Scott Smith 4562 s gold st Wichita Ks, 67217 3163088260 Scotta.smith112287@gmail.com

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Written Testimony to the Kansas State Senate Judiciary Committee Kansas State Capitol Building, Room 346-S Topeka, KS 66612

SUPPORT SB 157
Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

No parent deserves more time with a child than the other. It should be equal. So many things are missed when a parent, normally the father, only gets a specific amount of time to spend with the child. When they only get every other weekend they have very little time to do everything they want to do in that time frame. Most of these parents want so much more but can't afford the thousands of dollars in court and lawyer costs just to have more time with their children. It's not fair. Both parents should be able to see their children grow and develop their personalities. A child needs both parents equally. To tell how their day went, to share the new things they learned at school, to ask for help when needed, to ask about things that interest them, to learn from both on how to be a good person. I only get every other weekend with my daughter. Every time she asks if she can stay longer but I have to tell her she can't. Its heart breaking. If you pass this bill, I won't have to tell her no and she will get to see me more like she wants and I will get to see her more like I want. I want to be there when she asks for help with a math problem or needs help spelling a word just like any other loving parent. There are certain things only a father can provide just like there are things only a mother can provide. The child needs both. This bill will make both more possible. That's what this whole thing is about. Equal time with their child. It shouldn't be an argument or a court battle. It is a privilege and a blessing to see that child grow but it should also be a parents right. Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you to everyone who is trying to make this dream a reality. Please support this bill for loving parents everywhere.

Respectfully,

Scott Smith