

34 Franklin St.
Lyons, NY 14489
May 17, 2006

Assemblyman Robert Oaks
10 Leach Road
Lyons, NY 14489

Dear Assemblyman Oaks,

I wanted to send you a brief follow up to the proposal I had given you for the "You're a Parent Notification Act." I know we're approaching the end of this legislative year, but I hope you will be able to introduce it this year so that it has a bill number.

I'm not sure what you think of it. We only talked about the concept briefly the last time I met you in Lyons. As you know the Shared Parenting Bill (A330) did not progress. I feel the Notification Act may help clarify and develop concepts useful in getting other positive legislation passed.

The basic foundation of the Act is recognition of our Human Right to know if we have a child -- *that you're a parent*. It was intentionally written to avoid issues of custody, etc... and leave those items to existing law. It also leaves issues of the relationship between the parents (potential domestic violence) to existing law. That none of these items impinge on your right to simply know you're a parent. The only exceptions are rape & incest.

Hopefully, people will come to see that through history, when society learns to recognize & protect fundamental human rights – we all benefit. Liberty, freedom of speech, freedom of religion, women gaining the vote, the end of segregation – all made us better. They brought basic structural changes to society, sometimes limited hardship – but always very good changes overall.

As a nation the last half-century has seen an explosion of well-intentioned Family Law. But we never stepped back to define the rights of Family. Perhaps it is now time to begin to do so? I hope you'll be proud to sponsor this bill and proud to meet the loving parents in our group.

Best regards!

CC: Albany office.

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