

Introduced: 4/23/79
Referred: Health, Education
& Social Services and
Judiciary

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST

1 IN THE SENATE

2 SENATE BILL NO. 276

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act providing for the award of visitation rights to
7 grandparents."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 09.55.205 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 09.55.205. JUDGMENTS FOR CUSTODY. In an action for divorce
11 or for legal separation the court may, if it has jurisdiction under
12 AS 25.30.020, and is an appropriate forum under AS 25.30.050 and 25.30.-
13 060, during the pendency of the action, or at the final hearing or at
14 any time thereafter during the minority of any child of the marriage,
15 make, modify or vacate an order for the custody of or visitation with
16 the minor child which may seem necessary or proper, including an order
17 which provides for visitation by any grandparents. Any appointment of a
18 guardian ad litem for a child shall be made under the terms of AS 09.65.-
19 130. The court shall determine custody in accordance with the best
20 interests of the child. Neither parent is entitled to preference as a
21 matter of right in awarding custody of the child. In determining the
22 best interests of the child the court shall consider all relevant
23 factors including:

- 24 (1) the physical, emotional, mental, religious and social
25 needs of the child;
- 26 (2) the capability and desire of each parent to meet these
27 needs;
- 28 (3) the child's preference;
- 29 (4) the love and affection existing between the child and

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

each parent;

(5) the length of time the child has lived in a stable, satisfactory environment and the desirability of maintaining continuity;

(6) the desire and ability of each parent to allow an open and loving frequent relationship between the child and his other parent.

* Sec. 2. AS 09.55.231(a)(2) is amended to read:

(2) if there are minor children of the marriage or the wife is pregnant, the spouses have agreed on which spouse or third party shall be awarded custody of each minor child of the marriage and the extent of visitation, including visitation by grandparents, and support to be provided on the children's behalf, whether the payments are to be made through the child support enforcement agency and the tax consequences of that agreement;