

**From:** Warren & Shirlene Harvey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 19 March 2005 12:56 AM  
**To:** Committee (REPS)  
**Subject:** Submission re adoption inquiry

Dear Committee,

I write as a person only just becoming involved with international adoption. We have 3 biological children and are working through the education process prior to applying to adopt a child from overseas. As we have been considering all issues involved, several matters of practical/financial comparison have come to mind. They may be relevant, or already taken care of. We have no great wisdoms to offer, but thought it worth sending the ideas.

1. When having a biological child, you receive the Government "baby bonus". We feel that an adoption of a baby/child should be considered the same and a baby bonus given on completion of adoption process.
2. Similarly to above, parents should be entitled to all other Government payments pertaining to biological children.
3. We purchased commemorative birth certificates for our children and had them framed. Can a similar certificate be obtained for an adopted child, commemorating their adoption, but matching other children's certificates?
4. When you give birth in hospital, you receive a welcoming information package of services and support groups, etc. Does (or can) a "welcome" pack be issued to parents upon adoption of a child. (It would need to be age-relevant, adoption-relevant, etc, of course).

Thank you for considering these ideas.

You are doing a wonderful thing.

Kind regards,

Warren & Shirlene Harvey

