

Alabama Still Needs Legislative Change!

The Alabama State Senate passed the [Children's Equal Access Act](#) (CEAA) which aimed to modify 22-year-old laws, maximizing a child's time with both fit parents during a divorce or separation. This bill was meant to alleviate risk to them--physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

It provided uniform starting point guidelines for child custody in the state of Alabama and included "a rebuttable presumption that joint custody (child is granted equal or approximately equal time with both parents) is in the best interest of the child; and it allowed the court to maintain its discretion to deviate from the presumption based upon the facts and circumstances of each case.

Senators Stutts, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Barfoot, Sessions, Williams, Price, Butler, Allen, Waggoner, and Shelnett were all early supporters and sponsors of the bill. They readily listened to our pleas and acted to help reduce the negative social impact on Alabama's children. **Unfortunately, the Children's Equal Access Act 2019 stalled in the Alabama House Children and Senior Advocacy Committee.**

ALFRA will staunchly move forward, continuing our educational efforts leading up to the 2021 legislative session by educating the public, the divorce industry, and the elected officials on the social-science data/research, which clearly states appropriate, healthy, stalwart guidelines for children of divorce. Please join our efforts at www.ALFRA.ORG



About ALFRA: ALFRA is an all-volunteer organization working as a voice for Alabama's children. **ALFRA's** primary goal is to educate the public and government officials concerning the importance of equal involvement of both fit parents in a child's life. **ALFRA** advocates the constitutional rights of children and parents and supports change to the 1852 Alabama child custody law. These outdated laws have been scientifically proven to place a negative impact upon children and society. We believe all children have a fundamental right to each fit parent regardless of the parents' marital status.

Key definition for Shared Parenting: **ALFRA** defines shared parenting as an arrangement in which both parents have equal standing in the raising of their children and that the children will be able to spend as close to equal time as possible, with neither parent having less than 35% parenting time.

Temporary Orders (Orders Pendente Lite): Court orders issued early in the divorce or separation process, before there has been an opportunity to hear evidence concerning the best interest of the child.

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