

## **OFFICERS 2023-2024**

President:

Margaret Swain (MD)

Vice President:

Theresa L. Roetter (WI)

President-Elect:

Sherriann Hicks (GA)

Immediate Past President:

Jenny L. Womack (TX)

Executive Director:

Jennie Sullivan (IN)

Treasurer:

Jenny L. Womack (TX)

ART Director:

Nidhi Desai (IL)

Adoption Director:

Debra Guston (N])

## **TRUSTEES 2023-2024**

Janna Annest (WA)

Kelly Dempsey (NC)

Katie Jay (FL)

Robert Kirsh (IN)

Lance Rich (UT)

Meryl Rosenberg (MD)

Kimberly Surratt (NV)

859 Riverside Drive, #9 Greenwood, IN 46142

(317) 407-8422

adoptionART.org

November 7, 2023

Rep. Kristian Grant and Rep. Pat Outman Michigan House of Representatives Anderson House Office Building 124 N. Capitol Ave. P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Re: HB5148 and HB5149

Dear Representative Grant and Representative Outman:

On behalf of the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys ("AAAA"), we are writing to express support for your recently filed HB5148 and HB5149.

The Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys is a national organization dedicated to the competent and ethical practice of adoption and assisted reproduction law, and advocates for the improvement of adoption laws and practices. It plays a leading role in the development of laws, policies, and practices designed to benefit the lives of all members of the adoption triad and in the advancement of a better understanding of the meaning and importance of adoption for society in general.

In January 2018, AAAA approved a resolution that provides in part:

The Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys supports the inherent rights of adult adopted persons, regardless of when their adoption occurred, to their personal biological family information and to have access to their:

- 1. original birth certificates;
- 2. agency records which relate to them and their biological family; and
- 3. court records of their adoption

Consistent with AAAA's resolution, which also commits to taking action to promote the revision of laws and policies governing the rights of adopted persons to information regarding their personal history, AAAA supports HB5148 and HB5149. We urge the Michigan House of Representatives to move this bill forward.

If we can be of assistance in advocating for this bill before any committees, we are happy to assist in arranging for local AAAA Fellows to testify on behalf of our Academy.

Respectfully,

Margaret Swain, Esq.

Margar & Smain

**AAAA President** 

Debra E. Guston, Esq.
AAAA Adoption Director