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this matter more carefully, that we listen to the judges, to the social workers and to the psychologists that are experienced in this area and that we not make this major change in law based on the skimpy record that we have before us about the hearing before the committee. So I would urge this body to kill this bill now and encourage the sponsors to come in with another bill next year with a full hearing so we can touch base with everybody and see what everybody thinks about these ideas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I oppose the Hoagland kill motion. I can appreciate Senator Hoagland's concern. However, had he been to the hearing he would know more of the concern of the elderly and the grandparents than of which he speaks. This bill does nothing more than give grandparents standing in the court. It merely opens the door to seek visitation rights with their grandchildren. Senator Hoagland said it opens up the door for anything. That is not true. It opened up the door for one thing and one thing only and that is to give the judge, nobody else, the judge the option to say grandparents, yes, you may have visitation rights, no, you may not have visitation rights, depending on what the judge feels is best for the grandchildren and nobody else. Now to say that it opens up the door for a whole bunch of stuff simply is not true. If the custodial parent desires totally to eliminate the grandparents from the life of their grandchildren, they may do so. These grandparents who often play a substantial role in the lives of their grandchildren must accept this decision by the custodial parent and must be content with the chance of glimpses of their grandchildren in public places or as they go about their daily activities. This bill will bring hope to many grandparents who currently have no hope. The grandparents will only be given the right to ask the court to determine if it is in the child's best interest to allow the grandparents to have this visitation. It is the child's best interest which is paramount in this issue and ofttime I feel that grandparents visitation certainly is in the child's best interest. Senator Hoagland contends that since only two people appeared in support of this issue, that no one representing the legal community appeared on the bill, then we should hold the legislation for interim study. This isn't necessary. I wish that Senator Hoagland could have been there. Then he would have grasped the humanistic value of this