

MAR 4 1999

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 502
BY REYNOLDS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the provision of visitation rights to the
2 sibling of a child placed in foster care.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 502

1 Section 1. Section 232.102, Code 1999, is amended by
2 adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 1B. After the dispositional hearing, if
4 the court enters an order placing the child in foster care,
5 unless the court finds that substantial evidence exists to
6 believe that reasonable visitation or supervised visitation
7 would not be in the best interest of the child placed in
8 foster care, the order shall also allow any sibling of the
9 child reasonable visitation or supervised visitation with the
10 child.

11 Sec. 2. Section 232.117, Code 1999, is amended by adding
12 the following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 3B. If after a hearing the court enters
14 an order placing the child in foster care, unless the court
15 finds that substantial evidence exists to believe that
16 reasonable visitation or supervised visitation would not be in
17 the best interest of the child placed in foster care, the
18 order shall also allow any sibling of the child reasonable
19 visitation or supervised visitation with the child.

20 Sec. 3. Section 232.127, Code 1999, is amended by adding
21 the following new subsection:

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 8A. If the court orders the child placed
23 in foster care, unless the court finds that substantial
24 evidence exists to believe that reasonable visitation or
25 supervised visitation would not be in the best interest of the
26 child placed in foster care, the order shall also allow any
27 sibling of the child reasonable visitation or supervised
28 visitation with the child.

29 Sec. 4. Section 232.182, Code 1999, is amended by adding
30 the following new subsection:

31 NEW SUBSECTION. 5B. If the court enters an order placing
32 the child in foster care, unless the court finds that
33 substantial evidence exists to believe that reasonable
34 visitation or supervised visitation would not be in the best
35 interest of the child placed in foster care, the order shall

1 also allow any sibling of the child reasonable visitation or
2 supervised visitation with the child.

3 EXPLANATION

4 This bill requires that if a child is placed in foster care
5 following a child in need of assistance proceeding, a
6 termination of parental rights proceeding, a family in need of
7 assistance proceeding, or a voluntary foster care placement
8 proceeding, the order of the court placing the child shall,
9 unless the court finds based upon substantial evidence that it
10 is not in the best interest of the child placed, allow any
11 sibling of the child reasonable visitation or supervised
12 visitation with the child.

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