

235.1 Definitions.

The terms "*state division*", "*administrator*", and "*child*" are used in this chapter and chapter 238 as the terms are defined in section 234.1.

"*Child welfare services*" means social welfare services for the protection and care of children who are homeless, dependent or neglected, or in danger of becoming delinquent, or who have a mental illness or mental retardation or other developmental disability, including, when necessary, care and maintenance in a foster care facility. Child welfare services are designed to serve a child in the child's home whenever possible. If not possible, and the child is placed outside the child's home, the placement should be in the least restrictive setting available and in close proximity to the child's home.

[C39, § **3661.016**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 235.1]

83 Acts, ch 101, § 44; 92 Acts, ch 1229, § 28; 94 Acts, ch 1023, §88