Proposed Oklahoma Family Law Reforms – Talking Points

Equal Parenting Time (50/50 Visitation Presumption)

Begin all custody cases with the assumption that children benefit from equal time with both parents. Judges may adjust only if clear evidence shows equal time would harm the child.

Remove Sex-Based Bias

Courts must make custody and visitation decisions without considering the sex or gender of the parent. Parents should be judged by their ability to care for the child, not traditional roles.

Equal Rights for Responsible Parents

Parents who demonstrate responsibility should share equal rights in decisions about education, healthcare, religion, and activities. Promotes cooperation and respect between parents.

Parental Alienation as a Class C Misdemeanor

Make intentional efforts to turn a child against the other parent a punishable offense. Courts should be able to order make-up visitation, counseling, fines, or criminal penalties when alienation occurs.

Safeguards and Child Safety

Judges must prioritize child safety above all else. Training for judges and attorneys on shared parenting and parental alienation. Mediation and co-parenting education encouraged before court battles.