

FEB 1 1999

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE
BY KREIMAN

173

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the granting of visitation rights to a
2 biological parent or grandparent in an adoption proceeding.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 173

1 Section 1. Section 600.6, Code 1999, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. Any petition by a biological parent or
4 grandparent requesting visitation rights pursuant to section
5 600.12.

6 Sec. 2. Section 600.11, subsection 2, Code 1999, is
7 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

8 NEW PARAGRAPH. f. A biological parent or grandparent who
9 is petitioning the court for visitation rights with the child
10 to be adopted.

11 Sec. 3. Section 600.12, Code 1999, is amended by adding
12 the following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A biological parent or grandparent of
14 the child to be adopted shall be heard and allowed to present
15 evidence, upon request and according to the manner in which
16 the court conducts the hearing, on the subject of granting of
17 visitation rights with the child. The court shall grant
18 visitation rights to the biological parent or grandparent of
19 the child to be adopted if the court determines that granting
20 such rights is in the best interests of the child. The court
21 may order payment or prepayment of attorney fees and court
22 costs by the party petitioning for visitation.

23 Sec. 4. Section 600.13, Code 1999, is amended by adding
24 the following new subsection:

25 NEW SUBSECTION. 7. If the court grants visitation rights
26 with the child to a biological parent or grandparent under
27 section 600.12, the clerk of the district court shall attach a
28 copy of the order granting such visitation to an interlocutory
29 adoption decree or a final adoption decree.

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EXPLANATION

31 This bill provides for the petitioning of the court in an
32 adoption proceeding by a biological parent or grandparent of
33 the child to be adopted for visitation rights with the child.
34 The bill provides that the petition for visitation rights is
35 to be attached to the adoption petition and that the

1 biological parent or grandparent who is petitioning the court
2 is to be provided notice of the adoption hearing and allowed
3 admission to the adoption hearing to be heard and allowed to
4 present evidence on the petition. The bill provides that if
5 the court finds that granting visitation rights is in the best
6 interests of the child, the court is to grant such visitation.
7 If visitation rights are granted, a copy of the order granting
8 visitation is to be attached to the interlocutory or final
9 adoption decree. The bill also provides for payment or
10 prepayment of attorney fees and court costs by the petitioner.

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