

## Anabella Mayorga

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**From:** Shannon Doherty <[sdoherty@adoptionri.org](mailto:sdoherty@adoptionri.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 3, 2025 4:37 PM  
**To:** House Judiciary Committee  
**Subject:** Sibling visitation rights

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Act/Bill that would establish rights for adoptive/foster/guardianship children to have post-separation visitation with their siblings.

Through my over 20 years of experience as a foster parent, adoptive parent, and provider working with youth in state care, I have had the privilege to witness, support, advocate for, and supervise sibling visits. Siblings of all ages who have been separated while in the child welfare system, benefit from the ability to form and strengthen their sibling bond during their visit time together. I have seen the joy of siblings who have come together after long periods of separation, siblings who were lost to each other for years and had to rebuild relationships, siblings who desperately reach out to each other when it is time to leave a visit because they do not know if or when they will see each other again. Siblings need to know that their right to see each other is valued and will be honored.

I appreciate all the work that is being done to establish rights for sibling relationships. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your time.

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