

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6190
BILL NUMBER: SB 52

NOTE PREPARED: Nov 6, 2025
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Grandparent Visitation.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Clark
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a grandparent who has had a demonstrable history of meaningful contact with a child may seek visitation rights. It allows a parent, guardian, or custodian to submit a confidential statement regarding the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's concerns about a grandparent's visitation. It also requires the court to review a confidential statement submitted in camera and seal the record to protect the parties' privacy. The bill also requires a petition for custody to include certain information. The bill makes conforming changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: By expanding the ability for any grandparent to seek visitation rights in the state, this bill could significantly increase the number of grandparent visitation petitions filed in court. As a result, court filing fee revenue could increase.

If additional civil cases occur and court fees are collected, revenue to the state General Fund will increase. The total revenue per case would range between \$100 and \$122. The amount deposited will vary depending on whether the case is filed in a court of record or a municipal court. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

Additional Information: Currently, grandparents can petition for child visitation only if (1) a child's parent has died, (2) the marriage of the child's parents has been dissolved, or (3) a child was born out of wedlock and the father has established paternity of the child. The bill adds a fourth, independent qualification that a grandparent have meaningful contact with a child. As a result, any grandparent would be able to petition the court in which a child resides to request visitation.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill requires courts to seal records under certain conditions. Increases in court workload are expected to be accomplished within existing resource and funding levels.

Explanation of Local Revenues: If additional cases occur, revenue will be collected by certain local units. If the case is filed in a court of record, the county will receive \$32 and qualifying municipalities will receive a share of \$3. If the case is filed in a municipal court, the county receives \$20, and the municipality will receive \$37. The following linked document describes the fees and distribution of the revenue: [Court fees imposed in civil, probate, and small claims cases.](#)

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, city and town courts.

Information Sources: Indiana Supreme Court, Indiana Trial Court Fee Manual

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