

We're writing this testimony for SB318. We are parents to an amazing little boy that we hardly see because of the current way our system is set up. As a child who grew up in the split parent system, I can tell you from experience that it is not fair and the only one that loses is the child. It is common for mothers to use their children as pawns and they are fully able to do so in the current system with no repercussions. As a father, if you step up and are fully capable and willing to take on the responsibility, there is absolutely no reason you shouldn't have the opportunity.

We are currently in the basic "every other weekend" parenting time schedule with my stepson and every time we see him we have to start over and get him to warm up to us because he's forgotten who we are after two weeks of not seeing him. It is his mother's goal to limit the amount of time we get to see him and we're currently fighting for more time in court. Passing this bill will make it easier for us to potentially gain more time with him which is why we are writing you today. Please think about the father's that pay child support and show up for their children 100% of the time and put them first when considering this legislature. Don't think about the dead beats who don't pay child support and don't provide for their children or show up. This will majorly affect thousands of father's in this state and it's something we need to move forward.