Session 117 - (2007-2008)

S 0329 General Bill, By Mescher

Summary: Divorce

A BILL TO AMEND CHAPTER 3, TITLE 20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 20-3-165, RELATING TO CONTACT BETWEEN A CHILD AND EACH PARENT, SO AS TO REQUIRE PARENTS TO PROVIDE EACH OTHER WITH ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION INFORMATION WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, TO DEFINE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION, AND TO ENCOURAGE REASONABLE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A CHILD AND HIS OR HER PARENTS IN THE FORM OF TELEPHONE, ELECTRONIC MAIL, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION IF REASONABLY AVAILABLE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE COURT SHALL DECIDE WHETHER EQUIPMENT FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION IS REASONABLY AVAILABLE IF THE PARTIES CANNOT AGREE; TO AMEND SECTION 20-7-30 SO AS TO DEFINE VISITATION AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION; TO AMEND SUBARTICLE 1, ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 7, TITLE 20, BY ADDING SECTION 20-7-108, RELATING TO PARENT CHILD VISITATION, SO AS TO PERMIT A COURT TO GRANT REASONABLE TIME FOR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AS DETERMINED BY THE COURT AT REASONABLE HOURS BETWEEN A PARENT AND A CHILD WHEN THE CHILD IS NOT IN THE PARENT'S PHYSICAL CUSTODY, TO PROVIDE THAT ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SUPPLEMENTS AND DOES NOT REPLACE ACTUAL CUSTODY OR VISITATION WITH A CHILD, TO PROVIDE THAT THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION SHALL NOT BE A FACTOR IN THE CALCULATION OF CHILD SUPPORT, AND MAY NOT BE USED AS A FACTOR TO JUSTIFY A RELOCATION BY THE CUSTODIAL PARENT OUT OF THE IMMEDIATE AREA, AND TO PROVIDE THAT SUPERVISED VISITATION SHALL INCLUDE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN A PARENT AND CHILD; TO AMEND SECTION 20-7-420, RELATING TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE FAMILY COURT, SO AS TO INCLUDE REASONABLE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS IN VISITATION WITH GRANDPARENTS OF A MINOR CHILD AND SIBLING VISITATION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 20-7-786, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO INCLUDE REASONABLE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION IN THE DEFINITION OF CUSTODIAL DETERMINATION.

01/24/07	**Senate**	**Introduced and read first time SJ-8**
01/24/07	**Senate**	**Referred to Committee on Judiciary SJ-8**
01/26/07	**Senate**	**Referred to Subcommittee: Ritchie (ch), Rankin, Lourie, Scott**