1 2	Testimony Regarding House Bill 1106
3 4	Good afternoon! Honorable Chairperson / Representative
5	Primavera - Honorable Vice Chair / Representative Singer -
6	Honorable Members of the House-Public-Health-Care & Human
7	<u>Services Committee</u> - <u>Honorable Representative Sain</u> , the sponsor of
8	HB 1106 and all other attendees.
9	
10	I would like to first introduce myself. My name is John Mann; my
11	birth name is Clyde Oellerich. I was born in 1944 at Colorado General
12	Hospital in Denver, Colorado, relinquished and adopted in the Juvenile
13	and Family Court in Denver, Colorado. The day I was relinquished, I
14	was remanded to the custody of Colorado State Home for Dependent
15	and Neglected Children. I have lived in Denver, Colorado for my entire
16	life.
17	
18	I was president for a local organization, Adoptees In Search
19	(A I S) and I was the western regional chairman for the national

- organization, the Adoptees Liberty Movement Association (ALMA). In
- 2 the mid-seventies, on behalf of the Adoptees In Search members, I
- 3 helped House Representative, Wellington Webb, draft the first bill for
- 4 open adoption records.

5

- I have been searching for members of my natural family for forty-
- 7 five (45) years, more than half of my life. I found both my natural
- 8 mother and my natural father. I discovered that I have both a <u>maternal</u>
- 9 natural half-sister and a paternal natural half-sister, both older than me,
- who likewise, were adopted, for whom I am still searching.

11

- 12 **I SUPPORT** the **TITLE** and **BILL SUMMARY** of HB 1106 as
- 13 drafted.

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- However, **SECTION 1** of the bill should be **STRICKEN**. The
- 16 Bill Title and the Bill Summary does not mention anything about the
- definition of the adoption or relinquishment records. The definition of

- the adoption and relinquishment records in C.R.S 19-1-103 (6.5)(a) and
- 2 (6.5)(b) were both repealed last year in Senate Bill 51. Senate Bill 51,
- 3 states clearly that C.R.S. 19-1-103 was **REPEALED**, see 2014 Colorado
- 4 Session Laws page 1047. Where (6.5)(a) and (6.5)(b) are subsections to
- 5 C.R.S. 19-1-103, they were likewise repealed. There is no need to **RE-**
- 6 ENACT the definition of an "adoption record" and "relinquishment
- 7 record". The definition of the adoption and relinquishment records, as
- 8 proposed in HB 1106, **CENSURES** all records in the relinquishment
- 9 and adoption files <u>not listed</u> in HB 1106's definition of the
- relinquishment and adoption records. Why are the handful, of five (5)
- 11 records, listed in definition of the adoption and relinquishment records
- so sacrosanct, and why are all the other records and papers in the files
- ignored? **CENSORSHIP** from **ALL** records within the relinquishment
- and adoption files "chills the freedom of speech" and violates the First
- 15 Amendment of the United States Constitution. Such violation is a Civil
- 16 **Rights Issue**. There is no useful purpose or rational reason to define
- 17 relinquishment and adoption records.

1	In SECTION 2 of the bill, page 3, lines 21 and 22 should be
2	stricken and rewritten to read "Adoption Triad and Biological
3	Siblings". On page 3, line 26; following the word "adoptee" insert the
4	words "biological siblings". On page 4, line number 2; insert the word
5	"biological" between the words "adult descendant" and between the
6	words "adult sibling" [in order not to confuse descendants or siblings
7	with siblings and descendants as the result of adoption].
8	
9	On page 3, lines 23-24, "as defined in section 19-1-103 (6.5)
10	SECTION 19-1-103 (6.5) (a.5)" SHOULD BE STRICKEN, as there is
11	no need for a special definition of an "adoption record" for the reasons
12	as given in the above in paragraph number 6. Amending Section 2, as
13	suggested above, would be in harmony with the legislative intent of last
14	years Colorado State Congressional Act, Senate Bill 51. Senate Bill 51
15	stated to wit:
16	
17	The general assembly also finds that an adult
18	adoptee, his biological or adoptive parent, or his

1	biological sibling may desire to obtain information
2	about each other at different points in time. 2014
3	Colo. Sess. Laws p.1048.
4	
5	In conclusion, I support the Bill's Title and Summary. I further
6	support that ALL relinquishment and adoption records shall not be
7	redacted and the relinquishment and adoption files shall be preserved for
8	100 years. I would urge the Honorable members of this committee to
9	TABLE this bill as written, or in the alternative, AMEND the HB 1106
10	as was previously suggested. HB 1106 is a civil rights issue. If
11	SECTION 1 of this Bill is voted out of committee, it should it be
12	referred the House Judiciary Committee and to the Colorado State
13	Attorney General for review.
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15	I want to thank the members of the committee for allowing me to
16	testify today and for listening to me regarding House Bill 1106.
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18 19	"[S]ibling relationships enjoy legal recognition after termination of parental rights". In re SB, 164 Cal.App.4th 289 (2008).