

Dear Members of the Legislature,

Hello my name is Jeffrey Fremming, I reside in Bismarck, ND. I urge you to support the proposed legislation-ND HB 1242. This bill promotes equality by establishing shared parenting, unless evidence shows that it's not in the children's best interests. The bill recognizes that children benefit from consistent and meaningful relationships with both parents equally.

I have been divorced for almost 6 years. I request that since we have made the children in private we should be able to come to resolution in private. The courts were forced into my life and the original decision by the Judge was to give me four overnights a month. Based on a zoom hearing and allowing each parent about ten minutes to tell their side of the story. Even after I testified and showed evidence of her substance abuse and being verbally and physically abused by for years. I also had to endure a CPS report, a lie to try to make me out as a monster, but it was investigated and found false with no evidence and dismissed. All of which, no punishment given for the horrific accusation. After the first month she came to me and stated how difficult it was to single parent two children alone for 25 days a month, and she wanted to negotiate. I currently have thirteen overnights based on a twenty-eight-day calendar. I am equally a great father as she is mother. My duties and responsibilities are identical to hers as a parent, including making doctor appointments, school drop off, homework, coordinating with other parents for play dates, laundry, feeding and clothing them, bedtime routine, covering sick days, church involvement, and I am heavily involved in all sports and activities, even coaching. When mom comes to pick them up from me, the sadness pours out of them, latching on to me, begging for more time with me, directly in front of mom. I have never missed a child support payment. I work a full-time job as she does and have owned my businesses for 25 years. Overall, her two more overnights that she has, awards her child support and parental responsibility. It's custody for profit, as her income is three times mine. *This is unjust and unfair and not in the best interests of the children.*

What the kids can learn from me is that men can be nurturing, loving, flexible and dependable, strong and to be a leader, and how to treat a woman in the household correctly. Teaching them right from wrong. I am teaching them to respect themselves and not to settle, because they are going to know that their dad has their back forever. Both parents are critical as I can't do some things mom can and vice versa. I understand parenting takes sacrifice and I am always willing to. I'm present, I'm active, I have never abandoned my kids. I want to pour love into my kids' lives. Happiness is not outside of my house. I know everything that makes me happy is inside my house. At the time of divorce, I was undervalued, overlooked, even replaceable. But despite all of that, I just keep showing up.

I deal with facts and evidence, that the Supreme Court case law called Santowski Vs. Kramer, which says that every natural parent is to have a fundamental liberty interest in the care custody and management of their child, that means I am guaranteed 50/50 over the children and it is backed by the United States Constitution.

Please support this bill with a "Do Pass" recommendation. Your decision will send a message that North Dakota prioritizes our children, the integrity of families, and fair justice.

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