

HB 287 -- GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS

SPONSOR: Beard

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill allows the court to order visitation between a minor who has been appointed a guardian and the minor's parents if the minor's parents petition the court for periods of visitation and if the court finds that the visitation is in the best interest of the minor, as specified.

This bill is similar to HB 2146 (2016).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there is currently no mechanism for parents of children placed under guardianship to petition the court for visitation with their children. Currently, guardians have the authority to decide whether parents have rights of visitation, and the only thing parents can do now is petition the court for termination of the guardianship.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Beard and Carla Holste.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.