

CHAPTER 260

JUVENILES

260.013	Scope of victim rights.	260.191	Dispositions; children who are in need of protection or services or neglected and in foster care.
260.015	Definitions.	260.192	Dispositions; voluntary foster care placements.
260.155	Hearing.	260.193	Juvenile traffic offender; procedures; dispositions.
260.157	Compliance with Indian Child Welfare Act.	260.221	Grounds for termination of parental rights.
260.161	Records.	260.251	Costs of care.
260.181	Dispositions; general provisions.		
260.185	Dispositions; delinquent child.		

260.013 SCOPE OF VICTIM RIGHTS.

The rights granted to victims of crime in sections 611A.01 to 611A.06 are applicable to adult criminal cases, juvenile delinquency proceedings, juvenile traffic proceedings involving driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and proceedings involving any other act committed by a juvenile that would be a crime as defined in section 609.02, if committed by an adult.

History: 1993 c 326 art 6 s 2

260.015 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 2a. Child in need of protection or services. "Child in need of protection or services" means a child who is in need of protection or services because the child:

(1) is abandoned or without parent, guardian, or custodian;

(2)(i) has been a victim of physical or sexual abuse, or (ii) resides with or has resided with a victim of domestic child abuse as defined in subdivision 24, (iii) resides with or would reside with a perpetrator of domestic child abuse or child abuse as defined in subdivision 28, or (iv) is a victim of emotional maltreatment as defined in subdivision 5a;

(3) is without necessary food, clothing, shelter, education, or other required care for the child's physical or mental health or morals because the child's parent, guardian, or custodian is unable or unwilling to provide that care;

(4) is without the special care made necessary by a physical, mental, or emotional condition because the child's parent, guardian, or custodian is unable or unwilling to provide that care;

(5) is medically neglected, which includes, but is not limited to, the withholding of medically indicated treatment from a disabled infant with a life-threatening condition. The term "withholding of medically indicated treatment" means the failure to respond to the infant's life-threatening conditions by providing treatment, including appropriate nutrition, hydration, and medication which, in the treating physician's or physicians' reasonable medical judgment, will be most likely to be effective in ameliorating or correcting all conditions, except that the term does not include the failure to provide treatment other than appropriate nutrition, hydration, or medication to an infant when, in the treating physician's or physicians' reasonable medical judgment:

(i) the infant is chronically and irreversibly comatose;

(ii) the provision of the treatment would merely prolong dying, not be effective in ameliorating or correcting all of the infant's life-threatening conditions, or otherwise be futile in terms of the survival of the infant; or

(iii) the provision of the treatment would be virtually futile in terms of the survival of the infant and the treatment itself under the circumstances would be inhumane;

(6) is one whose parent, guardian, or other custodian for good cause desires to be relieved of the child's care and custody;

- (7) has been placed for adoption or care in violation of law;
- (8) is without proper parental care because of the emotional, mental, or physical disability, or state of immaturity of the child's parent, guardian, or other custodian;
- (9) is one whose behavior, condition, or environment is such as to be injurious or dangerous to the child or others. An injurious or dangerous environment may include, but is not limited to, the exposure of a child to criminal activity in the child's home;
- (10) has committed a delinquent act before becoming ten years old;
- (11) is a runaway;
- (12) is an habitual truant; or
- (13) is one whose custodial parent's parental rights to another child have been involuntarily terminated within the past five years.

[For text of subds 3 to 27, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 28. **Child abuse.** "Child abuse" means an act that involves a minor victim and that constitutes a violation of section 609.221, 609.222, 609.223, 609.224, 609.322, 609.323, 609.324, 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, 609.345, 609.377, 609.378, or 617.246.

History: 1993 c 33 s 1,2

260.155 HEARING.

Subdivision 1. **General.** Except for hearings arising under section 260.261, hearings on any matter shall be without a jury and may be conducted in an informal manner. The rules of evidence promulgated pursuant to section 480.0591 and the law of evidence shall apply in adjudicatory proceedings involving a child alleged to be delinquent, or a juvenile petty offender, and hearings conducted pursuant to section 260.125 except to the extent that the rules themselves provide that they do not apply. In all adjudicatory proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services, the court shall admit only evidence that would be admissible in a civil trial. To be proved at trial, allegations of a petition alleging a child to be in need of protection or services must be proved by clear and convincing evidence. Except for proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services and petitions for the termination of parental rights, hearings may be continued or adjourned from time to time. In proceedings involving a child alleged to be in need of protection or services and petitions for the termination of parental rights, hearings may not be continued or adjourned for more than one week unless the court makes specific findings that the continuance or adjournment is in the best interests of the child. If a hearing is held on a petition involving physical or sexual abuse of a child who is alleged to be in need of protection or services or neglected and in foster care, the court shall file the decision with the court administrator as soon as possible but no later than 15 days after the matter is submitted to the court. When a continuance or adjournment is ordered in any proceeding, the court may make any interim orders as it deems in the best interests of the minor in accordance with the provisions of sections 260.011 to 260.301. The court shall exclude the general public from these hearings and shall admit only those persons who, in the discretion of the court, have a direct interest in the case or in the work of the court; except that, the court shall open the hearings to the public in delinquency proceedings where the child is alleged to have committed an offense or has been proven to have committed an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult and the child was at least 16 years of age at the time of the offense. In all delinquency cases a person named in the charging clause of the petition as a person directly damaged in person or property shall be entitled, upon request, to be notified by the court administrator in writing, at the named person's last known address, of (1) the date of the reference or adjudicatory hearings, and (2) the disposition of the case. Adoption hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to adoptions.

[For text of subds 1a to 8, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 9. Presumptions regarding truancy or educational neglect. A child's absence from school is presumed to be due to the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's failure to comply with compulsory instruction laws if the child is under 12 years old and the school has made appropriate efforts to resolve the child's attendance problems; this presumption may be rebutted based on a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the child is habitually truant. A child's absence from school without lawful excuse, when the child is 12 years old or older, is presumed to be due to the child's intent to be absent from school; this presumption may be rebutted based on a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the child's absence is due to the failure of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian to comply with compulsory instruction laws, sections 120.101 and 120.102.

History: 1993 c 296 s 1,2

260.157 COMPLIANCE WITH INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT.

The provisions of this chapter must be construed consistently with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, United States Code, title 25, sections 1901 to 1963.

History: 1993 c 291 s 15

260.161 RECORDS.

Subdivision 1. Records required to be kept. (a) The juvenile court judge shall keep such minutes and in such manner as the court deems necessary and proper. Except as provided in paragraph (b), the court shall keep and maintain records pertaining to delinquent adjudications until the person reaches the age of 23 years and shall release the records on an individual to another juvenile court that has jurisdiction of the juvenile, to a requesting adult court for purposes of sentencing, or to an adult court or juvenile court as required by the right of confrontation of either the United States Constitution or the Minnesota Constitution. The juvenile court shall provide, upon the request of any other juvenile court, copies of the records concerning adjudications involving the particular child. The court shall also keep an index in which files pertaining to juvenile matters shall be indexed under the name of the child. After the name of each file shall be shown the file number and, if ordered by the court, the book and page of the register in which the documents pertaining to such file are listed. The court shall also keep a register properly indexed in which shall be listed under the name of the child all documents filed pertaining to the child and in the order filed. The list shall show the name of the document and the date of filing thereof. The juvenile court legal records shall be deposited in files and shall include the petition, summons, notice, findings, orders, decrees, judgments, and motions and such other matters as the court deems necessary and proper. Unless otherwise provided by law, all court records shall be open at all reasonable times to the inspection of any child to whom the records relate, and to the child's parent and guardian.

(b) The court shall retain records of the court finding that a juvenile committed an act that would be a violation of, or an attempt to violate, section 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, or 609.345, until the offender reaches the age of 25. If the offender commits another violation of sections 609.342 to 609.345 as an adult, the court shall retain the juvenile records for as long as the records would have been retained if the offender had been an adult at the time of the juvenile offense. This paragraph does not apply unless the juvenile was represented by an attorney when the petition was admitted or proven.

[For text of subds 1a and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. Peace officer records of children. (a) Except for records relating to an offense where proceedings are public under section 260.155, subdivision 1, peace officers' records of children who are or may be delinquent or who may be engaged in criminal acts shall be kept separate from records of persons 18 years of age or older and are private data but shall be disseminated: (1) by order of the juvenile court, (2) as required by section 126.036, (3) as authorized under section 13.82, subdivision 2, (4) to the child or the child's parent or guardian unless disclosure of a record would interfere with an

ongoing investigation, or (5) as provided in paragraph (d). Except as provided in paragraph (c), no photographs of a child taken into custody may be taken without the consent of the juvenile court unless the child is alleged to have violated section 169.121 or 169.129. Peace officers' records containing data about children who are victims of crimes or witnesses to crimes must be administered consistent with section 13.82, subdivisions 2, 3, 4, and 10. Any person violating any of the provisions of this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

In the case of computerized records maintained about juveniles by peace officers, the requirement of this subdivision that records about juveniles must be kept separate from adult records does not mean that a law enforcement agency must keep its records concerning juveniles on a separate computer system. Law enforcement agencies may keep juvenile records on the same computer as adult records and may use a common index to access both juvenile and adult records so long as the agency has in place procedures that keep juvenile records in a separate place in computer storage and that comply with the special data retention and other requirements associated with protecting data on juveniles.

(b) Nothing in this subdivision prohibits the exchange of information by law enforcement agencies if the exchanged information is pertinent and necessary to the requesting agency in initiating, furthering, or completing a criminal investigation.

(c) A photograph may be taken of a child taken into custody pursuant to section 260.165, subdivision 1, clause (b), provided that the photograph must be destroyed when the child reaches the age of 19 years. The commissioner of corrections may photograph juveniles whose legal custody is transferred to the commissioner. Photographs of juveniles authorized by this paragraph may be used only for institution management purposes, case supervision by parole agents, and to assist law enforcement agencies to apprehend juvenile offenders. The commissioner shall maintain photographs of juveniles in the same manner as juvenile court records and names under this section.

(d) Traffic investigation reports are open to inspection by a person who has sustained physical harm or economic loss as a result of the traffic accident. Identifying information on juveniles who are parties to traffic accidents may be disclosed as authorized under section 13.82, subdivision 4, and accident reports required under section 169.09 may be released under section 169.09, subdivision 13, unless the information would identify a juvenile who was taken into custody or who is suspected of committing an offense that would be a crime if committed by an adult, or would associate a juvenile with the offense, and the offense is not a minor traffic offense under section 260.193.

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 351 s 30,31

260.181 DISPOSITIONS; GENERAL PROVISIONS.

[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3. Protection of heritage or background. The policy of the state is to ensure that the best interests of children are met by requiring due, not sole, consideration of the child's race or ethnic heritage in foster care placements.

The court, in transferring legal custody of any child or appointing a guardian for the child under the laws relating to juvenile courts, shall place the child, in the following order of preference, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, in the legal custody or guardianship of an individual who (a) is the child's relative, or if that would be detrimental to the child or a relative is not available, who (b) is of the same racial or ethnic heritage as the child, or if that is not possible, who (c) is knowledgeable and appreciative of the child's racial or ethnic heritage. The court may require the county welfare agency to continue efforts to find a guardian of the child's racial or ethnic heritage when such a guardian is not immediately available. For purposes of this subdivision, "relative" includes members of a child's extended family and important friends with whom the child has resided or had significant contact.

If the child's genetic parent or parents explicitly request that the preference described in clause (a) or in clauses (a) and (b) not be followed, the court shall honor that request consistent with the best interests of the child.

If the child's genetic parent or parents express a preference for placing the child in a foster or adoptive home of the same or a similar religious background to that of the genetic parent or parents, in following the preferences in clause (a) or (b), the court shall order placement of the child with an individual who meets the genetic parent's religious preference. Only if no individual is available who is described in clause (a) or (b) may the court give preference to an individual described in clause (c) who meets the parent's religious preference.

[For text of subds 3a and 4, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 291 s 16

260.185 DISPOSITIONS; DELINQUENT CHILD.

Subdivision 1. Court order, findings, remedies, treatment. If the court finds that the child is delinquent, it shall enter an order making any of the following dispositions of the case which are deemed necessary to the rehabilitation of the child:

- (a) Counsel the child or the parents, guardian, or custodian;
- (b) Place the child under the supervision of a probation officer or other suitable person in the child's own home under conditions prescribed by the court including reasonable rules for the child's conduct and the conduct of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian, designed for the physical, mental, and moral well-being and behavior of the child, or with the consent of the commissioner of corrections, in a group foster care facility which is under the management and supervision of said commissioner;
- (c) Subject to the supervision of the court, transfer legal custody of the child to one of the following:
 - (1) a child placing agency; or
 - (2) the county welfare board; or
 - (3) a reputable individual of good moral character. No person may receive custody of two or more unrelated children unless licensed as a residential facility pursuant to sections 245A.01 to 245A.16; or
 - (4) a county home school, if the county maintains a home school or enters into an agreement with a county home school; or
 - (5) a county probation officer for placement in a group foster home established under the direction of the juvenile court and licensed pursuant to section 241.021;
- (d) Transfer legal custody by commitment to the commissioner of corrections;
- (e) If the child is found to have violated a state or local law or ordinance which has resulted in damage to the person or property of another, the court may order the child to make reasonable restitution for such damage;
- (f) Require the child to pay a fine of up to \$700; the court shall order payment of the fine in accordance with a time payment schedule which shall not impose an undue financial hardship on the child;
- (g) If the child is in need of special treatment and care for reasons of physical or mental health, the court may order the child's parent, guardian, or custodian to provide it. If the parent, guardian, or custodian fails to provide this treatment or care, the court may order it provided;
- (h) If the court believes that it is in the best interests of the child and of public safety that the driver's license of the child be canceled until the child's 18th birthday, the court may recommend to the commissioner of public safety the cancellation of the child's license for any period up to the child's 18th birthday, and the commissioner is hereby authorized to cancel such license without a hearing. At any time before the termination of the period of cancellation, the court may, for good cause, recommend to the commissioner of public safety that the child be authorized to apply for a new license, and the commissioner may so authorize.

If the child is petitioned and found by the court to have committed a controlled substance offense under sections 152.021 to 152.027, the court shall determine whether the child unlawfully possessed or sold the controlled substance while driving a motor vehicle. If so, the court shall notify the commissioner of public safety of its determination and order the commissioner to revoke the child's driver's license for the applicable time period specified in section 152.0271. If the child does not have a driver's license or if the child's driver's license is suspended or revoked at the time of the delinquency finding, the commissioner shall, upon the child's application for driver's license issuance or reinstatement, delay the issuance or reinstatement of the child's driver's license for the applicable time period specified in section 152.0271. Upon receipt of the court's order, the commissioner is authorized to take the licensing action without a hearing.

If the child is petitioned and found by the court to have committed or attempted to commit an act in violation of section 609.342; 609.343; 609.344; 609.345; 609.3451; 609.746, subdivision 1; 609.79; or 617.23, or another offense arising out of a delinquency petition based on one or more of those sections, the court shall order an independent professional assessment of the child's need for sex offender treatment. An assessor providing an assessment for the court must be experienced in the evaluation and treatment of juvenile sex offenders. If the assessment indicates that the child is in need of and amenable to sex offender treatment, the court shall include in its disposition order a requirement that the child undergo treatment. Notwithstanding section 13.42, 13.85, 144.335, 260.161, or 626.556, the assessor has access to the following private or confidential data on the child if access is relevant and necessary for the assessment:

- (1) medical data under section 13.42;
- (2) corrections and detention data under section 13.85;
- (3) health records under section 144.335;
- (4) juvenile court records under section 260.161; and
- (5) local welfare agency records under section 626.556.

Data disclosed under this paragraph may be used only for purposes of the assessment and may not be further disclosed to any other person, except as authorized by law.

If the child is found delinquent due to the commission of an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult, the court shall make a specific finding on the record regarding the juvenile's mental health and chemical dependency treatment needs.

Any order for a disposition authorized under this section shall contain written findings of fact to support the disposition ordered, and shall also set forth in writing the following information:

- (a) why the best interests of the child are served by the disposition ordered; and
- (b) what alternative dispositions were considered by the court and why such dispositions were not appropriate in the instant case.

Subd. 1a. Possession of firearm or dangerous weapon. If the child is petitioned and found delinquent by the court, and the court also finds that the child was in possession of a firearm at the time of the offense, in addition to any other disposition the court shall order that the firearm be immediately seized and shall order that the child be required to serve at least 100 hours of community work service unless the child is placed in a residential treatment program or a juvenile correctional facility. If the child is petitioned and found delinquent by the court, and the court finds that the child was in possession of a dangerous weapon in a school zone, as defined in section 152.01, subdivision 14a, clauses (1) and (3), at the time of the offense, the court also shall order that the child's driver's license be canceled or driving privileges denied until the child's 18th birthday. The court shall send a copy of its order to the commissioner of public safety and, upon receipt of the order, the commissioner is authorized to cancel the child's driver's license or deny the child's driving privileges without a hearing.

[For text of subds 2 to 5, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 326 art 1 s 2; art 8 s 13; 1993 c 347 s 20

260.191 DISPOSITIONS; CHILDREN WHO ARE IN NEED OF PROTECTION OR SERVICES OR NEGLECTED AND IN FOSTER CARE.*[For text of subds 1 to 1c, see M.S.1992]*

Subd. 1d. Visitation. If the court orders that the child be placed outside of the child's home or present residence, it shall set reasonable rules for supervised or unsupervised parental visitation that contribute to the objectives of the court order and the maintenance of the familial relationship. No parent may be denied visitation unless the court finds at the disposition hearing that the visitation would act to prevent the achievement of the order's objectives or that it would endanger the child's physical or emotional well-being. The court shall set reasonable rules for visitation for any relatives as defined in section 260.181, subdivision 3, if visitation is consistent with the best interests of the child.

Subd. 1e. Case plan. For each disposition ordered, the court shall order the appropriate agency to prepare a written case plan developed after consultation with any foster parents, and consultation with and participation by the child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian, guardian ad litem, and tribal representative if the tribe has intervened. The case plan shall comply with the requirements of section 257.071, where applicable. The case plan shall, among other matters, specify the actions to be taken by the child and the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, or custodian to comply with the court's disposition order, and the services to be offered and provided by the agency to the child and the child's parent, guardian, or custodian. The court shall review the case plan and, upon approving it, incorporate the plan into its disposition order. The court may review and modify the terms of the case plan in the manner provided in subdivision 2. For each disposition ordered, the written case plan shall specify what reasonable efforts shall be provided to the family. The case plan must include a discussion of:

(1) the availability of appropriate prevention and reunification services for the family to prevent the removal of the child from the home or to reunify the child with the family after removal;

(2) any services or resources that were requested by the child or the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, or custodian since the date of initial adjudication, and whether those services or resources were provided or the basis for denial of the services or resources;

(3) the need of the child and family for care, treatment, or rehabilitation;

(4) the need for participation by the parent, guardian, or custodian in the plan of care for the child;

(5) the visitation rights and obligations of the parent or other relatives, as defined in section 260.181, subdivision 3, during any period when the child is placed outside the home; and

(6) a description of any services that could prevent placement or reunify the family if such services were available.

A party has a right to request a court review of the reasonableness of the case plan upon a showing of a substantial change of circumstances.

Subd. 2. Order duration. Subject to subdivisions 3a and 3b, all orders under this section shall be for a specified length of time set by the court not to exceed one year. However, before the order has expired and upon its own motion or that of any interested party, the court shall, after notice to the parties and a hearing, renew the order for another year or make some other disposition of the case, until the individual is no longer a minor. Any person to whom legal custody is transferred shall report to the court in writing at such periods as the court may direct.

[For text of subds 2a and 3, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 3a. Court review of out-of-home placements. If the court places a child in a residential facility, as defined in section 257.071, subdivision 1, the court shall review

the out-of-home placement at least every six months to determine whether continued out-of-home placement is necessary and appropriate or whether the child should be returned home. The court shall review agency efforts pursuant to section 257.072, subdivision 1, and order that the efforts continue if the agency has failed to perform the duties under that section. The court shall review the case plan and may modify the case plan as provided under subdivisions 1e and 2. If the court orders continued out-of-home placement, the court shall notify the parents of the provisions of subdivision 3b.

Subd. 3b. Review of court ordered placements; permanent placement determination.

(a) If the court places a child in a residential facility, as defined in section 257.071, subdivision 1, the court shall conduct a hearing to determine the permanent status of the child not later than 12 months after the child was placed out of the home of the parent. Not later than 30 days prior to this hearing, the responsible social service agency shall file pleadings to establish the basis for the permanent placement determination. Notice of the hearing and copies of the pleadings must be provided pursuant to sections 260.135 and 260.141. If a termination of parental rights petition is filed before the date required for the permanency planning determination, no hearing need be conducted under this section. The court shall determine whether the child is to be returned home or, if not, what permanent placement is consistent with the child's best interests. The "best interests of the child" means all relevant factors to be considered and evaluated.

If the child is not returned to the home, the dispositions available for permanent placement determination are permanent legal and physical custody to a relative, adoption, or permanent foster care. The court may order a child into permanent foster care only if it finds that neither an award of legal and physical custody to a relative, termination of parental rights, nor adoption is in the child's best interests.

(b) The court may extend the time period for determination of permanent placement to 18 months after the child was placed in a residential facility if:

(1) there is a substantial probability that the child will be returned home within the next six months;

(2) the agency has not made reasonable, or, in the case of an Indian child, active efforts, to correct the conditions that form the basis of the out-of-home placement; or

(3) extraordinary circumstances exist precluding a permanent placement determination, in which case the court shall make written findings documenting the extraordinary circumstances and order one subsequent review after six months to determine permanent placement.

(c) If the court determines that an adoptive placement is in the best interests of the child, the social service agency shall file a petition for termination of parental rights under section 260.231. Nothing in this subdivision waives the requirements of sections 260.221 to 260.245 with respect to termination of parental rights.

(d) In ordering a permanent placement of a child, the court must be governed by the best interests of the child, including a review of the relationship between the child and relatives and the child and other important persons with whom the child has resided or had significant contact.

(e) Once a permanent placement determination has been made and permanent placement has been established, further reviews are only necessary if otherwise required by federal law, an adoption has not yet been finalized, or there is a disruption of the permanent placement. These reviews must take place no less frequently than every six months.

(f) An order under this subdivision must include the following detailed findings:

(1) how the child's best interests are served by the order;

(2) the nature and extent of the responsible social service agency's reasonable efforts, or, in the case of an Indian child, active efforts, to reunify the child with the parent or parents;

(3) the parent's or parents' efforts and ability to use services to correct the conditions which led to the out-of-home placement;

(4) whether the conditions which led to the out-of-home placement have been corrected so that the child can return home; and

(5) if the child cannot be returned home, whether there is a substantial probability of the child being able to return home in the next six months.

If the court orders the child placed in permanent foster care, the court shall make findings that neither an award of legal and physical custody to a relative, termination of parental rights, nor adoption is in the child's best interests.

A court finding that extraordinary circumstances exist precluding a permanent placement determination must be supported by detailed factual findings regarding those circumstances.

[For text of subd 4, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 291 s 17-21; 1Sp1993 c 6 s 17,18

260.192 DISPOSITIONS; VOLUNTARY FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS.

Upon a petition for review of the foster care status of a child, the court may:

(a) In the case of a petition required to be filed under section 257.071, subdivision 3, find that the child's needs are being met, that the child's placement in foster care is in the best interests of the child, and that the child will be returned home in the next six months, in which case the court shall approve the voluntary arrangement and continue the matter for six months to assure the child returns to the parent's home.

(b) In the case of a petition required to be filed under section 257.071, subdivision 4, find that the child's needs are being met and that the child's placement in foster care is in the best interests of the child, in which case the court shall approve the voluntary arrangement. The court shall order the social service agency responsible for the placement to bring a petition under section 260.131, subdivision 1 or 1a, as appropriate, within two years.

(c) Find that the child's needs are not being met, in which case the court shall order the social service agency or the parents to take whatever action is necessary and feasible to meet the child's needs, including, when appropriate, the provision by the social service agency of services to the parents which would enable the child to live at home, and order a disposition under section 260.191.

(d) Find that the child has been abandoned by parents financially or emotionally, or that the developmentally disabled child does not require out-of-home care because of the handicapping condition, in which case the court shall order the social service agency to file an appropriate petition pursuant to sections 260.131, subdivision 1, or 260.231.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit bringing a petition pursuant to section 260.131, subdivision 1 or 2, sooner than required by court order pursuant to this section.

History: 1993 c 291 s 22

260.193 JUVENILE TRAFFIC OFFENDER; PROCEDURES; DISPOSITIONS.

[For text of subds 1 to 7, see M.S.1992]

Subd. 8. If the juvenile court finds that the child is a juvenile major highway or water traffic offender, it may make any one or more of the following dispositions of the case:

(a) Reprimand the child and counsel with the child and the parents;

(b) Continue the case for a reasonable period under such conditions governing the child's use and operation of any motor vehicles or boat as the court may set;

(c) Require the child to attend a driver improvement school if one is available within the county;

(d) Recommend to the department of public safety suspension of the child's driver's license as provided in section 171.16;

(e) If the child is found to have committed two moving highway traffic violations or to have contributed to a highway accident involving death, injury, or physical damage in excess of \$100, the court may recommend to the commissioner of public safety or to the licensing authority of another state the cancellation of the child's license until the child reaches the age of 18 years, and the commissioner of public safety is hereby authorized to cancel the license without hearing. At any time before the termination of the period of cancellation, the court may, for good cause, recommend to the commissioner of public safety, or to the licensing authority of another state, that the child's license be returned, and the commissioner of public safety is authorized to return the license;

(f) Place the child under the supervision of a probation officer in the child's own home under conditions prescribed by the court including reasonable rules relating to operation and use of motor vehicles or boats directed to the correction of the child's driving habits;

(g) If the child is found to have violated a state or local law or ordinance and the violation resulted in damage to the person or property of another, the court may order the child to make reasonable restitution for the damage;

(h) Require the child to pay a fine of up to \$700. The court shall order payment of the fine in accordance with a time payment schedule which shall not impose an undue financial hardship on the child;

(i) If the court finds that the child committed an offense described in section 169.121, the court shall order that a chemical use assessment be conducted and a report submitted to the court in the manner prescribed in section 169.126. If the assessment concludes that the child meets the level of care criteria for placement under rules adopted under section 254A.03, subdivision 3, the report must recommend a level of care for the child. The court may require that level of care in its disposition order. In addition, the court may require any child ordered to undergo an assessment to pay a chemical dependency assessment charge of \$75. The court shall forward the assessment charge to the commissioner of finance to be credited to the general fund. The state shall reimburse counties for the total cost of the assessment in the manner provided in section 169.126, subdivision 4c.

[For text of subd 10, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 326 art 6 s 3

260.221 GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.

Subdivision 1. **Voluntary and involuntary.** The juvenile court may upon petition, terminate all rights of a parent to a child in the following cases:

(a) With the written consent of a parent who for good cause desires to terminate parental rights; or

(b) If it finds that one or more of the following conditions exist:

(1) That the parent has abandoned the child. Abandonment is presumed when:

(i) the parent has had no contact with the child on a regular basis and no demonstrated, consistent interest in the child's well-being for six months; and

(ii) the social service agency has made reasonable efforts to facilitate contact, unless the parent establishes that an extreme financial or physical hardship or treatment for mental disability or chemical dependency or other good cause prevented the parent from making contact with the child. This presumption does not apply to children whose custody has been determined under chapter 257 or 518. The court is not prohibited from finding abandonment in the absence of this presumption; or

(2) That the parent has substantially, continuously, or repeatedly refused or neglected to comply with the duties imposed upon that parent by the parent and child relationship, including but not limited to providing the child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, education, and other care and control necessary for the child's physical, mental, or emotional health and development, if the parent is physically and finan-

cially able, and reasonable efforts by the social service agency have failed to correct the conditions that formed the basis of the petition; or

(3) That a parent has been ordered to contribute to the support of the child or financially aid in the child's birth and has continuously failed to do so without good cause. This clause shall not be construed to state a grounds for termination of parental rights of a noncustodial parent if that parent has not been ordered to or cannot financially contribute to the support of the child or aid in the child's birth; or

(4) That a parent is palpably unfit to be a party to the parent and child relationship because of a consistent pattern of specific conduct before the child or of specific conditions directly relating to the parent and child relationship either of which are determined by the court to be of a duration or nature that renders the parent unable, for the reasonably foreseeable future, to care appropriately for the ongoing physical, mental, or emotional needs of the child. It is presumed that a parent is palpably unfit to be a party to the parent and child relationship upon a showing that:

(i) the child was adjudicated in need of protection or services due to circumstances described in section 260.015, subdivision 2a, clause (1), (2), (3), (5), or (8); and

(ii) within the three-year period immediately prior to that adjudication, the parent's parental rights to one or more other children were involuntarily terminated under clause (1), (2), (4), or (7) of this paragraph, or under clause (5) of this paragraph if the child was initially determined to be in need of protection or services due to circumstances described in section 260.015, subdivision 2a, clause (1), (2), (3), (5), or (8); or

(5) That following upon a determination of neglect or dependency, or of a child's need for protection or services, reasonable efforts, under the direction of the court, have failed to correct the conditions leading to the determination. It is presumed that reasonable efforts under this clause have failed upon a showing that:

(i) a child under the age of 12 has resided out of the parental home under court order for more than one year following an adjudication of dependency, neglect, need for protection or services under section 260.015, subdivision 2a, clause (1), (2), (6), (8), or (9), or neglected and in foster care, and an order for disposition under section 260.191, including adoption of the case plan required by section 257.071;

(ii) conditions leading to the determination will not be corrected within the reasonably foreseeable future; and

(iii) reasonable efforts have been made by the social service agency to rehabilitate the parent and reunite the family.

This clause does not prohibit the termination of parental rights prior to one year after a child has been placed out of the home.

It is also presumed that reasonable efforts have failed under this clause upon a showing that:

(i) the parent has been diagnosed as chemically dependent by a professional certified to make the diagnosis;

(ii) the parent has been required by a case plan to participate in a chemical dependency treatment program;

(iii) the treatment programs offered to the parent were culturally, linguistically, and clinically appropriate;

(iv) the parent has either failed two or more times to successfully complete a treatment program or has refused at two or more separate meetings with a caseworker to participate in a treatment program; and

(v) the parent continues to abuse chemicals.

Provided, that this presumption applies only to parents required by a case plan to participate in a chemical dependency treatment program on or after July 1, 1990; or

(6) That the parent has been convicted of causing the death of another of the parent's children; or

(7) That in the case of a child born to a mother who was not married to the child's father when the child was conceived nor when the child was born the person is not enti-

tled to notice of an adoption hearing under section 259.26 and either the person has not filed a notice of intent to retain parental rights under section 259.261 or that the notice has been successfully challenged; or

(8) That the child is neglected and in foster care.

In an action involving an American Indian child, sections 257.35 to 257.3579 and the Indian Child Welfare Act, United States Code, title 25, sections 1901 to 1923, control to the extent that the provisions of this section are inconsistent with those laws.

[For text of subds 2 to 5, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 291 s 23

260.251 COSTS OF CARE.

Subdivision 1. Care, examination, or treatment. (a) Except where parental rights are terminated,

(1) whenever legal custody of a child is transferred by the court to a county welfare board, or

(2) whenever legal custody is transferred to a person other than the county welfare board, but under the supervision of the county welfare board,

(3) whenever a child is given physical or mental examinations or treatment under order of the court, and no provision is otherwise made by law for payment for the care, examination, or treatment of the child, these costs are a charge upon the welfare funds of the county in which proceedings are held upon certification of the judge of juvenile court.

(b) The court shall order, and the county welfare board shall require, the parents or custodian of a child, while the child is under the age of 18, to use the total income and resources attributable to the child for the period of care, examination, or treatment, except for clothing and personal needs allowance as provided in section 256B.35, to reimburse the county for the cost of care, examination, or treatment. Income and resources attributable to the child include, but are not limited to, social security benefits, supplemental security income (SSI), veterans benefits, railroad retirement benefits and child support. When the child is over the age of 18, and continues to receive care, examination, or treatment, the court shall order, and the county welfare board shall require, reimbursement from the child for the cost of care, examination, or treatment from the income and resources attributable to the child less the clothing and personal needs allowance.

(c) If the income and resources attributable to the child are not enough to reimburse the county for the full cost of the care, examination, or treatment, the court shall inquire into the ability of the parents to support the child and, after giving the parents a reasonable opportunity to be heard, the court shall order, and the county welfare board shall require, the parents to contribute to the cost of care, examination, or treatment of the child. Except in delinquency cases where the victim is a member of the child's immediate family, when determining the amount to be contributed by the parents, the court shall use a fee schedule based upon ability to pay that is established by the county welfare board and approved by the commissioner of human services. In delinquency cases where the victim is a member of the child's immediate family, the court shall use the fee schedule, but may also take into account the seriousness of the offense and any expenses which the parents have incurred as a result of the offense. The income of a stepparent who has not adopted a child shall be excluded in calculating the parental contribution under this section.

(d) The court shall order the amount of reimbursement attributable to the parents or custodian, or attributable to the child, or attributable to both sources, withheld under chapter 518 from the income of the parents or the custodian of the child. A parent or custodian who fails to pay without good reason may be proceeded against for contempt, or the court may inform the county attorney, who shall proceed to collect the unpaid sums, or both procedures may be used.

(e) If the court orders a physical or mental examination for a child, the examination is a medically necessary service for purposes of determining whether the service is covered by a health insurance policy, health maintenance contract, or other health coverage plan. Court-ordered treatment shall be subject to policy, contract, or plan requirements for medical necessity. Nothing in this paragraph changes or eliminates benefit limits, conditions of coverage, copayments or deductibles, provider restrictions, or other requirements in the policy, contract, or plan that relate to coverage of other medically necessary services.

[For text of subds 1a to 5, see M.S.1992]

History: 1993 c 326 art 6 s 4