

**232.87 Filing of a petition — contents of petition.**

1. A formal judicial proceeding to determine whether a child is a child in need of assistance under [this chapter](#) shall be initiated by the filing of a petition alleging a child to be a child in need of assistance.

2. A petition may be filed by the department of human services, juvenile court officer, or county attorney.

3. The department, juvenile court officer, county attorney or judge may authorize the filing of a petition with the clerk of the court by any competent person having knowledge of the circumstances without the payment of a filing fee.

4. The petition shall be submitted in the form specified in [section 232.36](#).

5. The petition shall contain the information specified in [section 232.36](#) and a clear and concise summary of the facts which bring the child within the jurisdiction of the court under [this division](#).

[C79, 81, §232.87]

[83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 83 Acts, ch 186, §10055, 10201](#)