



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

**Committee Bill No. 137**

LCO No. 4267

\*04267SB00137HS\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON GRANDPARENTS' RIGHTS TO VISITATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study the rights of grandparents to visit their grandchildren. The  
3 task force shall (1) consider what rights, if any, grandparents may  
4 currently have to visit their grandchildren; (2) consider under what  
5 circumstances grandparents should have a right to visitation; and (3)  
6 make recommendations for statutory changes concerning grandparent  
7 rights.

8 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

9 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

10 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

11 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
12 Representatives;

13 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

14 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
15 Representatives;

16 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

17 (7) The Commissioner of Children and Families or the  
18 commissioner's designee;

19 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
20 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
21 of the General Assembly.

22 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than  
23 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
24 filled by the appointing authority.

25 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
26 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force  
27 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall  
28 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no later  
29 than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

30 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
31 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human  
32 services shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

33 (g) Not later than January 31, 2010, the task force shall submit a  
34 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
35 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
36 relating to human services, in accordance with the provisions of  
37 section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on  
38 the date that it submits such report or January 31, 2010, whichever is  
39 later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**Statement of Purpose:**

To take a deep look into the issue of grandparents' rights to visit their grandchildren. Currently, grandparents do not have a right to see their grandchildren, which can be distressing to the grandparent and grandchild.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.

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