

2008 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1143

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 9, 2008

A BILL to amend and reenact § 63.2-912 of the Code of Virginia, relating to foster care; visitation rights of birth siblings.

Patrons—Fralin, Amundson, Crockett-Stark and Englin

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 63.2-912 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 63.2-912. Visitation of child placed in foster care.

The circuit courts and juvenile and domestic relations district courts shall have the authority to grant visitation rights to the natural parents, *birth siblings*, and grandparents of any child entrusted or committed to foster care if the court finds (i) that the parent, *birth sibling*, or grandparent had an ongoing relationship with the child prior to his being placed in foster care and (ii) it is in the best interests of the child that the relationship continue. The order of the court committing the child to foster care shall state the nature and extent of any visitation rights granted as provided in this section.

INTRODUCED

HB1143