

## Session 114 - (2001-2002)

### H 3430 General Bill, By Knotts and Rhoad

**Summary:** Child custody or visitation, best interests of child guiding principle, joint custody encouraged; Courts, Family; Minors

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 20-7-1550 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IN PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH CHILD CUSTODY AND VISITATION ARE IN DISPUTE THERE IS A PRESUMPTION THAT JOINT CUSTODY IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD; TO REQUIRE THE COURT TO ORDER JOINT CUSTODY ABSENT WRITTEN FINDINGS THAT A PARENT IS UNFIT OR GEOGRAPHICALLY REMOVED; AND TO REQUIRE THE COURT TO EQUALIZE AND PROMOTE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH PARENT TO BE INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES IN THE CHILD'S LIFE IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL.

**02/01/01 House Introduced and read first time HJ-11**

**02/01/01 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary HJ-12**