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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 685 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, KOTIK, BISHOP, COHEN, TALLMAN, MILLARD,  
O'NEILL, KAUFFMAN, DIAMOND, HICKERNELL, JAMES, GRELL,  
HARKINS, CARROLL, WATSON, CONKLIN, MURT, A. HARRIS, FEE,  
BROWNLEE, PICKETT, READSHAW, MAHONEY, GILLEN, GIBBONS,  
DONATUCCI, McCARTER, ROZZI, KINSEY, McNEILL, STEPHENS,  
BOBACK, PHILLIPS-HILL, FREEMAN, BAKER, EVERETT, PASHINSKI,  
THOMAS, RAPP, ACOSTA, STAATS, RADER AND SABATINA,  
MARCH 3, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 3, 2015

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in juvenile matters,  
3 further providing for disposition of dependent child.

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

6 Section 1. Section 6351(a) of Title 42 of the Pennsylvania  
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph to read:  
8 § 6351. Disposition of dependent child.

9 (a) General rule.--If the child is found to be a dependent  
10 child the court may make any of the following orders of  
11 disposition best suited to the safety, protection and physical,  
12 mental, and moral welfare of the child:

13 \* \* \*

14 (2.2) If the court determines that temporary or  
15 permanent physical and legal custody shall be given to an

1 individual or entity other than a child's parents, guardian  
2 or other custodian, a grandparent who wishes to be given  
3 custody shall be considered and a study done by the probation  
4 officer or other person or agency designated by the court. A  
5 grandparent who wishes to be given custody shall have  
6 standing in any court proceeding under this chapter involving  
7 the child or children.

8 \* \* \*

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.