

SENATE BILL No. 550

October 17, 1991, Introduced by Senator WELBORN and referred to the Committee on Family Law, Criminal Law, and Corrections.

A bill to amend section 3 of Act No. 91 of the Public Acts of 1970, entitled as amended
"Child custody act of 1970,"
as amended by Act No. 434 of the Public Acts of 1980, being section 722.23 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Section 3 of Act No. 91 of the Public Acts of
2 1970, as amended by Act No. 434 of the Public Acts of 1980, being
3 section 722.23 the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended to read as
4 follows:

5 Sec. 3. "Best interests of the child" means the sum total
6 of the following factors to be considered, evaluated, and deter-
7 mined by the court:

8 (a) The love, affection, and other emotional ties existing
9 between the parties involved and the child.

1 (b) The capacity and disposition of the parties involved to
2 give the child love, affection, and guidance and ~~continuation of~~
3 ~~the educating~~ TO CONTINUE THE EDUCATION and raising of the child
4 in its religion or creed, if any.

5 (c) The capacity and disposition of the parties involved to
6 provide the child with food, clothing, medical care or other
7 remedial care recognized and permitted under the laws of this
8 state in place of medical care, and other material needs.

9 (d) The length of time the child has lived in a stable, sat-
10 isfactory environment, and the desirability of maintaining
11 continuity.

12 (e) The permanence, as a family unit, of the existing or
13 proposed custodial home or homes.

14 (f) The moral fitness of the parties involved.

15 (g) The mental and physical health of the parties involved.

16 (h) The home, school, and community record of the child.

17 (i) The reasonable preference of the child, if the court
18 ~~deems~~ CONSIDERS the child to be of sufficient age to express
19 preference.

20 (j) The willingness and ability of each of the parents to
21 facilitate and encourage a close and continuing parent-child
22 relationship between the child and the other parent.

23 (K) THE CRIMINAL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECORDS OF EACH PARTY
24 INVOLVED.

25 (l) ~~(k)~~ Any other factor considered by the court to be
26 relevant to a particular child custody dispute.