

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass
<b>Vote:</b>	7 - 0 - 2
<b>Yeas:</b>	Gallegos, Gelser, Gilliam, Keny-Guyer, Olson, Whisnant, Tomei
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Gomberg, Whitsett
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Regina Wilson, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/22

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Allows relative caregiver with whom minor child lives to consent to medical treatment and educational services for minor child if, after reasonable efforts have been made, consent from legal parent or guardian cannot be obtained. Clarifies required information in relative caregiver affidavit and expiration of affidavit. Relieves health care provider and school of criminal and civil liability for medical treatment or educational services provided in good faith. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Medical and educational consent for children
- Number of states that have passed similar medical and educational consent legislation
- Report from National Conference of State Legislatures

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** In many states, extended families, such as grandparents, provide homes for children who are unable to remain with their parents. In 2012, almost three million American children received care from relatives other than their parents. That same year, according to data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, about 107,000 children in foster care received care from relatives – approximately 27 percent. An absence of legal custody or guardianship impacts decisions on children’s medical, educational and emotional needs. Senate Bill 601 allows relative caregivers to consent to medical treatment and educational services for a minor child if consent from legal parents or guardians cannot be obtained.