

252A.2 Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context shall require otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them by this section:

1. *"Birthing hospital"* means a private or public hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 135B that has a licensed obstetric unit or is licensed to provide obstetric services, or a licensed birthing center associated with a hospital.
2. *"Child"* includes but shall not be limited to a stepchild, foster child, or legally adopted child and means a child actually or apparently under eighteen years of age, and a dependent person eighteen years of age or over who is unable to maintain the person's self and is likely to become a public charge.
3. *"Court"* shall mean and include any court upon which jurisdiction has been conferred to determine the liability of persons for the support of dependents.
4. *"Dependent"* shall mean and include a spouse, child, mother, father, grandparent, or grandchild who is in need of and entitled to support from a person who is declared to be legally liable for such support.
5. *"Institution"* means a birthing hospital.
6. *"Party"* means a petitioner, a respondent, or a person who intervenes in a proceeding instituted under this chapter.
7. *"Petitioner"* includes each dependent person for whom support is sought in a proceeding instituted pursuant to this chapter or a mother or putative father of a dependent. However, in an action brought by the child support recovery unit, the state is the petitioner.
8. *"Petitioner's representative"* includes counsel of a dependent person for whom support is sought and counsel for a mother or putative father of a dependent. In an action brought by the child support recovery unit, *"petitioner's representative"* includes a county attorney, state's attorney and any other public officer, by whatever title the officer's public office may be known, charged by law with the duty of instituting, maintaining, or prosecuting a proceeding under this chapter or under the laws of the state.
9. *"Putative father"* means a man who is alleged to be or who claims to be the biological father of a child born to a woman to whom the man is not married at the time of the birth of the child.
10. *"Register"* means to file a foreign support order in the registry of foreign support orders maintained as a filing in equity by the clerk of court.
11. *"Respondent"* includes each person against whom a proceeding is instituted pursuant to this chapter. *"Respondent"* may include the mother or the putative father of a dependent.
12. *"State registrar"* means state registrar as defined in section 144.1.

[C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 252A.2; 82 Acts, ch 1004, § 6, 7]

93 Acts, ch 79, §11; 94 Acts, ch 1171, §10, 11; 97 Acts, ch 175, § 9; 2002 Acts, ch 1162, §78