link to that information <https://www.usbirthcertificates.com/articles/states-with-open-adoption-records>

Randomly, I have had three friends in the last six months, share their family stories about how births of children, some 50 years ago, were being discovered through *Ancestry.com* or *23andMe* genealogy which is a new issue for both families and for the law.

Finally, we will have testimony from a group in Boston that tracks this issue that I just learned of when I received their testimony.

Madam Chair, Vital Records does have a minor proposed amendment that they will share with you and that I support. Thank you for considering this issue and I am more than willing to answer any questions.