

**252B.1 Definitions.**

As used in [this chapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Absent parent*” means the parent who either cannot be located or who is located and is not residing with the child at the time the support collection or paternity determination services provided in [sections 252B.5](#) and [252B.6](#) are requested or commenced.
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 or 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. “*Child*” includes “*child*” as defined in [section 239B.1](#).
3. “*Child support agency*” means child support agency as defined in [section 252H.2](#).
4. “*Child support services*” means child support services created in [section 252B.2](#).
5. “*Department*” means the department of health and human services.
6. “*Director*” means the director of health and human services.
7. “*Obligor*” means the person legally responsible for the support of a child as defined in [section 252D.16](#) or [598.1](#) under a support order issued in this state or pursuant to the laws of another state or foreign country.
8. “*Resident parent*” means the parent with whom the child is residing at the time the support collection or paternity determination services provided in [sections 252B.5](#) and [252B.6](#) are requested or commenced.

[C77, 79, 81, §252B.1]

[83 Acts, ch 96, §157, 159; 91 Acts, ch 97, §33; 92 Acts, ch 1195, §502; 93 Acts, ch 79, §25; 97 Acts, ch 41, §32; 97 Acts, ch 175, §23, 24; 98 Acts, ch 1100, §31; 2015 Acts, ch 110, §82; 2021 Acts, ch 80, §133; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §843](#)

Referred to in [§252H.2](#)