



Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Family Law Section

Contact Person:

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Bill Number:

SB 420 (Clark-Coleman) Family law; parenting time; provisions regarding grandparent visitation after stepparent adoption; limit to parent of a deceased parent. Amends sec. 7b of 1970 PA 91 (MCL 722.27b).

Date position was adopted:

May 7, 2005

Process used to take the ideological position:

Vote at Family Law Council meeting

Number of members in the decision-making body:

21

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

15-0

FOR SECTIONS ONLY:

- ✓ This subject matter of this position is within the jurisdiction of the section.
- ✓ The position was adopted in accordance with the Section's bylaws.
- ✓ The requirements of SBM Bylaw Article VIII have been satisfied.

If the boxes above are checked, SBM will notify the Section when this notice is received, at which time the Section may advocate the position.

Position:

SB 420 introduced by a host of senators and referred to the Committee on Senior Citizens and Veteran's Affairs, would amend the grandparent visitation statute to correct a drafting error. The grandparent visitation statute passed last year inadvertently (or so everyone says) expanded grandparent visitation in step-parent adoption cases. Prior law allowed such visitation if the grandparents were the parents of a deceased parent. Last year's statute allowed all grandparents such standing. This bill would return the law to its prior state. The Council voted to support this bill.

The text (may be provided by hyperlink) of any legislation, court rule, or administrative regulation that is the subject of or referenced in this report:

<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/mileg.asp?page=getObject&objName=2005-SB-0420>