

Dear Judiciary Committee,

Recently you heard testimony from a family that discussed and lobbied for the support from the state in equal parent time. I would like you to consider the other side of that argument. You see, my grandson is the child they were discussing. Not only has my daughter been through two and a half years of craziness trying to get a divorce but also trying to be a protective parent. What you didn't hear in that testimony is that she was subjected to TWO custody evaluations and both Psychologists deem my grandson is better off with his mother as a sole custodian. I do not believe it is the role of the state to decide. There are already processes in place and evaluations that occur that look at the mental health and safety of both parents in providing for the needs of the child. Please know that I am support both parents being a part of a child's life and work it he Human Services field. I advocate for families in Oregon. I believe in the systems that are already in place in our courts and the value of the custody evaluations. My grandchild spends every other weekend with his father who does not provide any stability, does not pay child support, and has caused so many problems at his child daycare they have threatened to kick him out. My daughter who is a teacher works very hard at being the most amazing parent and I hope you recognize that judges in custody evaluations already have expert opinions in the psychologists and do not need the state making decisions for them.

Sincerely,

Marsha La Verne