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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee
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RE: Testimony regarding SB 318 – Equal Parenting Time

Dear Members of this Committee:

As an attorney with 20 years of experience practicing family law in the State of Oregon, I support SB 318 which would create a rebuttable presumption that equal parenting time is in a child's best interest.

While 50-50 parenting time is not always in the best interest of a child, it's a good starting point for the purpose of negotiating a settlement. In my experience, parties are more likely to settle when neither believes he or she will achieve a better outcome in court.

There will always be situations where it is clear that 50/50 parenting time is not in the best interest of a child, which is why the presumption of equal parenting time will be rebuttable. In close cases, however, the presumption will make a great difference in motivating parents to settle their disputes over parenting time which, in turn, will reduce the number of cases which require a trial.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Respectfully submitted,



Bret D. Lubic
Attorney at Law