

Dear Senators,

I am a law student. I don't want my name disclosed because of S 121 FLA, so please disclose publically as "name redacted" and don't show my home email.

My uncle is getting divorced. I speak for him in court. My uncle is getting divorced because my Aunt left him 3 months after he was diagnosed with motor neurone disease. I understand it's not fault based. But my Aunt refuses to allow him a lawyer. My Aunt says he should settle 90/ 10 in her favour under a BFA, and only then will she allow him \$ 2,000 for a lawyer. My mother is beside herself with anger and dad is really supportive of our uncle, taking him to hospital and paying for everything. My uncle lives with us because he stupidly registered their house and all their bank accounts in my Aunts name. I don't hate her and we can talk a little but she's being turned inside out by her lawyer. She can't look anyone in the eye. She knows it's wrong but she says she has nothing otherwise to live on. My dad would probably bash her if he saw her in the street. Definitely would KO the lawyer.

This Bill will take away my ability to speak for my uncle . He croaks and he can't really speak for long himself because MND hits the voice early. I have made 3 settlement offers in writing, in a form as required by the Family Law Rules (of Court). All have been rejected without reasons being given. So we have asked for mediation or a meeting. Opposing counsel told me to "go fuck" myself. He tells judges I can't appear – most though just are sympathetic when I say I am just an interpreter and it's MND. One judge was really great when I said I was a law student – he told me what to say, which I did, and then he decided "I" was right. The barrister was furious. I complained about my Auntys barrister for swearing 9 months ago. But nothing has been done. We are going nowhere. I can't get fast tracked because everyone is making urgent applications all day long. It's a jungle.

My uncle needs experimental drugs. Fast. He can't delay. An AP has helped me out because I'm 2nd year. Under the Family Law Act 1975 my uncle is only likely to get 35% because his disease is terminal: [Morcombe v Lennox \[2016\] FCCA 485](#) . That just sucks.

My AP, his girlfriend works for an MP. She says I should ask to please legislate an immediate 50/ 50 rule for everyone worth \$ 2 million or more in courts right now. Unless it's a marriage of less than 5 years, a farm, a fraud, compo, or a big inheritance. Reverse this rule when courts deliver judgments in weeks, not years. Or reverse this rule when Professor Rhoades finds something better. That's what people get net of fees anyway. And net of delays. But don't go with the status quo. The courts are packed with rich people worth, in one case last month \$112 million, that are getting in my uncles way. Its just really crazy right now. Mum cried twice as I wrote you guys this email.

Please help me get justice. And all other MND / cancer/ Parkinsons sufferers, male or female. My uncle is really depressed with all the stress the legal system is making him under go. MND is just awful. If you delay, or if you won't allow me to speak when he is impaired, will die. Its un Australian to dither when mates need a hand – as dad says it has been since Gallipoli. So please do the decent thing for him. Fast. If you take away my ability to speak for him at least mandate he gets half by Christmas. This is his last Christmas Im pretty sure. If your uncle was diagnosed with MND next week, and his wife ran out on him because she had a spaz, wouldn't you want that?

Thanks.