

House File 494 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 494
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 309)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to visitation or interaction with siblings
2 by children participating in the subsidized guardianship
3 program administered by the department of human services and
4 including effective date provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP PROGRAM — SIBLING
2 VISITATION. The department of human services shall adapt the
3 provisions of section 232.108 for application to the subsidized
4 guardianship program in order to facilitate frequent visitation
5 or ongoing interaction between children participating in
6 the subsidized guardianship program for application to the
7 subsidized guardianship program and the siblings of those
8 children. However, the visitation or ongoing interaction shall
9 not be facilitated if the department determines the visitation
10 or ongoing interaction would be detrimental to the child's
11 well-being or is suspended or terminated by the court.

12 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of
13 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

14 EXPLANATION

15 This bill requires the department of human services to
16 adapt the provisions of Code section 232.108 for application
17 to the subsidized guardianship program administered by
18 the department in order to facilitate frequent visitation
19 or ongoing interaction between children participating in
20 the program and the siblings of those children. However,
21 facilitation of the visiting or interaction is not required if
22 the department determines the visitation or ongoing interaction
23 would be detrimental to the child's well-being or is suspended
24 or terminated by the court.

25 The subsidized guardianship program was approved by the
26 federal government as a five-year demonstration project to
27 operate from February 1, 2007, through January 31, 2012.
28 However, the department ended new enrollment in the program
29 effective September 1, 2010.

30 The bill takes effect upon enactment.