

## McCall, Brandon

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**From:** Sanderson, Janice <JSanderson@newhaven.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 04, 2013 2:40 PM  
**To:** Jud Testimony  
**Subject:** Proposed Bills No. 77 and 6685

To the Judiciary Committee

Chairs: Senator Eric Coleman; Rep. Gerald Fox; and members of the Judiciary Committee:

Dear Judiciary Committee:

I am writing in support of all Fathers who want and need to have equal time with their children.

I have a very close friend, Nathan, who became a father to a beautiful little girl just about 4 years ago. I saw this man grow by leaps and bounds when this little girl came into his life. I watched this man do everything in his power to have equal time with his daughter. I have watched him spend countless hours and an overwhelming amount of money battling for equal time with his little girl. But, an antiquated system keeps beating him down, as does the mother. The mother of this child is a very jealous, vindictive person, not happy that Nathan decided not to marry her. This mother has done everything in her power to prevent Nathan from seeing his daughter, except for the time that is court appointed. She uses her child as a pawn, doing everything in her power to make his life a nightmare.

If you were to visit Nathan's home, you would think that his daughter lived there. She has every creature comfort she could have. But, the thing she doesn't have is the priceless time she should be having with her Dad. I marvel at the way his daughter just looks at him, she loves her Dad and you can see it all over her face when they're together. I've also seen her cry when she has to leave him because the law (and the mother) prevents him from having his equal time. Are these battles worth a child's welfare? I think not. The child is, and should be, the most important person in this equation.

My opinion is that it's the welfare of the child that's most important here, not the "law" that says a mother has all the rights.

I have seen what an absent father can do to his child in my own household. My daughter has not seen her father since she was seven years old. She is now 42 and a wonderful young woman. But, I also see the issues she still has growing up with an absent father. The difference in this case is that her father didn't want to be involved, but Nathan absolutely does, 110%, and there are other fathers out there who feel the same way. Please give Nathan and other caring fathers a chance to be involved in their children's lives, they deserve it, but most of all, the child deserves the love and nurturing of a father. After all, didn't it take two to make this child, and aren't they both entitled to equal time? I implore your Committee to pass Bills 77 and 6685 into law and make equal custody a reality, a child's well-being depends on it.

Thank you for considering joint physical custody along with joint legal custody in the proposed bills. I pray for Nathan and his little girl, and for all the other children and their fathers that the fair and just thing will be done.

Sincerely,  
Janice P. Sanderson

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