

Dear Committee Members,

I am offering this testimony by email. Although I was born in and my permanent address is in Ohio, I am currently employed and residing in Japan.

My daughter married in Ohio and had her daughter there over 13 years ago. Her husband began using drugs and became abusive. One evening, he pushed her down and caused a fracture in her leg. She was able to grab her daughter and seek safety with neighbors. Subsequently, she divorced him. He was convicted of a felony due to his domestic abuse and served time in jail. He also took mandatory counseling. Meanwhile, my daughter continued her professional job and care for our granddaughter. Currently, they both have a role in childcare but the majority of time and care is with my daughter.

I would caution the committee to be extremely careful concerning a mandatory 50/50 rule parenting time schedule. Not all parents are equally capable, responsible, nor able to engage in child care that will benefit the child. There are cases where the mother will be much more capable and there are cases where the father will be much more capable. In fact, there are certainly cases where the child will be harmed by irresponsible behavior of one parent. Hopefully, the committee will keep the welfare of the child uppermost in its deliberations.

Thank you.

William D. Cline
3309 Grimsby Place
Ottawa Hills, OH 43606