

H.B. 232

ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND DIVISION DEFINITIONS

Representative **Christine F. Watkins** proposes the following amendments:

1. *Page 1, Lines 8 through 15:*

8 General Description:

9 This bill ~~{ modifies the definition of neglect and }~~ eliminates a responsibility of the
10 Division of Child and Family Services.

11 Highlighted Provisions:

12 This bill:

13 ~~{ → adds willful, wanton, and reckless negligence to the definition of neglect; and }~~

14 ▶ eliminates the division's responsibility to conduct court-ordered home evaluations in
15 custody proceedings.

2. *Page 7, Lines 191 through 194:*

191 (25) (a) "Neglect" means action or inaction ~~{ that is willful, wanton, or reckless~~
192 ~~negligence.~~ } causing:

193 (i) abandonment of a child, except as provided in Title 62A, Chapter 4a, Part 8, Safe
194 Relinquishment of a Newborn Child;