



SENATE BILL No. 608

June 15, 1995, Introduced by Senators BENNETT, GEAKE, DINGELL, HOFFMAN, GOUGEON, SHUGARS, DUNASKISS, STILLE, SCHUETTE, MC MANUS, BYRUM, PETERS and EMMONS and referred to the Committee on Families, Mental Health and Human Services.

A bill to amend sections 8 and 9 of Act No. 155 of the Public Acts of 1964, entitled as amended "Circuit court family counseling services act," as amended by Act No. 16 of the Public Acts of 1980, being sections 551.338 and 551.339 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Sections 8 and 9 of Act No. 155 of the Public
2 Acts of 1964, as amended by Act No. 16 of the Public Acts of
3 1980, being sections 551.338 and 551.339 of the Michigan Compiled
4 Laws, are amended to read as follows:

5 Sec. 8. Upon specific referral from the court or at the
6 request and agreement of the litigants, the family counseling
7 service may be instructed to serve as an impartial, unbiased
8 resource in evaluating problems involving custody of minor

1 children, ~~visitation~~ PARENTING TIME of minor children, and
2 related matters.

3 Sec. 9. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a commu-
4 nication between a counselor in the family counseling service and
5 a person who is counseled is confidential. The secrecy of the
6 communication shall be preserved inviolate as a privileged commu-
7 nication which privilege cannot be waived. The communication
8 shall not be admitted in evidence in any proceedings. The same
9 protection shall be given to communications between spouses and
10 counselors to whom they have been referred by the court or the
11 court's family counseling service.

12 (2) A family referred by the court with custody or
13 ~~visitation~~ PARENTING TIME problems whose adult members sign an
14 agreement indicating the purpose of the referral ~~shall be~~ IS
15 exempt from subsection (1). A report of an evaluation of those
16 families shall be submitted to the court with indicated
17 recommendations.