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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Premiere Bill

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Blue | Bill # SBP 06

Referred to Committee: Senate 2

Authors: Clara Manning, Beth Anthony	Action on the Bill	
School: St. Joseph Catholic School	House	Senate
	□ Passed	□ Passed
City: Bowling Green	☐ Defeated	☐ Defeated

An act to Reform Current Statutes Regarding the Custody of Minors

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1:The court shall determine custody of a minor by what is in the best interest of the child. Equal consideration shall be given to each biological parent and any individual who has maintained a parental relationship with the child if:

- a.) He or she established a strong emotional bond with the child;
- b.) Has resided in the same household with the child for a minimum of two years if the child is older than two years of age; and
- c.) Has provided a portion of the financial support for the child.

Section 2: If the child is of the age of twelve years or older, his or her wishes shall be considered by the court when making a determination of custody, but the court shall not be required to follow the child's wishes.

Section 3: If an individual whom has maintained a parental relationship with the child is not awarded custody, he or she shall be given reasonable visitation rights in a similar manner as a non-custodial biological parent.

Section 4: If passed by the Annual Youth Legislature of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the bill shall become law as of October 10, 2015.