

APR 21 2009

CALIFORNIA ADOPTION  
REFORM EFFORT

C  
A.  
R.  
E.

WWW.CARE.ORG

April 20, 2009

The Honorable Mike Feuer, Chair  
Assembly Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0042

RE: Assembly Bill 372 (Ma) – Support

Dear Assembly Member Feuer:

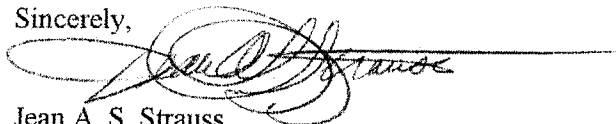
The California Adoption Reform Effort is sponsoring AB 372 (Ma) an effort to provide and informational copy of the original birth record for California Adoptees. We are aware of an effort by a separate coalition called Cal-Open who are actively opposing AB 372, using some particularly offensive blogs and other communication means.

I want to reassure you that this organization does not represent the views of the California Adoption Reform Effort (C.A.R.E.), nor any main stream adoption group representing most California adoptees and birthparents. They are a splinter cell of an organization called Bastard Nation which has used similar tactics in other states. They are not interested in legislative reform, or in providing access to records for adult adoptees. They are very angry, taking an 'all or nothing' posture, and fear compromise.

Please know that CARE, as well as many other adopted citizens statewide, believe that AB 372 provides an important step in bringing California's adoption policies in line with current best practices in adoption. This measure is one that provokes emotional responses on both sides of the issue. We deeply appreciate your willingness to find a common ground, and sincerely believe that tens of thousands of Californians will benefit from the dignity of having access to their original birth record. Thank you for your consideration and the time you have spent investigating and understanding this most important issue.

We are truly grateful to you for your leadership and want to apologize for any untoward comments or actions that have or may be brought to your office or staff.

Sincerely,



Jean A. S. Strauss  
President

Cc: Assembly Judiciary Committee, Assembly Member Fiona Ma