



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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"BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD"

House Bill 5636 (Substitute H-1)

Sponsor: Rep. James Ryan

Committee: Judiciary and Civil Rights

Complete to 3-18-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5636 (SUBSTITUTE H-1)

House Bill 5636 would amend the Child Custody Act by adding a factor to the list of factors currently used by the court to determine what is in the "best interests of the child". The second factor for consideration is currently: "The capacity and disposition of the parties involved to give the child love, affection, and guidance and to continue the education and raising of the child in his or her religion or creed, if any." The bill would split this factor, making the capacity of the parties to continue the child's education and raising in his or her religion or creed a separate factor.

The bill would also provide that if a child is subject to a parenting plan under the Parenting Plan Act (which would be established by House Bill 5637) the court could order the child's parents to be governed by the plan without designating either party as the child's legal or physical custodian. The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 5637.

MCL 722.23 et al.

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