

Subject Child in need of protection or services; special care and access to treatment

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Summary

Minnesota Statutes, chapter 260E, commonly referred to as the Minnesota Maltreatment of Minors Act, establishes a system for reporting possible child maltreatment to government entities that provide protective services for the child or conduct criminal investigations. Under the act, child maltreatment includes neglect, and neglect is defined in section 260E.03, subdivision 15.

This bill adds a paragraph to the definition of neglect, to specify that a child who has a mental, physical, or emotional condition must not be considered neglected under chapter 260E, solely because the child stays in an emergency department or hospital because services deemed necessary by the child's medical or mental health care professional or county case manager are not available to the child's caregiver, and the child cannot be safely discharged to the child's family.