

Session 112 - (1997-1998)

S 1204 General Bill, By Lander and Giese

A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 20-7-420, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976. RELATING TO JURISDICTION OF THE FAMILY COURT IN DOMESTIC MATTERS, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE COURT TO ORDER PERIODS OF VISITATION WITH THE GRANDPARENTS WHEN IT IS WITHIN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD; TO ADD SECTION 20-7-1515, SO AS TO PROVIDE WHEN A CHILD IS RESIDING WITH A GRANDPARENT IN A STABLE RELATIONSHIP, THE COURT MAY RECOGNIZE THAT THE GRANDPARENT HAS THE SAME STANDING AS A PARENT WHEN EVALUATING CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CHILD'S PREFERENCE CONCERNING CUSTODY; AND TO ADD SECTION 20-7-1556, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE A COURT TO AWARD A GRANDPARENT VISITATION RIGHTS WITH A MINOR CHILD IF IT IS WITHIN THE CHILD'S BEST INTERESTS AND TO PROVIDE THAT A GRANDPARENT SHALL HAVE LEGAL STANDING TO ENFORCE AN AWARD OF VISITATION.

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