

HOUSE BILL 1337

D4

0lr2646

By: **Delegates Shoemaker, Corderman, Hornberger, Krebs, Long, Malone, Mautz, McComas, Morgan, Reilly, Rose, and Saab**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Family Law – Grandparent Visitation**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which an equity court may grant
4 visitation rights to a grandparent of a child; and generally relating to visitation.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Family Law
7 Section 9–102
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2019 Replacement Volume)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Family Law

12 9–102.

13 An equity court may:

14 (1) consider a petition for reasonable visitation of a grandchild by a
15 grandparent; and

16 (2) [if the court finds it to be in the best interests of the child,] grant
17 visitation rights to the grandparent **IF:**

18 **(I) BOTH OF THE CHILD’S LIVING PARENTS CONSENT TO**
19 **VISITATION;**
20

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(II) ONE OF THE CHILD'S LIVING PARENTS CONSENTS TO**
2 **VISITATION AND THE OTHER PARENT IS UNABLE TO CONSENT TO VISITATION; OR**

3 **(III) BOTH OF THE CHILD'S LIVING PARENTS ARE UNABLE TO**
4 **CONSENT TO VISITATION.**

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2020.