



SavingOurSisters

A family preservation first organization.

February 15, 2019

The Honorable Velmanette Montgomery
New York State Senate
915 Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12248

The Honorable David I. Weprin
New York Assembly
526 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Assembly Member Weprin and Senator Montgomery:

I am the Founder/President for Saving Our Sisters - SOS, Incorporated.
Saving Our Sisters - SOS **strongly** supports A5494/S3419, the adoptee rights bills that you are each sponsoring and for which you are providing ongoing leadership.

SOS' mission is to support all members of expectant families considering adoption. We are committed to helping them make fully informed decisions based on information that so many other families have learned too late. We are dedicated to ensuring that they avoid applying a permanent solution to a temporary crisis based on partial or misinformation.

SOS is dedicated to direct action and education regarding the preservation of biological families whenever possible. This may include assisting expectant and new parents by locating resources, explaining the long and short term effects of adoption separation on everyone in the natural family, explaining the lifelong effects of trauma their infant will suffer if exposed to maternal separation, and connecting them with a local support person and mentor. SOS welcomes volunteers, donations and donors to join us in empowering and preserving families by preventing unnecessary adoptions and advocating for fair and ethical adoption laws, policies and practices.

Majority of Mothers today who are relinquishing infants for adoption are not made fully aware of the sealing of their child's original birth certificate and all the implications this has on their child as they grow to be an adult. This is information that is not addressed with families considering relinquishment today.

Consistent with the mission and goals of Saving Our Sisters - SOS, we support A5494/S3419 in the New York Assembly and Senate. Please feel free to share this letter with your colleagues. I encourage them to follow your leadership and to move these bills forward to Governor Andrew Cuomo for signature and final enactment.

Respectfully,

Renee Gelin, Founder/President
Saving Our Sisters - SOS, Incorporated

