

**231E.6 Court-initiated or petition-initiated appointment of state or local substitute decision maker guardianship or conservatorship discharge.**

The court may appoint on its own motion or upon petition of any person, the state office or local office of substitute decision maker, to serve as guardian or conservator for any proposed ward in cases in which the court determines that the proceeding will establish the least restrictive form of substitute decision making suitable for the proposed ward and if the proposed ward meets all of the following criteria:

1. Is a resident of the planning and service area in which the local office is located from which services would be provided or is a resident of the state, if the state office would provide the services.
2. Is eighteen years of age or older.
3. Does not have suitable family or another appropriate entity willing and able to serve as guardian or conservator.
4. Is incompetent.
5. Is an individual for whom guardianship or conservatorship services are the least restrictive means of meeting the individual's needs.

2005 Acts, ch 175, §135