

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2894 Session of  
1996

INTRODUCED BY TRELLO, BOYES, DeLUCA, ROBERTS, BUXTON, GEORGE,  
GEIST, LEDERER, B. SMITH, LaGROTTA, LAUGHLIN, McCALL,  
HENNESSEY, THOMAS, LUCYK, TIGUE, HERSHEY, FICHTER, BELARDI,  
BATTISTO, SAINATO, GODSHALL, E. Z. TAYLOR, STABACK,  
D. W. SNYDER, ROONEY, LEH, GIGLIOTTI, BUNT, SCRIMENTI, PESCI,  
MICOZZIE, ROBINSON, WAUGH, KAISER, OLASZ, FAJT, MERRY, HESS,  
ITKIN AND RAMOS, SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 23 (Domestic Relations) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, further providing for visitation  
3 rights; and making repeals.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 5311 of Title 23 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 5311. [When parent deceased] Grandparents.

9 [If a parent of an unmarried child is deceased, the parents  
10 or grandparents of the deceased parent may] Grandparents and  
11 great-grandparents shall be granted reasonable partial custody  
12 or visitation rights, or both, to [the] an unmarried child by  
13 the court upon a finding that partial custody or visitation  
14 rights, or both, would be in the best interest of the child.  
15 [and would not interfere with the parent-child relationship. The  
16 court shall consider the amount of personal contact between the

1 parents or grandparents of the deceased parent and the child  
2 prior to the application.] An order denying visitation rights to  
3 grandparents and great-grandparents shall be in writing and  
4 shall state the reasons for denial.

5 Section 2. Sections 5312, 5313 and 5314 of Title 23 are  
6 repealed.

7 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.