

UNFAVORABLE on SB1011 (cross-file is HB1045)

vince mcavoy baltimore maryland

Dear Senators of JPR,

As has been the case for each year this bill has been brought, I request you find this unfavorable once again. Though always an unwelcome surprise to me when mediocre bills are regurgitated year after year at a cost of over \$1,500 per bill, I ask JPR members once again to reflect if this \$1,500 was well-spent or if such a bill is worthy of making your days longer (because no one has longer days than JPR's senators).

So rather than rehash what is already a closed issue, please see my email follow up below as testimony to SB1011 and the House cross-file, HB1045.

Here is my verbal testimony in House Judiciary from this year against HB1045

<https://mgahouse.maryland.gov/mga/Play/f50d094b024c4ba6a4dece1061b4c7241d?playFrom=4683807&popout=true>

I urge an UNFavorable for this needless effort of SB1011.

humbly offered

~vince

----- Forwarded Message -----

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Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 07:47:40 PM EST

Subject: Vote NO on McComas' HB0848 & NO on Crutchfield's HB1045

Hello Delegates~

As I mentioned this afternoon, please find information related to bills we heard today.

HB0848 from Del. McComas

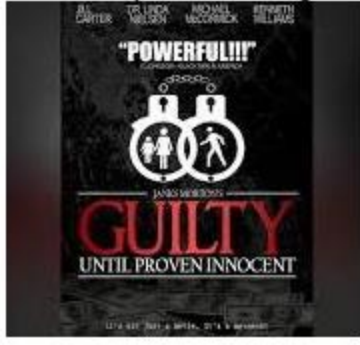
This bill is a lie, a lie which we can say has been exposed as such as of this date.

It is a wrongful interpretation of what parents asked for during the Child Support Determination Town Halls (from HB687(2013) over ten years ago)"

Finally, proponents argue that in cases in which both parents are fit to provide for the children, the judicial process of determining which parent should receive sole custody is time-consuming, difficult, and uncertain. Additionally, many proponents, particularly fathers, perceive an inherent bias by judges in favor of the mother in custody determinations. They assert that joint custody would level the playing field and provide more certainty to litigants.

This bias is not simply perceptual. What does a father need to know about law once he sees that law is being used against him?

This is why Sen. Carter put out this movie with Janks Morton



This bias is not simply perceptual. Domestic Violence crowds and family law attorneys paint the mountain as being unsurmountable for *pro se* parents.

This <https://dls.maryland.gov/pubs/prod/CourtCrimCivil/Child-Custody.pdf> would be a fine primer for parents who are representing themselves *pro se*.

This lawyer's online notes <https://www.dmartinlaw.com/blog/child-custody-in-maryland/>

could also help parents understand the issues which judges refer to in court proceedings. I have also written documents which could have been adopted by Maryland's Child Support Office in Baltimore City. **It's almost like the lawyers are protecting their legal knowledge to maintain profit for themselves, isn't it?**

However, the proponents of this bill don't mean to actually help fair custody hearings for fathers; they mean to continue strife which they ravenously capitalize on while offering cookie-cutter solutions (such as you heard Guistwite, my former boss at Child Support, reference in his example amid HB1045...."let's say the father gets every other weekend...").

HB0848 and its many related bills have had dozens of chances in both chambers. Let's stop acknowledging this flawed bill by Del. McComas.

SB0663

Senator Carter's testimony from last week on the **50/50 Rebuttable Presumption of Joint Custody** bill, where an aged family law attorney refuses to directly answer Sen. Carter's questioning.

<https://mgahouse.maryland.gov/mga/Play/cf6171435a894a51b9e9e579f4bca06a1d?playFrom=20935588&popout=true>

HB1045

Delegates, don't waste your time with this perennial dog-of-a-bill initially offered from Dumais.

Please listen to Senator Bobby Zirkin's explanation of the inherent unfairness of the Multi-Family Bill (Child Support), queued up here::

<https://mgahouse.maryland.gov/mga/play/5d62d957be2547d1bec4b950307ce02d1d?catalog/03e481c7-8a42-4438-a7da-93ff74bdaa4c&playfrom=11800000>

Please note Del. Dumais stumbling over explaining a dummy return to other lawyers on JPR (including Sen. Brian Frosh, who conceded he was completely lost on the Multi-Family bill).

Thanks for your attention.

humbly

~vince