

1 AN ACT in relation to families.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of  
5 Marriage Act is amended by changing Section 607 as follows:

6 (750 ILCS 5/607) (from Ch. 40, par. 607)

7 Sec. 607. Visitation.

8 (a) A parent not granted custody of the child is  
9 entitled to reasonable visitation rights unless the court  
10 finds, after a hearing, that visitation would endanger  
11 seriously the child's physical, mental, moral or emotional  
12 health. If the custodian's street address is not identified,  
13 pursuant to Section 708 of this Act, the court shall require  
14 the parties to identify reasonable alternative arrangements  
15 for visitation by a non-custodial parent, including but not  
16 limited to visitation of the minor child at the residence of  
17 another person or at a local public or private facility.

18 (b) (1) The court may grant reasonable visitation  
19 privileges to a grandparent, great-grandparent, or sibling of  
20 any minor child upon petition to the court by the  
21 grandparents or great-grandparents or on behalf of the  
22 sibling, with notice to the parties required to be notified  
23 under Section 601 of this Act, if the court determines that  
24 it is in the best interests and welfare of the child, and may  
25 issue any necessary orders to enforce such visitation  
26 privileges. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this  
27 subsection (b), a petition for visitation privileges may be  
28 filed under this paragraph (1) whether or not a petition  
29 pursuant to this Act has been previously filed or is  
30 currently pending if one or more of the following  
31 circumstances exist:

1 (A) the parents are not currently cohabiting on a  
2 permanent or an indefinite basis;

3 (B) one of the parents has been absent from the  
4 marital abode for more than one month without the spouse  
5 knowing his or her whereabouts;

6 (C) one of the parents is deceased;

7 (D) one of the parents joins in the petition with  
8 the grandparents, great-grandparents, or sibling; or

9 (E) a sibling is in State custody.

10 (1.5) The Court may grant reasonable visitation  
11 privileges to a stepparent upon petition to the court by the  
12 stepparent, with notice to the parties required to be  
13 notified under Section 601 of this Act, if the court  
14 determines that it is in the best interests and welfare of  
15 the child, and may issue any necessary orders to enforce  
16 those visitation privileges. A petition for visitation  
17 privileges may be filed under this paragraph (1.5) whether or  
18 not a petition pursuant to this Act has been previously filed  
19 or is currently pending if the following circumstances are  
20 met:

21 (A) the child is at least 12 years old;

22 (B) the child resided continuously with the parent  
23 and stepparent for at least 5 years;

24 (C) the parent is deceased or is disabled and is  
25 unable to care for the child;

26 (D) the child wishes to have reasonable visitation  
27 with the stepparent; and

28 (E) the stepparent was providing for the care,  
29 control, and welfare to the child prior to the initiation  
30 of the petition for visitation.

31 (2)(A) A petition for visitation privileges shall not be  
32 filed pursuant to this subsection (b) by the parents or  
33 grandparents of a putative father if the paternity of the  
34 putative father has not been legally established.

1           (B) A petition for visitation privileges may not be  
2 filed under this subsection (b) if the child who is the  
3 subject of the grandparents' or great-grandparents' petition  
4 has been voluntarily surrendered by the parent or parents,  
5 except for a surrender to the Illinois Department of Children  
6 and Family Services or a foster care facility, or has been  
7 previously adopted by an individual or individuals who are  
8 not related to the biological parents of the child or is the  
9 subject of a pending adoption petition by an individual or  
10 individuals who are not related to the biological parents of  
11 the child.

12           (3) When one parent is deceased, the surviving parent  
13 shall not interfere with the visitation rights of the  
14 grandparents.

15           (c) The court may modify an order granting or denying  
16 visitation rights of a parent whenever modification would  
17 serve the best interest of the child; but the court shall  
18 not restrict a parent's visitation rights unless it finds  
19 that the visitation would endanger seriously the child's  
20 physical, mental, moral or emotional health. The court may  
21 modify an order granting, denying, or limiting visitation  
22 rights of a grandparent, great-grandparent, or sibling of any  
23 minor child whenever a change of circumstances has occurred  
24 based on facts occurring subsequent to the judgment and the  
25 court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the  
26 modification is in the best interest of the minor child.

27           (d) If any court has entered an order prohibiting a  
28 non-custodial parent of a child from any contact with a child  
29 or restricting the non-custodial parent's contact with the  
30 child, the following provisions shall apply:

31           (1) If an order has been entered granting  
32 visitation privileges with the child to a grandparent or  
33 great-grandparent who is related to the child through the  
34 non-custodial parent, the visitation privileges of the

1 grandparent or great-grandparent may be revoked if:

2 (i) a court has entered an order prohibiting  
3 the non-custodial parent from any contact with the  
4 child, and the grandparent or great-grandparent is  
5 found to have used his or her visitation privileges  
6 to facilitate contact between the child and the  
7 non-custodial parent; or

8 (ii) a court has entered an order restricting  
9 the non-custodial parent's contact with the child,  
10 and the grandparent or great-grandparent is found to  
11 have used his or her visitation privileges to  
12 facilitate contact between the child and the  
13 non-custodial parent in a manner that violates the  
14 terms of the order restricting the non-custodial  
15 parent's contact with the child.

16 Nothing in this subdivision (1) limits the authority  
17 of the court to enforce its orders in any manner  
18 permitted by law.

19 (2) Any order granting visitation privileges with  
20 the child to a grandparent or great-grandparent who is  
21 related to the child through the non-custodial parent  
22 shall contain the following provision:

23 "If the (grandparent or great-grandparent, whichever  
24 is applicable) who has been granted visitation privileges  
25 under this order uses the visitation privileges to  
26 facilitate contact between the child and the child's  
27 non-custodial parent, the visitation privileges granted  
28 under this order shall be permanently revoked."

29 (e) No parent, not granted custody of the child, or  
30 grandparent, or great-grandparent, or stepparent, or sibling  
31 of any minor child, convicted of any offense involving an  
32 illegal sex act perpetrated upon a victim less than 18 years  
33 of age including but not limited to offenses for violations  
34 of Article 12 of the Criminal Code of 1961, is entitled to

1 visitation rights while incarcerated or while on parole,  
2 probation, conditional discharge, periodic imprisonment, or  
3 mandatory supervised release for that offense, and upon  
4 discharge from incarceration for a misdemeanor offense or  
5 upon discharge from parole, probation, conditional discharge,  
6 periodic imprisonment, or mandatory supervised release for a  
7 felony offense, visitation shall be denied until the person  
8 successfully completes a treatment program approved by the  
9 court.

10 (f) Unless the court determines, after considering all  
11 relevant factors, including but not limited to those set  
12 forth in Section 602(a), that it would be in the best  
13 interests of the child to allow visitation, the court shall  
14 not enter an order providing visitation rights and pursuant  
15 to a motion to modify visitation shall revoke visitation  
16 rights previously granted to any person who would otherwise  
17 be entitled to petition for visitation rights under this  
18 Section who has been convicted of first degree murder of the  
19 parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, or sibling of the  
20 child who is the subject of the order. Until an order is  
21 entered pursuant to this subsection, no person shall visit,  
22 with the child present, a person who has been convicted of  
23 first degree murder of the parent, grandparent,  
24 great-grandparent, or sibling of the child without the  
25 consent of the child's parent, other than a parent convicted  
26 of first degree murder as set forth herein, or legal  
27 guardian.

28 (g) If an order has been entered limiting, for cause, a  
29 minor child's contact or visitation with a grandparent,  
30 great-grandparent, or sibling on the grounds that it was in  
31 the best interest of the child to do so, that order may be  
32 modified only upon a showing of a substantial change in  
33 circumstances occurring subsequent to the entry of the order  
34 with proof by clear and convincing evidence that modification

1 is in the best interest of the minor child.

2 (Source: P.A. 90-782, eff. 8-14-98; 90-801, eff. 6-1-99;

3 91-357, eff. 7-29-99; 91-610, eff. 8-19-99.)