

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of the bill Time Taken, Time Back.

This bill fixes a fundamental liberty and a parental right. It brings healing and allows the child-parent relationship bond to be rebuilt from the lost time that was taken only on precaution by the court.

As it is written now, it puts the burden of proof on the accused parent to prove why they should "have" that time back. Which also requires another hearing or filing. Which could cost thousands of more dollars and more delays and more time lost to get that hearing.

It should not cost in any state, a fit, willing and able parent 700k, 12 years in court with over 43+ false CPS reports. I could have been jailed or imprisoned at any point. I was never once charged, arrested, jailed, or convicted. All allegations were false. We had 2 home studies, 2 psyevals, 2 parent facilitators, 2 amicus attorneys, several therapists and several judges. In the 12 years that our children and I have been in court. We have lost about 2 1/2 -3 years of that time that was only taken on precaution. The longest I went without seeing our children was 3 months with just 1 of the false allegation.

The court always gave the children back to me. We always asked for the time back. The court would say let's just move forward, let's just hit the reset button. When my attorney pushed the issue the Judge ruled we would save it for final trial. Final trial came 10 years later with all the games that opposing council and my ex were able to play.

2 or 3 times final trial was delayed due to a new CPS report being opened. CPS had to have their case closed to go into final trial. CPS would take 30-60 days to finally investigate the case and rule it out. Then the opposing council would have "supposably" no open dates for months. So it would be pushed out for longer. By that time The Psy Eval & Home study would have to be updated due to state rules. 1 Psy Eval update took 1 1/2 years just for the update.

The biggest travesty in my case besides what was done to our children and I. Is my ex was able to abuse CPS resources and district attorney's office resources in 2 different counties. 43+ times. All of these false allegations were all done by proxy. My ex abused the system by making statements to mandatory reporters then she would run to court and get an emergency protective order restraining order. Telling the court there was an open CPS report on me. 100% of the time the court will take the kids away out of precaution. Not once did my ex make a CPS report directly her self. It was all done by proxy every time.

I have joint custody of our children. This bill will not affect me but it will affect all the children and parents being hurt after me. Now these agencies can get to children faster by not having to investigate false allegations.

I promised my family that once we got out of court. 1 1/2 years ago. I was going do something to change the system, so no other children or families would have to experience what we did. I held true to that promise.

This bill would give those resources back to those offices and unstop the courts system. By changing this one law there would be no more waste of resources of the family courts, CPS, or the District Attorneys office.

Thank you,
Robert Garza