

232.51 Disposition of child with mental illness or mental retardation.

If the evidence received at an adjudicatory or a dispositional hearing indicates that the child is mentally ill, the court may direct the juvenile court officer or the department to initiate proceedings or to assist the child's parent or guardian to initiate civil commitment proceedings in the juvenile court. These proceedings in the juvenile court shall adhere to the requirements of [chapter 229](#). If the evidence received at an adjudicatory or a dispositional hearing indicates that the child is mentally retarded, the court may direct the juvenile court officer or the department to initiate proceedings or to assist the child's parent or guardian to initiate civil commitment proceedings in the juvenile court. These proceedings shall adhere to the requirements of [chapter 222](#). If the child is committed as a child with mental illness or mental retardation, any order adjudicating the child to have committed a delinquent act shall be set aside and the petition shall be dismissed.

[C79, 81, §232.51]

83 Acts, ch 186, §10055, 10201; 86 Acts, ch 1186, §5; 96 Acts, ch 1129, §62

Referred to in [§229.26](#)