

UNfavorable for SB0776

vince mcavoy po box 41075 baltimore md

Dear Committee,

This bill is a Trojan horse tied to Senator Lee's recently completed taskforce.

The child abuse taskforce, which just completed, included a person/persons who has - for years - advocated for out-of-court testimony by toddlers....

for the non-lawyers that thing is called HEARSAY....

hearsay of toddlers and young children to be allowed as testimony.

This bill was sparked by that taskforce, not "vulnerable adults".

I ask you to look through this shellgame.

There is a reason this HEARSAY is not used. There is a reason that it's not used in particular in child cases. Toddlers as a group don't have the consistency, temerity and clarity to provide detail for court testimony. DSS and CPS already work a multitude of cases against people suspected of harming children and prosecute as evidence provides. If a particular case is tough, we do not suspend our legal system so the person investigating the suspected abuse DISREGARDS the law to "enforce" the law. We especially do not do so when this person (or persons) has a known bias against parents. It is unbelievable that you can hear testimony where he denigrates with broad brush (and no statistics) a certain gender, certain race...unbelievable.

The bias is rife. This bill is a Trojan horse. Toddlers and young children can provide information

to stop and prosecute abusers. Court testimony has a different standard.

Committee, please ignore these bills with an agenda, one I spoke to from the start of this taskforce. . As I insisted upon the Senate bill SB567 hearing in JPR this taskforce would spur agendized bill drafting.

<http://mgahouse.maryland.gov/mga/play/c9f0c69c-af92-4fb0-9986-ddc376c224a2/?catalog/03e481c7-8a42-4438-a7da-93ff74bdaa4c&playfrom=4450000>

Once the bill passed, I did what I could to ameliorate that concern by contacting JPR immediately upon finding that an amendment passed to include a fathers rights advocate,

2Re: (2019 Term) SB567 with Amendment // Other • Child Custody Proceedings Involving Child Abuse or Domestic Violence Allegations, Workgroup...

From: Vince McAvoy (vince.mcavoy@yahoo.com)

To: bobby.zirkin@senate.state.md.us; jill.carter@senate.state.md.us; Bob.Cassilly@senate.state.md.us; michael.hough@senate.state.md.us; justin.ready@senate.state.md.us; chris.west@senate.state.md.us; mary.washington@senate.state.md.us; susan.lee@senate.state.md.us

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2019, 12:41 PM EDT

Hello Senators,

I understand that [SB567](#) will begin meetings this Tuesday. I am hopeful that I have the support of all of you in being a representative of a fathers' rights group as per 1(b)(5)(xi), namely "one representative of a fathers' rights group".

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2019RS/Chapters_noln/CH_52_sb0567t.pdf

I have also reached out to the Governor's appointing committee.

If there are any further steps to take regarding this appointment, I would appreciate one of you reaching out to me;

I've applied for several but never served on an Annapolis taskforce.

In case the bill is not fresh in your minds, I was the only fatherhood expert testifying on this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

humbly

~vince

On Friday, March 22, 2019, 12:27:56 PM EDT, Vince McAvoy <vince.mcavoy@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Senators~

As SB567 was just passed with Amendment to include at least one advocate from a "Fathers' Rights" group, I would appreciate your consideration of appointing me to the group to study/alleviate Child Abuse.

Thank you for your consideration,

Vince

I told dads who I know could succeed in the role, I contacted various senators, the Secretary of State and the appointments director for the taskforce appointments.

I offered to volunteer for the role, since I knew so few fathers who know law and will advocate for fatherhood rather than profiteer their knowledge base. Yet no one was chosen – the taskforce proceeded without a fathers rights advocate. And the agendized bills are those you are now reviewing.