

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. :: Galatians 6:2

My name is Monica Ross. I'm writing to ask for your assistance in helping me and thousands of others in this world who have lived in the United States since being adopted as children. Some of us, as we got older, knew we were adopted. But who would have thought to ask our parents or anyone else about our citizenship? I guess my parents may have thought that, since I arrived in the US in 1960 and they were already US citizens, I too was a citizen. That turned out not to be true.

I am an intercountry adoptee. I was raised like you. I had a sister, cousins, nephews, and childhood friends. I was educated in Catholic schools, went to high school and college. Adopted people like me went to school with you, worked with you, went to church with you, socialized with you, shared holidays and social gatherings with you, and may have served in the military with you.

On September 19, 2019, a year after retiring from the Social Security Administration where I served the public for 23 years, my world got turned upside down. REAL ID had been put into place in Maryland, and in order to renew my drivers' license after 37 years of driving, I could not prove that I was a US citizen. I cried, prayed, and had no idea how to get the documents the Maryland DMV requested from me. Not knowing what to do. I contacted an immigration attorney in Baltimore. She referred me to an attorney and advocate for adopted people in the US. That attorney told me for the first time, at age 64, that I was not a US citizen.

HR 1593 and S967, the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2021, will allow me and thousands of adoptees like me to become US citizens, some of whom came to the US more than sixty years ago. I'm requesting that you support me and other adopted people like me. Please sign this letter and send it to your US Senators and Representatives. I need your support and your help to get the Adoptee Citizenship Act passed. Support me and thousands of other adoptees who are in the same situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Monica Ross
Baltimore, Maryland

For more information, inquiries, or requests for interviews contact:

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