



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Proposed Bill No. 5316

LCO No. 136

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
REP. LYDDY, 106th Dist.

**AN ACT CONCERNING GUARDIANSHIP OF CHILDREN WITH
MENTAL RETARDATION.**

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

- 1 That chapter 802h of the general statutes be amended to allow a
- 2 parent of a child with mental retardation to seek guardianship of the
- 3 child when the child reaches seventeen years and six months of age.

Statement of Purpose:

To allow the parent of a mentally retarded child to seek guardianship of their child when the child turns seventeen years and six months old, instead of waiting for the child to turn eighteen to initiate the guardianship process. This would eliminate the time gap between the end of parental rights over the child and the beginning of guardianship supervision during which the child is not afforded legal protection.