

this case you get visitation without the responsibility for the child. That is unfair in my estimation and that is why I'm going to vote against 105.

**SPEAKER NICHOL:** In a way that we might move along a little bit faster perhaps, we are supposed to be talking about the section of the amendments that has to do with parents of a minor child who have never been married. We are talking about the whole bill here as we go along, but I would suggest to the speakers coming up that we talk to that. Senator DeCamp, then Senator Wesely.

**SENATOR DECAMP:** Mr. President, I'm going to be very brief. Recognizing all the arguments raised on the other side, I think Senator Chambers brought up maybe one of the best things to guide us. He said we have to look at reality. And I agree with him. Reality, however, reality is that laws, customs, economic situation in the United States has done much, very much over the past 25 to 40 years to destroy the extended family relationship. Historically the extended family, in other words the grandparents, the relatives, the mother, the father, the children, the extended family, the tighter it is, the tighter the morals of our system have been, the tighter and better the community's existence in taking care of their own have been, and to the degree that this reinforces or strengthens the entire family relationship, to that degree I believe the Legislature should be promoting it and defending it. We have done so much over the years to destroy various family relationships. Let's see if we can't do one thing that helps strengthen it. So I would ask that we adopt these amendments, advance the bill. If we have to do further refinement on Select File, or at some later stage, fine. But at least let's set the premise today that we are going to recognize the grandparents as a critical and necessary part of the entire family unit.

**SPEAKER NICHOL:** Senator Wesely, then Senator Vickers.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members, I would rise in support of the amendment and I will vote to advance the bill. But Senator Landis and Senator DeCamp have just spoken, and both raised issues of great importance. Senator Vickers has as well, and Senator Hoagland. This is not a small issue. It's been before us now I don't know how many years. I had a bill myself a few years back, so I've been