

have to make one point clear. As he said, the bill does deal with the one concept that it has to be in the best interests of the grandchild in order for the court to grant visitation rights. It does not grant de facto rights to the grandparents to visit those grandchildren. They have got to prove and the burden of proof is on the grandparents that it is in the best interest of that grandchild to allow them the right to visit. So in my estimation the example that Senator Chambers gave, obviously I would, if I were the judge involved in that case, rule against the grandparents and not allow them the chance to visit that grandchild but I have just as many other cases on the other side of the coin where the parents have been unreasonable, not the grandparents, and the parents have been jealous of the grandparents and not allow them a chance to visit their children to the detriment of their children. The case that came before you that was so well heard, publicized just the last few months was a case from my district where the grandparents helped to raise the child and then their own child died, the parent, and they were denied access to the grandchild who they had helped to rear, who they had loved and cared for and were very close to and the parent that took over custody that had divorced their daughter who had died, denied them the right to visit and it seemed clear to me that they should have had the right to visit that grandchild. So there are also very many other cases that I think counterbalance what Senator Chambers talked about and without any rights whatsoever in the courts right now grandparents in these situations do not have any recourse to go to the court to ask for relief and a chance to visit their grandchild. All we're asking for is standing in the court to ask for this right and then the courts can decide what is in the best interest of the grandchild. I ask for your support on this motion.

PRESIDENT: The motion then before the House is the placing on General File notwithstanding the action of the committee. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Since the bill was killed it does require 30 votes, Senator Wesely, so... You want a record vote. Okay. Have you all voted? Do you just want a record vote, Senator Wesely? Record the vote and a record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on page 1090 of the Legislative Journal.) 11 ayes, 21 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to raise the bill.

PRESIDENT: The motion fails. Before we go to the next matter the Chair takes pleasure in introducing the Jolly Neighbors Extension Group from Ord from Senator Wagner's district. They are under the South balcony, Evelyn Jackson, Eva Vogt, Lorraine Krajnik (phonetic), Velma Warner, Pam Arnold, Judy Warner, Betty Moudry, Bernadine Lang and Gert Wagner. Would they all stand,