

1 2	FIRST REGULAR SESSION
3 4	ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE
5	Legislative Document No. 151
7 8 9	H.P. 143 House of Representatives, January 12, 1983 On Motion of Representative Hobbins of Saco referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed. EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
• 11	Presented by Representative Willey of Hampden.
12 13	STATE OF MAINE
14 15 16	IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE
17 18 19	AN ACT Relating to Visitation Rights for Grandparents.
20 21	Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
. 22	19 MRSA §753 is enacted to read:
23	§753 Visitation rights of grandparents
24 25	Visitation rights may be granted to grandparents in accordance with the following provisions.
26 27 28 29 30	1. Parent deceased. If either the mother or father of an unmarried minor child is deceased, the court may, upon petition, grant to a grandparent, who is the parent of a deceased parent, reasonable vis- itation rights with that child.

1 <u>2. Parents' marriage dissolved. If the parents</u> 2 <u>of an unmarried minor child are divorced, the court</u> 3 <u>may, upon petition, grant to a grandparent reasonable</u> 4 <u>visitation rights with that child.</u>

3. Best interests of the child. Visitation 5 6 rights may be granted to grandparents under this 7 section only when the court determines it would be in 8 the best interest of the child and would not interfer 9 with the parent-child relationship. In making its decision, the court shall consider the wishes of the 10 11 child, if he is capable of forming intelligent opin-12 ions, and shall also consider the amount of personal contact between the grandparent and the child. 13

4. Enforcement. The court may issue orders
necessary to enforce visitation rights and may modify
those orders whenever modification would serve the
best interests of the child.

STATEMENT OF FACT

19 The purpose of this bill is to provide a mecha-20 nism by which the court may grant visitation rights 21 to grandparents when the parents' marriage is dis-22 solved or when one of the parents is deceased.

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