

From:

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HB5313

I have contacted my Senator, Len Fasano, in hopes of getting the current Grandparents visitation rights law amended.

Many states allow grandparent's to petition for visitation if the family is not intact. I feel that upon the **death of a parent**, grandparents that had a significant relationship with there grandchild should be able to continue the relationship, for the well being of the child.

I feel that whatever the existing relationship was at the time of death, with th family of the deceased, that that relationship should be encouraged to continue in the best interest of the child, otherwise the child will suffer additional losses.

In looking at the current law and the raised bill(HB5313) they both require a grandparent seeking visitation rights to prove that:

1. The grandparent has a relationship with the child that is similar in nature to a parent-child relationship
2. and that "the child will suffer real and substantial harm or neglect if visitation is not granted.

Those are impossible obstacles to overcome when a grandparent is simply looking to maintain a relationship with their grandchildren. They are not looking for custody.

HB5313 needs to address these issues.