



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5608

LCO No. 2787



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT CONCERNING A GRANDPARENT'S RIGHT OF VISITATION
WITH A GRANDCHILD.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 46b-59 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2016*):

4 (b) (1) A grandparent may submit a verified petition to the Superior
5 Court for the right of visitation with any minor child. Such petition
6 shall include specific and good-faith allegations that (A) a parent-like
7 relationship exists between the grandparent and the minor child and
8 denial of visitation would cause real and significant harm; or (B)
9 compelling circumstances exist that overcome the presumption that
10 the parental decision to deny such visitation is in the child's best
11 interest. Subject to subsection (e) of this section, the court shall grant
12 the right of visitation with any minor child to a grandparent if the
13 court finds after hearing and by clear and convincing evidence that (i)
14 a parent-like relationship exists between the grandparent and the
15 minor child and denial of visitation would cause real and significant

16 harm; or (ii) compelling circumstances exist that overcome the
17 presumption that the parental decision to deny such visitation is in the
18 child's best interest.

19 [(b)] (2) Any person, other than a grandparent, may submit a
20 verified petition to the Superior Court for the right of visitation with
21 any minor child. Such petition shall include specific and good-faith
22 allegations that [(1)] a parent-like relationship exists between the
23 person and the minor child [,] and [(2)] denial of visitation would
24 cause real and significant harm. Subject to subsection (e) of this section,
25 the court shall grant the right of visitation with any minor child to any
26 person if the court finds after hearing and by clear and convincing
27 evidence that a parent-like relationship exists between the person and
28 the minor child and denial of visitation would cause real and
29 significant harm.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	46b-59(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To allow a grandparent a right of visitation with a minor child if the grandparent establishes by clear and convincing evidence that compelling circumstances exist to support visitation with the minor child.

[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.]