

1           HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126  
2       BY HARRISON, BRADLEY, VAN FOSSEN, MAIN, McCOY,  
3           BODDICKER, GIPP, HALVORSON, and FALLON  
4 A Concurrent Resolution to request the establishment  
5 of a legislative interim committee to study child  
6 visitation and custody issues.  
7       WHEREAS, child visitation and custody arrangements  
8 are often established through an adversarial process  
9 which may detrimentally affect the possibility of a  
10 continuing relationship between a child and both  
11 parents; and  
12       WHEREAS, traditional custody and visitation  
13 enforcement actions, such as contempt of court  
14 proceedings, promote an adversarial climate between  
15 the parties involved and are not always effective in  
16 resolving custody and visitation disputes; and  
17       WHEREAS, the public is interested in improving the  
18 enforcement of custody and visitation arrangements;  
19 and  
20       WHEREAS, mediation and nonadversarial types of  
21 proceedings are preferable and, based upon preliminary  
22 studies, are more successful than adversarial  
23 proceedings in resolving visitation and custody  
24 disputes; NOW THEREFORE,  
25       BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
26 SENATE CONCURRING, That the legislative council is  
27 requested to establish a legislative study committee  
28 for the 1996 interim to examine issues related to  
29 child custody and visitation, including but not  
30 limited to the causes and extent of the problems

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1 associated with enforcement of child custody and  
2 visitation orders; the most effective, nonadversarial  
3 alternatives for resolution of disputes which arise in  
4 the enforcement of child custody and visitation  
5 orders; and the role of government and any attendant  
6 costs of governmental involvement in the enforcement  
7 process. The committee's membership shall include  
8 legislators. The committee shall seek input from  
9 representatives of child advocacy organizations,  
10 custodial and noncustodial parents, providers of  
11 services to children and families, the office of the  
12 attorney general, the judicial department, and other  
13 interested parties. The committee shall submit a  
14 report of its findings and recommendations to the  
15 general assembly by December 15, 1996.

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