

CHILD ABUSE AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Todd Weiler

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends definitions related to civil child abuse and child neglect.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ specifies that "chronic abuse" and "chronic neglect" exist when there have been three separate occurrences of child abuse or child neglect;
 - ▶ defines "serious harm," a term used to define "severe abuse" and "severe neglect";
- and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

62A-4a-101, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapters 209, 323, and 459

62A-4a-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 330

62A-4a-711, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 401

78A-6-105, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapters 45, 91, 192, 235, 285, and

415



- 28 78A-6-106, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 285
- 29 78A-6-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 91
- 30 78A-6-306, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 91
- 31 78A-6-312, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 91
- 32 78A-6-1302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2017, Chapter 330



34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section **62A-4a-101** is amended to read:

36 **62A-4a-101. Definitions.**

37 As used in this chapter:

- 38 (1) "Abuse" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78A-6-105.
- 39 (2) "Adoption services" means:
 - 40 (a) placing children for adoption;
 - 41 (b) subsidizing adoptions under Section 62A-4a-105;
 - 42 (c) supervising adoption placements until the adoption is finalized by the court;
 - 43 (d) conducting adoption studies;
 - 44 (e) preparing adoption reports upon request of the court; and
 - 45 (f) providing postadoptive placement services, upon request of a family, for the
 - 46 purpose of stabilizing a possible disruptive placement.
- 47 (3) "Child" means, except as provided in Part 7, Interstate Compact on Placement of
- 48 Children, a person under 18 years of age.
- 49 (4) "Child protection team" means a team consisting of:
 - 50 (a) the caseworker assigned to the case;
 - 51 (b) the caseworker who made the decision to remove the child;
 - 52 (c) a representative of the school or school district where the child attends school;
 - 53 (d) the peace officer who removed the child from the home;
 - 54 (e) a representative of the appropriate Children's Justice Center, if one is established
 - 55 within the county where the child resides;
 - 56 (f) if appropriate, and known to the division, a therapist or counselor who is familiar
 - 57 with the child's circumstances;
 - 58 (g) members of a child protection unit; and

59 (h) any other individuals determined appropriate and necessary by the team coordinator
60 and chair.

61 (5) "Child protection unit" means any unit created by a chief of police or a sheriff of a
62 city, town, metro township, or county that is composed of at least the following individuals
63 who are trained in the prevention, identification, and treatment of abuse or neglect:

64 (a) a law enforcement officer, as defined in Section 53-13-103; and

65 (b) a child advocate selected by the chief of police or a sheriff.

66 (6) "Chronic abuse" means [~~repeated or patterned abuse~~] at least three separate acts of
67 abuse occurring over at least three separate incidences by the same actor against the same child.

68 (7) "Chronic neglect" means [~~repeated or patterned neglect~~] at least three separate acts
69 of neglect occurring over at least three separate incidences by the same actor against the same
70 child.

71 (8) "Consult" means an interaction between two persons in which the initiating person:

72 (a) provides information to another person;

73 (b) provides the other person an opportunity to respond; and

74 (c) takes the other person's response, if any, into consideration.

75 (9) "Consumer" means a person who receives services offered by the division in
76 accordance with this chapter.

77 (10) "Custody," with regard to the division, means the custody of a minor in the
78 division as of the date of disposition.

79 (11) "Day-care services" means care of a child for a portion of the day which is less
80 than 24 hours:

81 (a) in the child's own home by a responsible person; or

82 (b) outside of the child's home in a:

83 (i) day-care center;

84 (ii) family group home; or

85 (iii) family child care home.

86 (12) "Dependent child" or "dependency" means a child, or the condition of a child, who
87 is homeless or without proper care through no fault of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

88 (13) "Director" means the director of the Division of Child and Family Services.

89 (14) "Division" means the Division of Child and Family Services.

- 90 (15) "Domestic violence services" means:
- 91 (a) temporary shelter, treatment, and related services to:
- 92 (i) a person who is a victim of abuse, as defined in Section 78B-7-102; and
- 93 (ii) the dependent children of a person described in Subsection (12)(a)(i); and
- 94 (b) treatment services for a person who is alleged to have committed, has been
- 95 convicted of, or has pled guilty to, an act of domestic violence as defined in Section 77-36-1.
- 96 (16) "Harm" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78A-6-105.
- 97 (17) "Homemaking service" means the care of individuals in their domiciles, and help
- 98 given to individual caretaker relatives to achieve improved household and family management
- 99 through the services of a trained homemaker.
- 100 (18) "Incest" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78A-6-105.
- 101 (19) "Indian child" means the same as that term is defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903.
- 102 (20) "Indian tribe" means the same as that term is defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903.
- 103 (21) "Minor" means, except as provided in Part 7, Interstate Compact on Placement of
- 104 Children:
- 105 (a) a child; or
- 106 (b) a person:
- 107 (i) who is at least 18 years of age and younger than 21 years of age; and
- 108 (ii) for whom the division has been specifically ordered by the juvenile court to provide
- 109 services.
- 110 (22) "Molestation" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78A-6-105.
- 111 (23) "Mutual case" means a case that has been:
- 112 (a) opened by the division under the division's discretion and procedures;
- 113 (b) opened by the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the case; and
- 114 (c) accepted for investigation by the child protection unit established by the chief of
- 115 police or sheriff, as applicable.
- 116 (24) "Natural parent" means a minor's biological or adoptive parent, and includes a
- 117 minor's noncustodial parent.
- 118 (25) "Neglect" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78A-6-105.
- 119 (26) "Protective custody," with regard to the division, means the shelter of a child by
- 120 the division from the time the child is removed from the child's home until the earlier of:

- 121 (a) the shelter hearing; or
- 122 (b) the child's return home.
- 123 (27) "Protective services" means expedited services that are provided:
- 124 (a) in response to evidence of neglect, abuse, or dependency of a child;
- 125 (b) to a cohabitant who is neglecting or abusing a child, in order to:
- 126 (i) help the cohabitant develop recognition of the cohabitant's duty of care and of the
- 127 causes of neglect or abuse; and
- 128 (ii) strengthen the cohabitant's ability to provide safe and acceptable care; and
- 129 (c) in cases where the child's welfare is endangered:
- 130 (i) to bring the situation to the attention of the appropriate juvenile court and law
- 131 enforcement agency;
- 132 (ii) to cause a protective order to be issued for the protection of the child, when
- 133 appropriate; and
- 134 (iii) to protect the child from the circumstances that endanger the child's welfare
- 135 including, when appropriate:
- 136 (A) removal from the child's home;
- 137 (B) placement in substitute care; and
- 138 (C) petitioning the court for termination of parental rights.
- 139 (28) "Severe abuse" means the same as that term is defined in Section [78A-6-105](#).
- 140 (29) "Severe neglect" means the same as that term is defined in Section [78A-6-105](#).
- 141 (30) "Sexual abuse" means the same as that term is defined in Section [78A-6-105](#).
- 142 (31) "Sexual exploitation" means the same as that term is defined in Section
- 143 [78A-6-105](#).
- 144 (32) "Shelter care" means the temporary care of a minor in a nonsecure facility.
- 145 (33) "Sibling" means a child who shares or has shared at least one parent in common
- 146 either by blood or adoption.
- 147 (34) "Sibling visitation" means services provided by the division to facilitate the
- 148 interaction between a child in division custody with a sibling of that child.
- 149 (35) "State" means:
- 150 (a) a state of the United States;
- 151 (b) the District of Columbia;

152 (c) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

153 (d) the Virgin Islands;

154 (e) Guam;

155 (f) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; or

156 (g) a territory or possession administered by the United States.

157 (36) "State plan" means the written description of the programs for children, youth, and
158 family services administered by the division in accordance with federal law.

159 (37) "Status offense" means a violation of the law that would not be a violation but for
160 the age of the offender.

161 (38) "Substance abuse" means the same as that term is defined in Section [78A-6-105](#).

162 (39) "Substantiated" or "substantiation" means a judicial finding based on a
163 preponderance of the evidence that abuse or neglect occurred. Each allegation made or
164 identified in a given case shall be considered separately in determining whether there should be
165 a finding of substantiated.

166 (40) "Substitute care" means:

167 (a) the placement of a minor in a family home, group care facility, or other placement
168 outside the minor's own home, either at the request of a parent or other responsible relative, or
169 upon court order, when it is determined that continuation of care in the minor's own home
170 would be contrary to the minor's welfare;

171 (b) services provided for a minor awaiting placement; and

172 (c) the licensing and supervision of a substitute care facility.

173 (41) "Supported" means a finding by the division based on the evidence available at the
174 completion of an investigation that there is a reasonable basis to conclude that abuse, neglect,
175 or dependency occurred. Each allegation made or identified during the course of the
176 investigation shall be considered separately in determining whether there should be a finding of
177 supported.

178 (42) "Temporary custody," with regard to the division, means the custody of a child in
179 the division from the date of the shelter hearing until disposition.

180 (43) "Transportation services" means travel assistance given to an individual with
181 escort service, if necessary, to and from community facilities and resources as part of a service
182 plan.

183 (44) "Unsubstantiated" means a judicial finding that there is insufficient evidence to
184 conclude that abuse or neglect occurred.

185 (45) "Unsupported" means a finding at the completion of an investigation that there is
186 insufficient evidence to conclude that abuse, neglect, or dependency occurred. However, a
187 finding of unsupported means also that the division worker did not conclude that the allegation
188 was without merit.

189 (46) "Without merit" means a finding at the completion of an investigation by the
190 division, or a judicial finding, that the alleged abuse, neglect, or dependency did not occur, or
191 that the alleged perpetrator was not responsible for the abuse, neglect, or dependency.

192 Section 2. Section **62A-4a-201** is amended to read:

193 **62A-4a-201. Rights of parents -- Children's rights -- Interest and responsibility of**
194 **state.**

195 (1) (a) Under both the United States Constitution and the constitution of this state, a
196 parent possesses a fundamental liberty interest in the care, custody, and management of the
197 parent's children. A fundamentally fair process must be provided to parents if the state moves
198 to challenge or interfere with parental rights. A governmental entity must support any actions
199 or allegations made in opposition to the rights and desires of a parent regarding the parent's
200 children by sufficient evidence to satisfy a parent's constitutional entitlement to heightened
201 protection against government interference with the parent's fundamental rights and liberty
202 interests and, concomitantly, the right of the child to be reared by the child's natural parent.

203 (b) The fundamental liberty interest of a parent concerning the care, custody, and
204 management of the parent's children is recognized, protected, and does not cease to exist
205 simply because a parent may fail to be a model parent or because the parent's child is placed in
206 the temporary custody of the state. At all times, a parent retains a vital interest in preventing
207 the irretrievable destruction of family life. Prior to an adjudication of unfitness, government
208 action in relation to parents and their children may not exceed the least restrictive means or
209 alternatives available to accomplish a compelling state interest. Until the state proves parental
210 unfitness, and the child suffers, or is substantially likely to suffer, serious detriment as a result,
211 the child and the child's parents share a vital interest in preventing erroneous termination of
212 their natural relationship and the state cannot presume that a child and the child's parents are
213 adversaries.

214 (c) It is in the best interest and welfare of a child to be raised under the care and
215 supervision of the child's natural parents. A child's need for a normal family life in a
216 permanent home, and for positive, nurturing family relationships is usually best met by the
217 child's natural parents. Additionally, the integrity of the family unit and the right of parents to
218 conceive and raise their children are constitutionally protected. The right of a fit, competent
219 parent to raise the parent's child without undue government interference is a fundamental
220 liberty interest that has long been protected by the laws and Constitution and is a fundamental
221 public policy of this state.

222 (d) The state recognizes that:

223 (i) a parent has the right, obligation, responsibility, and authority to raise, manage,
224 train, educate, provide and care for, and reasonably discipline the parent's children; and

225 (ii) the state's role is secondary and supportive to the primary role of a parent.

226 (e) It is the public policy of this state that parents retain the fundamental right and duty
227 to exercise primary control over the care, supervision, upbringing, and education of their
228 children.

229 (f) Subsections (2) through (7) shall be interpreted and applied consistent with this
230 Subsection (1).

231 (2) It is also the public policy of this state that children have the right to protection
232 from abuse and neglect, and that the state retains a compelling interest in investigating,
233 prosecuting, and punishing abuse and neglect, as defined in this chapter, and in Title 78A,
234 Chapter 6, Juvenile Court Act. Therefore, the state, as *parens patriae*, has an interest in and
235 responsibility to protect children whose parents abuse them or do not adequately provide for
236 their welfare. There may be circumstances where a parent's conduct or condition is a
237 substantial departure from the norm and the parent is unable or unwilling to render safe and
238 proper parental care and protection. Under those circumstances, the state may take action for
239 the welfare and protection of the parent's children.

240 (3) When the division intervenes on behalf of an abused, neglected, or dependent child,
241 it shall take into account the child's need for protection from immediate harm and the extent to
242 which the child's extended family may provide needed protection. Throughout its involvement,
243 the division shall utilize the least intrusive and least restrictive means available to protect a
244 child, in an effort to ensure that children are brought up in stable, permanent families, rather

245 than in temporary foster placements under the supervision of the state.

246 (4) When circumstances within the family pose a threat to the child's immediate safety
247 or welfare, the division may seek custody of the child for a planned, temporary period and
248 place the child in a safe environment, subject to the requirements of this section and in
249 accordance with the requirements of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part 3, Abuse, Neglect, and
250 Dependency Proceedings, and:

251 (a) when safe and appropriate, return the child to the child's parent; or

252 (b) as a last resort, pursue another permanency plan.

253 (5) In determining and making "reasonable efforts" with regard to a child, pursuant to
254 the provisions of Section 62A-4a-203, both the division's and the court's paramount concern
255 shall be the child's health, safety, and welfare. The desires of a parent for the parent's child,
256 and the constitutionally protected rights of a parent, as described in this section, shall be given
257 full and serious consideration by the division and the court.

258 (6) In cases where actual sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment, severe
259 abuse, or severe neglect are established, the state has no duty to make "reasonable efforts" or
260 to, in any other way, attempt to maintain a child in the child's home, provide reunification
261 services, or to attempt to rehabilitate the offending parent or parents. This Subsection (6) does
262 not exempt the division from providing court-ordered services.

263 (7) (a) In accordance with Subsection (1), the division shall strive to achieve
264 appropriate permanency for children who are abused, neglected, or dependent. The division
265 shall provide in-home services, where appropriate and safe, in an effort to help a parent to
266 correct the behavior that resulted in abuse, neglect, or dependency of the parent's child. The
267 division may pursue a foster placement only if in-home services fail or are otherwise
268 insufficient or inappropriate, kinship placement is not safe or appropriate, or in-home services
269 and kinship placement fail and cannot be corrected. The division shall also seek qualified
270 extended family support or a kinship placement to maintain a sense of security and stability for
271 the child.

272 (b) If the use or continuation of "reasonable efforts," as described in Subsections (5)
273 and (6), is determined to be inconsistent with the permanency plan for a child, then measures
274 shall be taken, in a timely manner, to place the child in accordance with the permanency plan,
275 and to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the child.

276 (c) Subject to the parental rights recognized and protected under this section, if,
 277 because of a parent's conduct or condition, the parent is determined to be unfit or incompetent
 278 based on the grounds for termination of parental rights described in Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part
 279 5, Termination of Parental Rights Act, the continuing welfare and best interest of the child is of
 280 paramount importance, and shall be protected in determining whether that parent's rights
 281 should be terminated.

282 (8) The state's right to direct or intervene in the provision of medical or mental health
 283 care for a child is subject to Subsections ~~78A-6-105(35)(d)~~(36)(b) and 78A-6-117(2) and
 284 Section 78A-6-301.5.

285 Section 3. Section ~~62A-4a-711~~ is amended to read:

286 **62A-4a-711. Penalty.**

287 An individual or entity that knowingly engages in an unregulated custody transfer, as
 288 defined in [~~Subsection 78A-6-105(56)~~] Section 78A-6-105, is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

289 Section 4. Section ~~78A-6-105~~ is amended to read:

290 **78A-6-105. Definitions.**

291 As used in this chapter:

292 (1) (a) "Abuse" means:

293 (i) (A) nonaccidental harm of a child;

294 (B) threatened harm of a child;

295 (C) sexual exploitation;

296 (D) sexual abuse; or

297 (E) human trafficking of a child in violation of Section ~~76-5-308.5~~; or

298 (ii) that a child's natural parent:

299 (A) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes the death of another parent of the
 300 child;

301 (B) is identified by a law enforcement agency as the primary suspect in an investigation
 302 for intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child; or

303 (C) is being prosecuted for or has been convicted of intentionally, knowingly, or
 304 recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child.

305 (b) "Abuse" does not include:

306 (i) reasonable discipline or management of a child, including withholding privileges;

- 307 (ii) conduct described in Section 76-2-401; or
- 308 (iii) the use of reasonable and necessary physical restraint or force on a child:
- 309 (A) in self-defense;
- 310 (B) in defense of others;
- 311 (C) to protect the child; or
- 312 (D) to remove a weapon in the possession of a child for any of the reasons described in
- 313 Subsections (1)(b)(iii)(A) through (C).
- 314 (2) "Abused child" means a child who has been subjected to abuse.
- 315 (3) "Adjudication" means a finding by the court, incorporated in a decree, that the facts
- 316 alleged in the petition have been proved. A finding of not competent to proceed pursuant to
- 317 Section 78A-6-1302 is not an adjudication.
- 318 (4) "Adult" means an individual 18 years of age or over, except that an individual 18
- 319 years or over under the continuing jurisdiction of the juvenile court pursuant to Section
- 320 78A-6-120 shall be referred to as a minor.
- 321 (5) "Board" means the Board of Juvenile Court Judges.
- 322 (6) "Child" means an individual under 18 years of age.
- 323 (7) "Child placement agency" means:
- 324 (a) a private agency licensed to receive a child for placement or adoption under this
- 325 code; or
- 326 (b) a private agency that receives a child for placement or adoption in another state,
- 327 which agency is licensed or approved where such license or approval is required by law.
- 328 (8) "Clandestine laboratory operation" means the same as that term is defined in
- 329 Section 58-37d-3.
- 330 (9) "Commit" means, unless specified otherwise:
- 331 (a) with respect to a child, to transfer legal custody; and
- 332 (b) with respect to a minor who is at least 18 years of age, to transfer custody.
- 333 (10) "Court" means the juvenile court.
- 334 (11) "Criminogenic risk factors" means evidence-based factors that are associated with
- 335 a minor's likelihood of reoffending.
- 336 (12) "Delinquent act" means an act that would constitute a felony or misdemeanor if
- 337 committed by an adult.

338 (13) "Dependent child" includes a child who is homeless or without proper care
339 through no fault of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian.

340 (14) "Deprivation of custody" means transfer of legal custody by the court from a
341 parent or the parents or a previous legal custodian to another person, agency, or institution.

342 (15) "Detention" means home detention and secure detention as defined in Section
343 [62A-7-101](#) for the temporary care of a minor who requires secure custody in a physically
344 restricting facility:

345 (a) pending court disposition or transfer to another jurisdiction; or

346 (b) while under the continuing jurisdiction of the court.

347 (16) "Detention risk assessment tool" means an evidence-based tool established under
348 Section [78A-6-124](#), on and after July 1, 2018, that assesses a minor's risk of failing to appear in
349 court or reoffending pre-adjudication and designed to assist in making detention
350 determinations.

351 (17) "Division" means the Division of Child and Family Services.

352 (18) "Educational neglect" means that, after receiving a notice of compulsory education
353 violation under Section [53G-6-202](#), the parent or guardian fails to make a good faith effort to
354 ensure that the child receives an appropriate education.

355 (19) "Evidence-based" means a program or practice that has had multiple randomized
356 control studies or a meta-analysis demonstrating that the program or practice is effective for a
357 specific population or has been rated as effective by a standardized program evaluation tool.

358 (20) "Formal probation" means a minor is under field supervision by the probation
359 department or other agency designated by the court and subject to return to the court in
360 accordance with Section [78A-6-123](#) on and after July 1, 2018.

361 (21) "Formal referral" means a written report from a peace officer or other person
362 informing the court that a minor is or appears to be within the court's jurisdiction and that a
363 case must be reviewed.

364 (22) "Group rehabilitation therapy" means psychological and social counseling of one
365 or more individuals in the group, depending upon the recommendation of the therapist.

366 (23) "Guardianship of the person" includes the authority to consent to:

367 (a) marriage;

368 (b) enlistment in the armed forces;

369 (c) major medical, surgical, or psychiatric treatment; or
370 (d) legal custody, if legal custody is not vested in another individual, agency, or
371 institution.

372 (24) "Habitual truant" means the same as that term is defined in Section [53G-6-201](#).

373 (25) "Harm" means:

374 (a) physical or developmental injury or damage;

375 (b) emotional damage that results in a serious impairment in the child's growth,
376 development, behavior, or psychological functioning;

377 (c) sexual abuse; or

378 (d) sexual exploitation.

379 (26) (a) "Incest" means engaging in sexual intercourse with an individual whom the
380 perpetrator knows to be the perpetrator's ancestor, descendant, brother, sister, uncle, aunt,
381 nephew, niece, or first cousin.

382 (b) The relationships described in Subsection (26)(a) include:

383 (i) blood relationships of the whole or half blood, without regard to legitimacy;

384 (ii) relationships of parent and child by adoption; and

385 (iii) relationships of stepparent and stepchild while the marriage creating the
386 relationship of a stepparent and stepchild exists.

387 (27) "Intake probation" means a period of court monitoring that does not include field
388 supervision, but is overseen by a juvenile probation officer, during which a minor is subject to
389 return to the court in accordance with Section [78A-6-123](#) on and after July 1, 2018.

390 (28) "Intellectual disability" means:

391 (a) significantly subaverage intellectual functioning, an IQ of approximately 70 or
392 below on an individually administered IQ test, for infants, a clinical judgment of significantly
393 subaverage intellectual functioning;

394 (b) concurrent deficits or impairments in present adaptive functioning, regarding the
395 individual's effectiveness in meeting the standards expected for the individual's age by the
396 individual's cultural group, in at least two of the following areas: communication, self-care,
397 home living, social/interpersonal skills, use of community resources, self-direction, functional
398 academic skills, work, leisure, health, and safety; and

399 (c) the onset is before the individual reaches the age of 18 years.

400 (29) "Legal custody" means a relationship embodying the following rights and duties:

401 (a) the right to physical custody of the minor;

402 (b) the right and duty to protect, train, and discipline the minor;

403 (c) the duty to provide the minor with food, clothing, shelter, education, and ordinary

404 medical care;

405 (d) the right to determine where and with whom the minor shall live; and

406 (e) the right, in an emergency, to authorize surgery or other extraordinary care.

407 (30) "Material loss" means an uninsured:

408 (a) property loss;

409 (b) out-of-pocket monetary loss;

410 (c) lost wages; or

411 (d) medical expenses.

412 (31) "Mental disorder" means a serious emotional and mental disturbance that severely
413 limits a minor's development and welfare over a significant period of time.

414 (32) "Minor" means:

415 (a) a child; or

416 (b) an individual who is:

417 (i) at least 18 years of age and younger than 21 years of age; and

418 (ii) under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

419 (33) "Mobile crisis outreach team" means a crisis intervention service for minors or
420 families of minors experiencing behavioral health or psychiatric emergencies.

421 (34) "Molestation" means that an individual, with the intent to arouse or gratify the
422 sexual desire of any individual, touches the anus, buttocks, pubic area, or genitalia of any child,
423 or the breast of a female child, or takes indecent liberties with a child as defined in Section
424 [76-5-416](#).

425 (35) "Natural parent" means a minor's biological or adoptive parent, and includes the
426 minor's noncustodial parent.

427 (36) (a) "Neglect" means action or inaction causing:

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

430 (ii) lack of proper parental care of a child by reason of the fault or habits of the parent,
431 guardian, or custodian;

432 (iii) failure or refusal of a parent, guardian, or custodian to provide proper or necessary
433 subsistence or medical care, or any other care necessary for the child's health, safety, morals, or
434 well-being;

435 (iv) a child to be at risk of being neglected or abused because another child in the same
436 home is neglected or abused;

437 (v) abandonment of a child through an unregulated custody transfer; or

438 (vi) educational neglect.

439 (b) "Neglect" does not include:

440 (i) a parent or guardian legitimately practicing religious beliefs and who, for that
441 reason, does not provide specified medical treatment for a child;

442 (ii) a health care decision made for a child by the child's parent or guardian, unless the
443 state or other party to a proceeding shows, by clear and convincing evidence, that the health
444 care decision is not reasonable and informed;

445 (iii) a parent or guardian exercising the right described in Section [78A-6-301.5](#); or

446 (iv) permitting a child, whose basic needs are met and who is of sufficient age and
447 maturity to avoid harm or unreasonable risk of harm, to engage in independent activities,
448 including:

449 (A) traveling to and from school, including by walking, running, or bicycling;

450 (B) traveling to and from nearby commercial or recreational facilities;

451 (C) engaging in outdoor play;

452 (D) remaining in a vehicle unattended, except under the conditions described in
453 Subsection [76-10-2202\(2\)](#);

454 (E) remaining at home unattended; or

455 (F) engaging in a similar independent activity.

456 (37) "Neglected child" means a child who has been subjected to neglect.

457 (38) "Nonjudicial adjustment" means closure of the case by the assigned probation
458 officer without judicial determination upon the consent in writing of:

459 (a) the assigned probation officer; and

460 (b) (i) the minor; or

461 (ii) the minor and the minor's parent, legal guardian, or custodian.

462 (39) "Not competent to proceed" means that a minor, due to a mental disorder,
463 intellectual disability, or related condition as defined, lacks the ability to:

464 (a) understand the nature of the proceedings against them or of the potential disposition
465 for the offense charged; or

466 (b) consult with counsel and participate in the proceedings against them with a
467 reasonable degree of rational understanding.

468 (40) "Physical abuse" means abuse that results in physical injury or damage to a child.

469 (41) "Probation" means a legal status created by court order following an adjudication
470 on the ground of a violation of law or under Section 78A-6-103, whereby the minor is
471 permitted to remain in the minor's home under prescribed conditions.

472 (42) "Protective supervision" means a legal status created by court order following an
473 adjudication on the ground of abuse, neglect, or dependency, whereby the minor is permitted to
474 remain in the minor's home, and supervision and assistance to correct the abuse, neglect, or
475 dependency is provided by the probation department or other agency designated by the court.

476 (43) "Related condition" means a condition closely related to intellectual disability in
477 accordance with 42 C.F.R. Part 435.1010 and further defined in Rule R539-1-3, Utah
478 Administrative Code.

479 (44) (a) "Residual parental rights and duties" means those rights and duties remaining
480 with the parent after legal custody or guardianship, or both, have been vested in another person
481 or agency, including:

482 (i) the responsibility for support;

483 (ii) the right to consent to adoption;

484 (iii) the right to determine the child's religious affiliation; and

485 (iv) the right to reasonable parent-time unless restricted by the court.

486 (b) If no guardian has been appointed, "residual parental rights and duties" also include
487 the right to consent to:

488 (i) marriage;

489 (ii) enlistment; and

490 (iii) major medical, surgical, or psychiatric treatment.

491 (45) "Secure facility" means any facility operated by or under contract with the

492 Division of Juvenile Justice Services, that provides 24-hour supervision and confinement for
493 youth offenders committed to the division for custody and rehabilitation pursuant to Subsection
494 [78A-6-117\(2\)\(d\)](#).

495 (46) "Serious harm" means:

496 (a) bodily injury that creates or causes serious permanent disfigurement, protracted loss
497 or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ, or creates a substantial risk of
498 death;

499 (b) emotional damage that results in a substantial risk of permanent impairment in the
500 child's growth, development, behavior, or psychological functioning;

501 (c) sexual abuse; or

502 (d) sexual exploitation.

503 [~~46~~] (47) "Severe abuse" means abuse that causes or threatens to cause serious harm
504 to a child.

505 [~~47~~] (48) "Severe neglect" means neglect that causes or threatens to cause serious
506 harm to a child.

507 [~~48~~] (49) "Sexual abuse" means:

508 (a) an act or attempted act of sexual intercourse, sodomy, incest, or molestation by an
509 adult directed towards a child;

510 (b) an act or attempted act of sexual intercourse, sodomy, incest, or molestation
511 committed by a child towards another child if:

512 (i) there is an indication of force or coercion;

513 (ii) the children are related, as described in Subsection (26), including siblings by
514 marriage while the marriage exists or by adoption;

515 (iii) there have been repeated incidents of sexual contact between the two children,
516 unless the children are 14 years of age or older; or

517 (iv) there is a disparity in chronological age of four or more years between the two
518 children;

519 (c) engaging in any conduct with a child that would constitute an offense under any of
520 the following, regardless of whether the individual who engages in the conduct is actually
521 charged with, or convicted of, the offense:

522 (i) Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses, except for Section [76-5-401](#), if the

523 alleged perpetrator of an offense described in Section 76-5-401 is a minor;

524 (ii) child bigamy, Section 76-7-101.5;

525 (iii) incest, Section 76-7-102;

526 (iv) lewdness, Section 76-9-702;

527 (v) sexual battery, Section 76-9-702.1;

528 (vi) lewdness involving a child, Section 76-9-702.5; or

529 (vii) voyeurism, Section 76-9-702.7; or

530 (d) subjecting a child to participate in or threatening to subject a child to participate in
531 a sexual relationship, regardless of whether that sexual relationship is part of a legal or cultural
532 marriage.

533 [~~(49)~~] (50) "Sexual exploitation" means knowingly:

534 (a) employing, using, persuading, inducing, enticing, or coercing any child to:

535 (i) pose in the nude for the purpose of sexual arousal of any individual; or

536 (ii) engage in any sexual or simulated sexual conduct for the purpose of photographing,
537 filming, recording, or displaying in any way the sexual or simulated sexual conduct;

538 (b) displaying, distributing, possessing for the purpose of distribution, or selling
539 material depicting a child:

540 (i) in the nude, for the purpose of sexual arousal of any individual; or

541 (ii) engaging in sexual or simulated sexual conduct; or

542 (c) engaging in any conduct that would constitute an offense under Section 76-5b-201,
543 sexual exploitation of a minor, regardless of whether the individual who engages in the conduct
544 is actually charged with, or convicted of, the offense.

545 [~~(50)~~] (51) "Shelter" means the temporary care of a child in a physically unrestricted
546 facility pending court disposition or transfer to another jurisdiction.

547 [~~(51)~~] (52) "Status offense" means a violation of the law that would not be a violation
548 but for the age of the offender.

549 [~~(52)~~] (53) "Substance abuse" means the misuse or excessive use of alcohol or other
550 drugs or substances.

551 [~~(53)~~] (54) "Substantiated" means the same as that term is defined in Section
552 62A-4a-101.

553 [~~(54)~~] (55) "Supported" means the same as that term is defined in Section 62A-4a-101.

554 [~~(55)~~] (56) "Termination of parental rights" means the permanent elimination of all
555 parental rights and duties, including residual parental rights and duties, by court order.

556 [~~(56)~~] (57) "Therapist" means:

557 (a) an individual employed by a state division or agency for the purpose of conducting
558 psychological treatment and counseling of a minor in its custody; or

559 (b) any other individual licensed or approved by the state for the purpose of conducting
560 psychological treatment and counseling.

561 [~~(57)~~] (58) "Unregulated custody transfer" means the placement of a child:

562 (a) with an individual who is not the child's parent, step-parent, grandparent, adult
563 sibling, adult uncle or aunt, or legal guardian, or a friend of the family who is an adult and with
564 whom the child is familiar, or a member of the child's federally recognized tribe;

565 (b) with the intent of severing the child's existing parent-child or guardian-child
566 relationship; and

567 (c) without taking:

568 (i) reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the child and permanency of the placement;
569 and

570 (ii) the necessary steps to transfer the legal rights and responsibilities of parenthood or
571 guardianship to the individual taking custody of the child.

572 [~~(58)~~] (59) "Unsubstantiated" means the same as that term is defined in Section
573 [62A-4a-101](#).

574 [~~(59)~~] (60) "Validated risk and needs assessment" means an evidence-based tool that
575 assesses a minor's risk of reoffending and a minor's criminogenic needs.

576 [~~(60)~~] (61) "Without merit" means the same as that term is defined in Section
577 [62A-4a-101](#).

578 Section 5. Section **78A-6-106** is amended to read:

579 **78A-6-106. Search warrants and subpoenas -- Authority to issue -- Protective**
580 **custody -- Expedited hearing.**

581 (1) The court has authority to issue search warrants, subpoenas, or investigative
582 subpoenas in criminal cases, delinquency, and abuse, neglect, and dependency proceedings for
583 the same purposes, in the same manner and pursuant to the same procedures set forth in the
584 code of criminal procedure for the issuance of search warrants, subpoenas, or investigative

585 subpoenas in other trial courts in the state.

586 (2) A peace officer or child welfare worker may not enter the home of a child who is
587 not under the jurisdiction of the court, remove a child from the child's home or school, or take a
588 child into protective custody unless:

589 (a) there exist exigent circumstances sufficient to relieve the peace officer or child
590 welfare worker of the requirement to obtain a warrant;

591 (b) the peace officer or child welfare worker obtains a search warrant under Subsection
592 (3) or (6);

593 (c) the peace officer or child welfare worker obtains a court order after the parent or
594 guardian of the child is given notice and an opportunity to be heard; or

595 (d) the peace officer or child welfare worker obtains the consent of the child's parent or
596 guardian.

597 (3) (a) The court may issue a warrant authorizing a child protective services worker or
598 peace officer to search for a child and take the child into protective custody if it appears to the
599 court upon a verified petition, recorded sworn testimony or an affidavit sworn to by a peace
600 officer or any other person, and upon the examination of other witnesses, if required by the
601 judge, that there is probable cause to believe that:

602 (i) there is a threat of [~~substantial~~] serious harm to the child's health or safety;

603 (ii) it is necessary to take the child into protective custody to avoid the harm described
604 in Subsection (3)(a)(i); and

605 (iii) it is likely that the child will suffer [~~substantial~~] serious harm if the parent or
606 guardian of the child is given notice and an opportunity to be heard before the child is taken
607 into protective custody.

608 (b) Pursuant to Section [77-23-210](#), a peace officer making the search may enter a house
609 or premises by force, if necessary, in order to remove the child.

610 (c) The person executing the warrant shall take the child to the place of shelter
611 designated by the court or the division.

612 (4) (a) Consistent with Subsection (5), the court shall hold an expedited hearing to
613 determine whether a child should be placed in protective custody if:

614 (i) a person files a petition under Section [78A-6-304](#);

615 (ii) a party to the proceeding files a "Motion for Expedited Placement in Temporary

616 Custody"; and

617 (iii) notice of the hearing described in this Subsection (4)(a) is served consistent with
618 the requirements for notice of a shelter hearing under Section 78A-6-306.

619 (b) The hearing described in Subsection (4)(a):

620 (i) shall be held within 72 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, of the filing of the
621 motion described in Subsection (4)(a)(ii); and

622 (ii) shall be considered a shelter hearing under Section 78A-6-306 and Utah Rules of
623 Juvenile Procedure, Rule 13.

624 (5) (a) The hearing and notice described in Subsection (4) are subject to:

625 (i) Section 78A-6-306;

626 (ii) Section 78A-6-307; and

627 (iii) the Utah Rules of Juvenile Procedure.

628 (b) After the hearing described in Subsection (4), a court may order a child placed in
629 the temporary custody of the division.

630 (6) Upon a motion filed for a warrant to search for a child who is missing, has been
631 abducted, or has run away, a court shall issue a warrant authorizing a child welfare worker or a
632 peace officer to search for the child and take the child into custody if the court determines that:

633 (a) the child is in the legal custody of the division; and

634 (b) the child is missing, has been abducted, or has run away.

635 (7) When a court issues a warrant under Subsection (6):

636 (a) the division shall notify the child's parent or guardian who has a right to parent-time
637 with the child;

638 (b) the court shall order:

639 (i) the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the location from which the
640 child ran away to enter a record of the warrant into the National Crime Information Center
641 database within 24 hours after the time when the law enforcement agency receives a copy of
642 the warrant; and

643 (ii) the division to notify the law enforcement agency described in Subsection (7)(b)(i)
644 of the order described in Subsection (7)(b)(i); and

645 (c) the court shall specify the location to which the child welfare worker or peace
646 officer shall transport the child.

647 (8) On the sole basis of a child's absence from placement, a court may not hold in
648 contempt a child who:

649 (a) is in the legal custody of the division; and

650 (b) is missing, has been abducted, or has run away.

651 (9) When notice to a parent or guardian is required by this section:

652 (a) the parent or guardian to be notified must be:

653 (i) the child's primary caregiver; or

654 (ii) the parent or guardian who has custody of the child when the order is sought; and

655 (b) the person required to provide notice shall make a good faith effort to provide
656 notice to a parent or guardian who:

657 (i) is not required to be notified under Subsection (9)(a); and

658 (ii) has a right to parent-time with the child.

659 Section 6. Section **78A-6-302** is amended to read:

660 **78A-6-302. Court-ordered protective custody of a child following petition filing --**

661 **Grounds.**

662 (1) After a petition has been filed under Section **78A-6-304**, if the child who is the
663 subject of the petition is not in the protective custody of the division, a court may order that the
664 child be removed from the child's home or otherwise taken into protective custody if the court
665 finds, by a preponderance of the evidence, that any one or more of the following circumstances
666 exist:

667 (a) (i) there is an imminent danger to the physical health or safety of the child; and

668 (ii) the child's physical health or safety may not be protected without removing the
669 child from the custody of the child's parent or guardian;

670 (b) (i) a parent or guardian engages in or threatens the child with unreasonable conduct
671 that causes the child to suffer harm; and

672 (ii) there are no less restrictive means available by which the child's emotional health
673 may be protected without removing the child from the custody of the child's parent or guardian;

674 (c) the child or another child residing in the same household has been, or is considered
675 to be at substantial risk of being, physically abused, sexually abused, or sexually exploited, by a
676 parent or guardian, a member of the parent's or guardian's household, or other person known to
677 the parent or guardian;

- 678 (d) the parent or guardian is unwilling to have physical custody of the child;
- 679 (e) the child is abandoned or left without any provision for the child's support;
- 680 (f) a parent or guardian who has been incarcerated or institutionalized has not arranged
681 or cannot arrange for safe and appropriate care for the child;
- 682 (g) (i) a relative or other adult custodian with whom the child is left by the parent or
683 guardian is unwilling or unable to provide care or support for the child;
- 684 (ii) the whereabouts of the parent or guardian are unknown; and
- 685 (iii) reasonable efforts to locate the parent or guardian are unsuccessful;
- 686 (h) subject to Subsections [78A-6-105](#)[(35)(c)(i) through (iii)] [\(36\)\(b\)](#) and [78A-6-117\(2\)](#)
687 and Section [78A-6-301.5](#), the child is in immediate need of medical care;
- 688 (i) (i) a parent's or guardian's actions, omissions, or habitual action create an
689 environment that poses a serious risk to the child's health or safety for which immediate
690 remedial or preventive action is necessary; or
- 691 (ii) a parent's or guardian's action in leaving a child unattended would reasonably pose
692 a threat to the child's health or safety;
- 693 (j) the child or another child residing in the same household has been neglected;
- 694 (k) the child's natural parent:
- 695 (i) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes the death of another parent of the
696 child;
- 697 (ii) is identified by a law enforcement agency as the primary suspect in an investigation
698 for intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child; or
- 699 (iii) is being prosecuted for or has been convicted of intentionally, knowingly, or
700 recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child;
- 701 (l) an infant has been abandoned, as defined in Section [78A-6-316](#);
- 702 (m) (i) the parent or guardian, or an adult residing in the same household as the parent
703 or guardian, is charged or arrested pursuant to Title 58, Chapter 37d, Clandestine Drug Lab
704 Act; and
- 705 (ii) any clandestine laboratory operation was located in the residence or on the property
706 where the child resided; or
- 707 (n) the child's welfare is otherwise endangered.
- 708 (2) (a) For purposes of Subsection (1)(a), if a child has previously been adjudicated as

709 abused, neglected, or dependent, and a subsequent incident of abuse, neglect, or dependency
710 occurs involving the same substantiated abuser or under similar circumstance as the previous
711 abuse, that fact constitutes prima facie evidence that the child cannot safely remain in the
712 custody of the child's parent.

713 (b) For purposes of Subsection (1)(c):

714 (i) another child residing in the same household may not be removed from the home
715 unless that child is considered to be at substantial risk of being physically abused, sexually
716 abused, or sexually exploited as described in Subsection (1)(c) or Subsection (2)(b)(ii); and

717 (ii) if a parent or guardian has received actual notice that physical abuse, sexual abuse,
718 or sexual exploitation by a person known to the parent has occurred, and there is evidence that
719 the parent or guardian failed to protect the child, after having received the notice, by allowing
720 the child to be in the physical presence of the alleged abuser, that fact constitutes prima facie
721 evidence that the child is at substantial risk of being physically abused, sexually abused, or
722 sexually exploited.

723 (3) (a) For purposes of Subsection (1), if the division files a petition under Section
724 [78A-6-304](#), the court shall consider the division's safety and risk assessments described in
725 Section [62A-4a-203.1](#) to determine whether a child should be removed from the custody of the
726 child's parent or guardian or should otherwise be taken into protective custody.

727 (b) The division shall make a diligent effort to provide the safety and risk assessments
728 described in Section [62A-4a-203.1](#) to the court, guardian ad litem, and counsel for the parent or
729 guardian, as soon as practicable before the shelter hearing described in Section [78A-6-306](#).

730 (4) In the absence of one of the factors described in Subsection (1), a court may not
731 remove a child from the parent's or guardian's custody on the basis of:

732 (a) educational neglect, truancy, or failure to comply with a court order to attend
733 school;

734 (b) mental illness or poverty of the parent or guardian; or

735 (c) disability of the parent or guardian, as defined in Section [57-21-2](#).

736 (5) A child removed from the custody of the child's parent or guardian under this
737 section may not be placed or kept in a secure detention facility pending further court
738 proceedings unless the child is detainable based on guidelines promulgated by the Division of
739 Juvenile Justice Services.

740 (6) This section does not preclude removal of a child from the child's home without a
741 warrant or court order under Section [62A-4a-202.1](#).

742 (7) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (7)(b), a court or the Division of Child and
743 Family Services may not remove a child from the custody of the child's parent or guardian on
744 the sole or primary basis that the parent or guardian refuses to consent to:

- 745 (i) the administration of a psychotropic medication to a child;
- 746 (ii) a psychiatric, psychological, or behavioral treatment for a child; or
- 747 (iii) a psychiatric or behavioral health evaluation of a child.

748 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (7)(a), a court or the Division of Child and Family
749 Services may remove a child under conditions that would otherwise be prohibited under
750 Subsection (7)(a) if failure to take an action described under Subsection (7)(a) would present a
751 serious, imminent risk to the child's physical safety or the physical safety of others.

752 Section 7. Section **78A-6-306** is amended to read:

753 **78A-6-306. Shelter hearing.**

754 (1) A shelter hearing shall be held within 72 hours excluding weekends and holidays
755 after any one or all of the following occur:

- 756 (a) removal of the child from the child's home by the division;
- 757 (b) placement of the child in the protective custody of the division;
- 758 (c) emergency placement under Subsection [62A-4a-202.1](#)(4);
- 759 (d) as an alternative to removal of the child, a parent enters a domestic violence shelter
760 at the request of the division; or
- 761 (e) a "Motion for Expedited Placement in Temporary Custody" is filed under
762 Subsection [78A-6-106](#)(4).

763 (2) If one of the circumstances described in Subsections (1)(a) through (e) occurs, the
764 division shall issue a notice that contains all of the following:

- 765 (a) the name and address of the person to whom the notice is directed;
- 766 (b) the date, time, and place of the shelter hearing;
- 767 (c) the name of the child on whose behalf a petition is being brought;
- 768 (d) a concise statement regarding:
 - 769 (i) the reasons for removal or other action of the division under Subsection (1); and
 - 770 (ii) the allegations and code sections under which the proceeding has been instituted;

771 (e) a statement that the parent or guardian to whom notice is given, and the child, are
772 entitled to have an attorney present at the shelter hearing, and that if the parent or guardian is
773 indigent and cannot afford an attorney, and desires to be represented by an attorney, one will be
774 provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 78A-6-1111; and

775 (f) a statement that the parent or guardian is liable for the cost of support of the child in
776 the protective custody, temporary custody, and custody of the division, and the cost for legal
777 counsel appointed for the parent or guardian under Subsection (2)(e), according to the financial
778 ability of the parent or guardian.

779 (3) The notice described in Subsection (2) shall be personally served as soon as
780 possible, but no later than one business day after removal of the child from the child's home, or
781 the filing of a "Motion for Expedited Placement in Temporary Custody" under Subsection
782 78A-6-106(4), on:

783 (a) the appropriate guardian ad litem; and

784 (b) both parents and any guardian of the child, unless the parents or guardians cannot
785 be located.

786 (4) The following persons shall be present at the shelter hearing:

787 (a) the child, unless it would be detrimental for the child;

788 (b) the child's parents or guardian, unless the parents or guardian cannot be located, or
789 fail to appear in response to the notice;

790 (c) counsel for the parents, if one is requested;

791 (d) the child's guardian ad litem;

792 (e) the caseworker from the division who is assigned to the case; and

793 (f) the attorney from the attorney general's office who is representing the division.

794 (5) (a) At the shelter hearing, the court shall:

795 (i) provide an opportunity to provide relevant testimony to:

796 (A) the child's parent or guardian, if present; and

797 (B) any other person having relevant knowledge; and

798 (ii) subject to Section 78A-6-305, provide an opportunity for the child to testify.

799 (b) The court:

800 (i) may consider all relevant evidence, in accordance with the Utah Rules of Juvenile
801 Procedure;

802 (ii) shall hear relevant evidence presented by the child, the child's parent or guardian,
803 the requesting party, or their counsel; and

804 (iii) may in its discretion limit testimony and evidence to only that which goes to the
805 issues of removal and the child's need for continued protection.

806 (6) If the child is in the protective custody of the division, the division shall report to
807 the court:

808 (a) the reason why the child was removed from the parent's or guardian's custody;

809 (b) any services provided to the child and the child's family in an effort to prevent
810 removal;

811 (c) the need, if any, for continued shelter;

812 (d) the available services that could facilitate the return of the child to the custody of
813 the child's parent or guardian; and

814 (e) subject to Subsections 78A-6-307(18)(c) through (e), whether any relatives of the
815 child or friends of the child's parents may be able and willing to accept temporary placement of
816 the child.

817 (7) The court shall consider all relevant evidence provided by persons or entities
818 authorized to present relevant evidence pursuant to this section.

819 (8) (a) If necessary to protect the child, preserve the rights of a party, or for other good
820 cause shown, the court may grant no more than one continuance, not to exceed five judicial
821 days.

822 (b) A court shall honor, as nearly as practicable, the request by a parent or guardian for
823 a continuance under Subsection (8)(a).

824 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (8)(a), if the division fails to provide the notice
825 described in Subsection (2) within the time described in Subsection (3), the court may grant the
826 request of a parent or guardian for a continuance, not to exceed five judicial days.

827 (9) (a) If the child is in the protective custody of the division, the court shall order that
828 the child be returned to the custody of the parent or guardian unless it finds, by a
829 preponderance of the evidence, consistent with the protections and requirements provided in
830 Subsection 62A-4a-201(1), that any one of the following exists:

831 (i) subject to Subsection (9)(b)(i), there is a serious danger to the physical health or
832 safety of the child and the child's physical health or safety may not be protected without

833 removing the child from the custody of the child's parent;

834 (ii) (A) the child is suffering emotional damage that results in a serious impairment in
835 the child's growth, development, behavior, or psychological functioning;

836 (B) the parent or guardian is unwilling or unable to make reasonable changes that
837 would sufficiently prevent future damage; and

838 (C) there are no reasonable means available by which the child's emotional health may
839 be protected without removing the child from the custody of the child's parent or guardian;

840 (iii) there is a substantial risk that the child will suffer abuse or neglect if the child is
841 not removed from the custody of the child's parent or guardian;

842 (iv) subject to Subsection (9)(b)(ii), the child or a minor residing in the same
843 household has been, or is considered to be at substantial risk of being, physically abused,
844 sexually abused, or sexually exploited by a:

845 (A) parent or guardian;

846 (B) member of the parent's household or the guardian's household; or

847 (C) person known to the parent or guardian;

848 (v) the parent or guardian is unwilling to have physical custody of the child;

849 (vi) the child is without any provision for the child's support;

850 (vii) a parent who is incarcerated or institutionalized has not or cannot arrange for safe
851 and appropriate care for the child;

852 (viii) (A) a relative or other adult custodian with whom the child is left by the parent or
853 guardian is unwilling or unable to provide care or support for the child;

854 (B) the whereabouts of the parent or guardian are unknown; and

855 (C) reasonable efforts to locate the parent or guardian are unsuccessful;

856 (ix) subject to Subsections ~~[78A-6-105(35)(c)(i) through (iii)]~~ (36)(b) and
857 78A-6-117(2) and Section 78A-6-301.5, the child is in immediate need of medical care;

858 (x) (A) the physical environment or the fact that the child is left unattended beyond a
859 reasonable period of time poses a threat to the child's health or safety; and

860 (B) the parent or guardian is unwilling or unable to make reasonable changes that
861 would remove the threat;

862 (xi) (A) the child or a minor residing in the same household has been neglected; and

863 (B) the parent or guardian is unwilling or unable to make reasonable changes that

864 would prevent the neglect;

865 (xii) the parent, guardian, or an adult residing in the same household as the parent or
866 guardian, is charged or arrested pursuant to Title 58, Chapter 37d, Clandestine Drug Lab Act,
867 and any clandestine laboratory operation was located in the residence or on the property where
868 the child resided;

869 (xiii) (A) the child's welfare is substantially endangered; and

870 (B) the parent or guardian is unwilling or unable to make reasonable changes that
871 would remove the danger; or

872 (xiv) the child's natural parent:

873 (A) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes the death of another parent of the
874 child;

875 (B) is identified by a law enforcement agency as the primary suspect in an investigation
876 for intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child; or

877 (C) is being prosecuted for or has been convicted of intentionally, knowingly, or
878 recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child.

879 (b) (i) Prima facie evidence of the finding described in Subsection (9)(a)(i) is
880 established if:

881 (A) a court previously adjudicated that the child suffered abuse, neglect, or dependency
882 involving the parent; and

883 (B) a subsequent incident of abuse, neglect, or dependency involving the parent occurs.

884 (ii) For purposes of Subsection (9)(a)(iv), if the court finds that the parent knowingly
885 allowed the child to be in the physical care of a person after the parent received actual notice
886 that the person physically abused, sexually abused, or sexually exploited the child, that fact
887 constitutes prima facie evidence that there is a substantial risk that the child will be physically
888 abused, sexually abused, or sexually exploited.

889 (10) (a) (i) The court shall also make a determination on the record as to whether
890 reasonable efforts were made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the
891 child's home and whether there are available services that would prevent the need for continued
892 removal.

893 (ii) If the court finds that the child can be safely returned to the custody of the child's
894 parent or guardian through the provision of those services, the court shall place the child with

895 the child's parent or guardian and order that those services be provided by the division.

896 (b) In making the determination described in Subsection (10)(a), and in ordering and
897 providing services, the child's health, safety, and welfare shall be the paramount concern, in
898 accordance with federal law.

899 (11) Where the division's first contact with the family occurred during an emergency
900 situation in which the child could not safely remain at home, the court shall make a finding that
901 any lack of preplacement preventive efforts was appropriate.

902 (12) In cases where actual sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment, severe
903 abuse, or severe neglect are involved, neither the division nor the court has any duty to make
904 "reasonable efforts" or to, in any other way, attempt to maintain a child in the child's home,
905 return a child to the child's home, provide reunification services, or attempt to rehabilitate the
906 offending parent or parents.

907 (13) The court may not order continued removal of a child solely on the basis of
908 educational neglect as described in [~~Subsection 78A-6-105(35)(b)~~] Section 78A-6-105,
909 truancy, or failure to comply with a court order to attend school.

910 (14) (a) Whenever a court orders continued removal of a child under this section, the
911 court shall state the facts on which that decision is based.

912 (b) If no continued removal is ordered and the child is returned home, the court shall
913 state the facts on which that decision is based.

914 (15) If the court finds that continued removal and temporary custody are necessary for
915 the protection of a child pursuant to Subsection (9)(a), the court shall order continued removal
916 regardless of:

- 917 (a) any error in the initial removal of the child;
918 (b) the failure of a party to comply with notice provisions; or
919 (c) any other procedural requirement of this chapter or Title 62A, Chapter 4a, Child
920 and Family Services.

921 Section 8. Section **78A-6-312** is amended to read:

922 **78A-6-312. Dispositional hearing -- Reunification services -- Exceptions.**

923 (1) The court may:

924 (a) make any of the dispositions described in Section [78A-6-117](#);

925 (b) place the minor in the custody or guardianship of any:

- 926 (i) individual; or
- 927 (ii) public or private entity or agency; or
- 928 (c) order:
- 929 (i) protective supervision;
- 930 (ii) family preservation;
- 931 (iii) subject to Subsections (12)(b), [78A-6-105](#)~~[(35)(c)(i) through (iii)]~~ [\(36\)\(b\)](#), and
- 932 [78A-6-117](#)(2) and Section [78A-6-301.5](#), medical or mental health treatment;
- 933 (iv) sibling visitation; or
- 934 (v) other services.

935 (2) Whenever the court orders continued removal at the dispositional hearing, and that
936 the minor remain in the custody of the division, the court shall first:

- 937 (a) establish a primary permanency plan for the minor; and
- 938 (b) determine whether, in view of the primary permanency plan, reunification services
939 are appropriate for the minor and the minor's family, pursuant to Subsections (21) through (23).

940 (3) Subject to Subsections (6) and (7), if the court determines that reunification
941 services are appropriate for the minor and the minor's family, the court shall provide for
942 reasonable parent-time with the parent or parents from whose custody the minor was removed,
943 unless parent-time is not in the best interest of the minor.

944 (4) In cases where obvious sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, abandonment, severe
945 abuse, or severe neglect are involved, neither the division nor the court has any duty to make
946 "reasonable efforts" or to, in any other way, attempt to provide reunification services, or to
947 attempt to rehabilitate the offending parent or parents.

948 (5) In all cases, the minor's health, safety, and welfare shall be the court's paramount
949 concern in determining whether reasonable efforts to reunify should be made.

950 (6) For purposes of Subsection (3), parent-time is in the best interests of a minor unless
951 the court makes a finding that it is necessary to deny parent-time in order to:

- 952 (a) protect the physical safety of the minor;
- 953 (b) protect the life of the minor; or
- 954 (c) prevent the minor from being traumatized by contact with the parent due to the
955 minor's fear of the parent in light of the nature of the alleged abuse or neglect.

956 (7) Notwithstanding Subsection (3), a court may not deny parent-time based solely on a

957 parent's failure to:

958 (a) prove that the parent has not used legal or illegal substances; or

959 (b) comply with an aspect of the child and family plan that is ordered by the court.

960 (8) (a) In addition to the primary permanency plan, the court shall establish a

961 concurrent permanency plan that shall include:

962 (i) a representative list of the conditions under which the primary permanency plan will
963 be abandoned in favor of the concurrent permanency plan; and

964 (ii) an explanation of the effect of abandoning or modifying the primary permanency
965 plan.

966 (b) In determining the primary permanency plan and concurrent permanency plan, the
967 court shall consider:

968 (i) the preference for kinship placement over nonkinship placement;

969 (ii) the potential for a guardianship placement if the parent-child relationship is legally
970 terminated and no appropriate adoption placement is available; and

971 (iii) the use of an individualized permanency plan, only as a last resort.

972 (9) A permanency hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Subsection
973 [78A-6-314](#)(1)(b) within 30 days after the day on which the dispositional hearing ends if
974 something other than reunification is initially established as a minor's primary permanency
975 plan.

976 (10) (a) The court may amend a minor's primary permanency plan before the
977 establishment of a final permanency plan under Section [78A-6-314](#).

978 (b) The court is not limited to the terms of the concurrent permanency plan in the event
979 that the primary permanency plan is abandoned.

980 (c) If, at any time, the court determines that reunification is no longer a minor's primary
981 permanency plan, the court shall conduct a permanency hearing in accordance with Section
982 [78A-6-314](#) on or before the earlier of:

983 (i) 30 days after the day on which the court makes the determination described in this
984 Subsection (10)(c); or

985 (ii) the day on which the provision of reunification services, described in Section
986 [78A-6-314](#), ends.

987 (11) (a) If the court determines that reunification services are appropriate, the court

988 shall order that the division make reasonable efforts to provide services to the minor and the
989 minor's parent for the purpose of facilitating reunification of the family, for a specified period
990 of time.

991 (b) In providing the services described in Subsection (11)(a), the minor's health, safety,
992 and welfare shall be the division's paramount concern, and the court shall so order.

993 (12) (a) The court shall:

994 (i) determine whether the services offered or provided by the division under the child
995 and family plan constitute "reasonable efforts" on the part of the division;

996 (ii) determine and define the responsibilities of the parent under the child and family
997 plan in accordance with Subsection 62A-4a-205(6)(e); and

998 (iii) identify verbally on the record, or in a written document provided to the parties,
999 the responsibilities described in Subsection (12)(a)(ii), for the purpose of assisting in any future
1000 determination regarding the provision of reasonable efforts, in accordance with state and
1001 federal law.

1002 (b) If the parent is in a substance use disorder treatment program, other than a certified
1003 drug court program:

1004 (i) the court may order the parent to submit to supplementary drug or alcohol testing in
1005 addition to the testing recommended by the parent's substance use disorder program based on a
1006 finding of reasonable suspicion that the parent is abusing drugs or alcohol; and

1007 (ii) the court may order the parent to provide the results of drug or alcohol testing
1008 recommended by the substance use disorder program to the court or division.

1009 (13) (a) The time period for reunification services may not exceed 12 months from the
1010 date that the minor was initially removed from the minor's home, unless the time period is
1011 extended under Subsection 78A-6-314(7).

1012 (b) Nothing in this section may be construed to entitle any parent to an entire 12
1013 months of reunification services.

1014 (14) (a) If reunification services are ordered, the court may terminate those services at
1015 any time.

1016 (b) If, at any time, continuation of reasonable efforts to reunify a minor is determined
1017 to be inconsistent with the final permanency plan for the minor established pursuant to Section
1018 78A-6-314, then measures shall be taken, in a timely manner, to:

1019 (i) place the minor in accordance with the permanency plan; and
1020 (ii) complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the
1021 minor.

1022 (15) Any physical custody of the minor by the parent or a relative during the period
1023 described in Subsections (11) through (14) does not interrupt the running of the period.

1024 (16) (a) If reunification services are ordered, a permanency hearing shall be conducted
1025 by the court in accordance with Section 78A-6-314 at the expiration of the time period for
1026 reunification services.

1027 (b) The permanency hearing shall be held no later than 12 months after the original
1028 removal of the minor.

1029 (c) If reunification services are not ordered, a permanency hearing shall be conducted
1030 within 30 days, in accordance with Section 78A-6-314.

1031 (17) With regard to a minor in the custody of the division whose parent or parents are
1032 ordered to receive reunification services but who have abandoned that minor for a period of six
1033 months from the date that reunification services were ordered:

1034 (a) the court shall terminate reunification services; and

1035 (b) the division shall petition the court for termination of parental rights.

1036 (18) When a court conducts a permanency hearing for a minor under Section
1037 78A-6-314, the court shall attempt to keep the minor's sibling group together if keeping the
1038 sibling group together is:

1039 (a) practicable; and

1040 (b) in accordance with the best interest of the minor.

1041 (19) When a child is under the custody of the division and has been separated from a
1042 sibling due to foster care or adoptive placement, a court may order sibling visitation, subject to
1043 the division obtaining consent from the sibling's legal guardian, according to the court's
1044 determination of the best interests of the child for whom the hearing is held.

1045 (20) (a) Because of the state's interest in and responsibility to protect and provide
1046 permanency for minors who are abused, neglected, or dependent, the Legislature finds that a
1047 parent's interest in receiving reunification services is limited.

1048 (b) The court may determine that:

1049 (i) efforts to reunify a minor with the minor's family are not reasonable or appropriate,

1050 based on the individual circumstances; and

1051 (ii) reunification services should not be provided.

1052 (c) In determining "reasonable efforts" to be made with respect to a minor, and in
1053 making "reasonable efforts," the minor's health, safety, and welfare shall be the paramount
1054 concern.

1055 (21) There is a presumption that reunification services should not be provided to a
1056 parent if the court finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that any of the following
1057 circumstances exist:

1058 (a) the whereabouts of the parents are unknown, based upon a verified affidavit
1059 indicating that a reasonably diligent search has failed to locate the parent;

1060 (b) subject to Subsection (22)(a), the parent is suffering from a mental illness of such
1061 magnitude that it renders the parent incapable of utilizing reunification services;

1062 (c) the minor was previously adjudicated as an abused child due to physical abuse,
1063 sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation, and following the adjudication the minor:

1064 (i) was removed from the custody of the minor's parent;

1065 (ii) was subsequently returned to the custody of the parent; and

1066 (iii) is being removed due to additional physical abuse, sexual abuse, or sexual
1067 exploitation;

1068 (d) the parent:

1069 (i) caused the death of another minor through abuse or neglect;

1070 (ii) committed, aided, abetted, attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit:

1071 (A) murder or manslaughter of a child; or

1072 (B) child abuse homicide;

1073 (iii) committed sexual abuse against the child;

1074 (iv) is a registered sex offender or required to register as a sex offender; or

1075 (v) (A) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes the death of another parent of the
1076 child;

1077 (B) is identified by a law enforcement agency as the primary suspect in an investigation
1078 for intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child; or

1079 (C) is being prosecuted for or has been convicted of intentionally, knowingly, or
1080 recklessly causing the death of another parent of the child;

1081 (e) the minor suffered severe abuse by the parent or by any person known by the
1082 parent, if the parent knew or reasonably should have known that the person was abusing the
1083 minor;

1084 (f) the minor is adjudicated an abused child as a result of severe abuse by the parent,
1085 and the court finds that it would not benefit the minor to pursue reunification services with the
1086 offending parent;

1087 (g) the parent's rights are terminated with regard to any other minor;

1088 (h) the minor was removed from the minor's home on at least two previous occasions
1089 and reunification services were offered or provided to the family at those times;

1090 (i) the parent has abandoned the minor for a period of six months or longer;

1091 (j) the parent permitted the child to reside, on a permanent or temporary basis, at a
1092 location where the parent knew or should have known that a clandestine laboratory operation
1093 was located;

1094 (k) except as provided in Subsection (22)(b), with respect to a parent who is the child's
1095 birth mother, the child has fetal alcohol syndrome, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, or was
1096 exposed to an illegal or prescription drug that was abused by the child's mother while the child
1097 was in utero, if the child was taken into division custody for that reason, unless the mother
1098 agrees to enroll in, is currently enrolled in, or has recently and successfully completed a
1099 substance use disorder treatment program approved by the department; or

1100 (l) any other circumstance that the court determines should preclude reunification
1101 efforts or services.

1102 (22) (a) The finding under Subsection (21)(b) shall be based on competent evidence
1103 from at least two medical or mental health professionals, who are not associates, establishing
1104 that, even with the provision of services, the parent is not likely to be capable of adequately
1105 caring for the minor within 12 months after the day on which the court finding is made.

1106 (b) A judge may disregard the provisions of Subsection (21)(k) if the court finds, under
1107 the circumstances of the case, that the substance use disorder treatment described in Subsection
1108 (21)(k) is not warranted.

1109 (23) In determining whether reunification services are appropriate, the court shall take
1110 into consideration:

1111 (a) failure of the parent to respond to previous services or comply with a previous child

1112 and family plan;

1113 (b) the fact that the minor was abused while the parent was under the influence of
1114 drugs or alcohol;

1115 (c) any history of violent behavior directed at the child or an immediate family
1116 member;

1117 (d) whether a parent continues to live with an individual who abused the minor;

1118 (e) any patterns of the parent's behavior that have exposed the minor to repeated abuse;

1119 (f) testimony by a competent professional that the parent's behavior is unlikely to be
1120 successful; and

1121 (g) whether the parent has expressed an interest in reunification with the minor.

1122 (24) (a) If reunification services are not ordered pursuant to Subsections (20) through
1123 (22), and the whereabouts of a parent become known within six months after the day on which
1124 the out-of-home placement of the minor is made, the court may order the division to provide
1125 reunification services.

1126 (b) The time limits described in Subsections (2) through (18) are not tolled by the
1127 parent's absence.

1128 (25) (a) If a parent is incarcerated or institutionalized, the court shall order reasonable
1129 services unless the court determines that those services would be detrimental to the minor.

1130 (b) In making the determination described in Subsection (25)(a), the court shall
1131 consider:

1132 (i) the age of the minor;

1133 (ii) the degree of parent-child bonding;

1134 (iii) the length of the sentence;

1135 (iv) the nature of the treatment;

1136 (v) the nature of the crime or illness;

1137 (vi) the degree of detriment to the minor if services are not offered;

1138 (vii) for a minor 10 years old or older, the minor's attitude toward the implementation
1139 of family reunification services; and

1140 (viii) any other appropriate factors.

1141 (c) Reunification services for an incarcerated parent are subject to the time limitations
1142 imposed in Subsections (2) through (18).

1143 (d) Reunification services for an institutionalized parent are subject to the time
1144 limitations imposed in Subsections (2) through (18), unless the court determines that continued
1145 reunification services would be in the minor's best interest.

1146 (26) If, pursuant to Subsections (21)(b) through (l), the court does not order
1147 reunification services, a permanency hearing shall be conducted within 30 days, in accordance
1148 with Section 78A-6-314.

1149 Section 9. Section 78A-6-1302 is amended to read:

1150 **78A-6-1302. Procedure -- Standard.**

1151 (1) When a motion is filed pursuant to Section 78A-6-1301 raising the issue of a
1152 minor's competency to proceed, or when the court raises the issue of a minor's competency to
1153 proceed, the juvenile court in which proceedings are pending shall stay all delinquency
1154 proceedings.

1155 (2) If a motion for inquiry is opposed by either party, the court shall, prior to granting
1156 or denying the motion, hold a limited hearing solely for the purpose of determining the
1157 sufficiency of the motion. If the court finds that the allegations of incompetency raise a bona
1158 fide doubt as to the minor's competency to proceed, it shall enter an order for an evaluation of
1159 the minor's competency to proceed, and shall set a date for a hearing on the issue of the minor's
1160 competency.

1161 (3) After the granting of a motion, and prior to a full competency hearing, the court
1162 may order the Department of Human Services to evaluate the minor and to report to the court
1163 concerning the minor's mental condition.

1164 (4) The minor shall be evaluated by a mental health examiner with experience in
1165 juvenile forensic evaluations and juvenile brain development, who is not involved in the
1166 current treatment of the minor. If it becomes apparent that the minor may be not competent
1167 due to an intellectual disability or related condition, the examiner shall be experienced in
1168 intellectual disability or related condition evaluations of minors.

1169 (5) The petitioner or other party, as directed by the court, shall provide all information
1170 and materials to the examiners relevant to a determination of the minor's competency
1171 including:

1172 (a) the motion;

1173 (b) the arrest or incident reports pertaining to the charged offense;

1174 (c) the minor's known delinquency history information;
1175 (d) known prior mental health evaluations and treatments; and
1176 (e) consistent with 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g (b)(1)(E)(ii)(I), records pertaining to the
1177 minor's education.

1178 (6) The minor's parents or guardian, the prosecutor, defense attorney, and guardian ad
1179 litem, shall cooperate in providing the relevant information and materials to the examiners.

1180 (7) In conducting the evaluation and in the report determining if a minor is not
1181 competent to proceed as defined in [~~Subsection 78A-6-105(38)~~] Section 78A-6-105, the
1182 examiner shall consider the impact of a mental disorder, intellectual disability, or related
1183 condition on a minor's present capacity to:

- 1184 (a) comprehend and appreciate the charges or allegations;
- 1185 (b) disclose to counsel pertinent facts, events, or states of mind;
- 1186 (c) comprehend and appreciate the range and nature of possible penalties, if applicable,
1187 that may be imposed in the proceedings against the minor;
- 1188 (d) engage in reasoned choice of legal strategies and options;
- 1189 (e) understand the adversarial nature of the proceedings;
- 1190 (f) manifest appropriate courtroom behavior; and
- 1191 (g) testify relevantly, if applicable.

1192 (8) In addition to the requirements of Subsection (7), the examiner's written report
1193 shall:

- 1194 (a) identify the specific matters referred for evaluation;
- 1195 (b) describe the procedures, techniques, and tests used in the evaluation and the
1196 purpose or purposes for each;
- 1197 (c) state the examiner's clinical observations, findings, and opinions on each issue
1198 referred for evaluation by the court, and indicate specifically those issues, if any, on which the
1199 examiner could not give an opinion;
- 1200 (d) state the likelihood that the minor will attain competency and the amount of time
1201 estimated to achieve it; and
- 1202 (e) identify the sources of information used by the examiner and present the basis for
1203 the examiner's clinical findings and opinions.

1204 (9) The examiner shall provide an initial report to the court, the prosecuting and

1205 defense attorneys, and the guardian ad litem, if applicable, within 30 days of the receipt of the
1206 court's order. If the examiner informs the court that additional time is needed, the court may
1207 grant, taking into consideration the custody status of the minor, up to an additional 30 days to
1208 provide the report to the court and counsel. The examiner must provide the report within 60
1209 days from the receipt of the court's order unless, for good cause shown, the court authorizes an
1210 additional period of time to complete the evaluation and provide the report. The report shall
1211 inform the court of the examiner's opinion concerning the competency and the likelihood of the
1212 minor to attain competency within a year. In the alternative, the examiner may inform the court
1213 in writing that additional time is needed to complete the report.

1214 (10) Any statement made by the minor in the course of any competency evaluation,
1215 whether the evaluation is with or without the consent of the minor, any testimony by the
1216 examiner based upon any statement, and any other fruits of the statement may not be admitted
1217 in evidence against the minor in any delinquency or criminal proceeding except on an issue
1218 respecting the mental condition on which the minor has introduced evidence. The evidence
1219 may be admitted, however, where relevant to a determination of the minor's competency.

1220 (11) Before evaluating the minor, examiners shall specifically advise the minor and the
1221 parents or guardian of the limits of confidentiality as provided under Subsection (10).

1222 (12) When the report is received the court shall set a date for a competency hearing that
1223 shall be held in not less than five and not more than 15 days, unless the court enlarges the time
1224 for good cause.

1225 (13) A minor shall be presumed competent unless the court, by a preponderance of the
1226 evidence, finds the minor not competent to proceed. The burden of proof is upon the
1227 proponent of incompetency to proceed.

1228 (14) (a) Following the hearing, the court shall determine by a preponderance of
1229 evidence whether the minor is:

1230 (i) competent to proceed;

1231 (ii) not competent to proceed with a substantial probability that the minor may attain
1232 competency in the foreseeable future; or

1233 (iii) not competent to proceed without a substantial probability that the minor may
1234 attain competency in the foreseeable future.

1235 (b) If the court enters a finding pursuant to Subsection (14)(a)(i), the court shall

1236 proceed with the delinquency proceedings.

1237 (c) If the court enters a finding pursuant to Subsection (14)(a)(ii), the court shall
1238 proceed consistent with Section [78A-6-1303](#).

1239 (d) If the court enters a finding pursuant to Subsection (14)(a)(iii), the court shall
1240 terminate the competency proceeding, dismiss the delinquency charges without prejudice, and
1241 release the minor from any custody order related to the pending delinquency proceeding, unless
1242 the prosecutor informs the court that commitment proceedings pursuant to Title 62A, Chapter
1243 5, Services for People with Disabilities, or Title 62A, Chapter 15, Substance Abuse and Mental
1244 Health Act, will be initiated. These commitment proceedings shall be initiated within seven
1245 days after the court's order, unless the court enlarges the time for good cause shown. The
1246 minor may be ordered to remain in custody until the commitment proceedings have been
1247 concluded.

1248 (15) If the court finds the minor not competent to proceed, its order shall contain
1249 findings addressing each of the factors in Subsection (7).