

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee

April 15, 2026
Date

Committee on Health & Human Services.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB26-1314 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee of the Whole with favorable recommendation:

- 1 Amend printed bill, page 2, line 7 after "parent;" insert "and".
- 2 Page 3, strike lines 4 through 27 and substitute:
 - 3 "(2) The general assembly finds, therefore, that targeted
 - 4 legislative reforms to prioritize kinship placements and preserve
 - 5 grandparent-grandchild relationships will promote the stability, safety,
 - 6 and well-being of children, youth, and families throughout the state.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 14-10-124.4, **amend**
 - 8 (2)(a) and (2)(b) as follows:
 - 9 **14-10-124.4. Family time for grandparents or**
 - 10 **great-grandparents - legislative declaration - definitions.**
 - 11 (2) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 12 (a) "Grandparent" means a person who is OR, IF THE CHILD'S
 - 13 FATHER OR MOTHER IS DECEASED, WAS the parent of a child's father or
 - 14 mother, who is related to the child by blood, in whole or by half,
 - 15 adoption, or marriage; except that "grandparent" does not include the
 - 16 parent of a child's legal father or mother whose parental rights have been
 - 17 terminated in accordance with sections 19-5-101 and 19-1-104 (1)(d).
 - 18 (b) "Great-grandparent" means a person who is OR, IF THE CHILD'S
 - 19 FATHER OR MOTHER OR GRANDPARENT IS DECEASED, WAS the grandparent
 - 20 of a child's father or mother, who is related to the child by blood, in whole
 - 21 or by half, adoption, or marriage; except that "great-grandparent" does not
 - 22 include the grandparent of a child's legal father or mother whose parental
 - 23 rights have been terminated in accordance with sections 19-5-101 and
 - 24 19-1-104 (1)(d)."
- 25 Strike page 4.

1 Page 5, strike lines 1 through 9.

2 Page 5, after line 9 insert:

3 **"SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal 19-1-117.7."**

4 Page 5, line 11, strike "portion, (3.6)(a)(V), and (9)" and substitute
5 "portion and (3.6)(a)(V)".

6 Page 5, line 15, strike "ACTIVE" and substitute "DILIGENT".

7 Page 5, strike lines 24 through 27.

8 Page 6, lines 1 and 2, strike "THE RELATIVE OR KIN IS NOT IN THE BEST
9 INTERESTS OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH." and substitute:

10 "and available for care. ~~giving primary consideration to the child's or~~
11 ~~youth's mental, physical, and emotional needs, including the child's or~~
12 ~~youth's preference regarding placement.~~ PLACEMENT OF THE CHILD OR
13 YOUTH WITH THE RELATIVE OR KIN IS PRESUMED TO BE IN THE BEST
14 INTERESTS OF THE CHILD OR YOUTH. THE PRESUMPTION MAY BE REBUTTED
15 BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE, GIVING PRIMARY
16 CONSIDERATION TO THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S MENTAL, PHYSICAL, AND
17 EMOTIONAL NEEDS, INCLUDING THE CHILD'S OR YOUTH'S PREFERENCE
18 REGARDING PLACEMENT."

19 Page 6, strike line 27.

20 Strike pages 7 through 10.

21 Page 11, strike lines 1 through 11.

22 Renumber succeeding section accordingly.

23 Page 1, strike lines 102 through 106 and substitute "**THEREWITH,**
24 **PRIORITIZING KINSHIP PLACEMENTS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND**
25 **FACILITATING GRANDPARENT CONTACT."**

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