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SURVEY OF STATE DEFINITIONS OF CHILD NEGLECT

The federal definition of "child abuse and neglect" was first enacted in 1974 through the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). CAPTA defines "child abuse and neglect" as, "At a minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation (including sexual abuse as determined under section 111 [42 USC 5106g]), or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm." Originally enacted to improve child protective services among the states, CAPTA provides funding for research, programs, and projects related to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. CAPTA was last amended in 2018 to include immunity from civil and criminal liability for those who make good faith child abuse or neglect reports.

CAPTA's definition of child abuse and neglect serves as a basic guideline for states in determining what acts or omissions by a parent or caretaker should be considered when developing statutory definitions of child abuse and neglect for the individual state. While some states define neglect in a similar manner as in CAPTA, other states have expanded their definitions. This memorandum looks at each state's current definition of child neglect and if that definition has been reviewed in the past 5 years. While states may not have taken legislative action on changing definitions in the past 5 years, this memorandum highlights whether state legislatures have looked at revising or changing current definitions. No state uses the exact wording as the federal guidelines in CAPTA; when noted as "similar," the state definition kept the same basic variation in harm as defined in CAPTA.

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Kansas, cont.	Expanded on	KSA § 38- 2202(z)	Means acts or omissions by a parent, guardian, or person responsible for the care of a child that results in harm to a child or presents a likelihood of harm, and the acts or omissions are not due solely to the lack of financial means of the child's parents or other custodian. 'Neglect' may include, but shall not be limited to, the following: Failure to provide the child with food, clothing, or shelter necessary to sustain life or health;	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			Failure to provide adequate supervision of a child or to remove a child from a situation that requires judgment or actions beyond the child's level of maturity, physical condition, or mental abilities and that results in bodily injury or a likelihood of harm to the child; Failure to use resources available to treat a diagnosed medical condition if such treatment will make a child substantially more comfortable, reduce pain and suffering, or correct or substantially diminish a crippling condition from worsening.	
Alabama	Similar	AL Code § 26-14- 1(1)-(3)	Means negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical treatment, or supervision.	Yes
Alaska	Expanded on	AK Stat. §§ 47.17.290; 47.10.011; 47.10.014	Means the failure of the person responsible for the child's welfare to provide the child necessary food, care, clothing, shelter, or medical attention. The court may find neglect of a child if the parent, guardian, or custodian fails to provide the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, education, medical attention, or other care and control necessary for the child's physical and mental health and development, though financially able to do so or offered financial or other reasonable means to do so.	No
Arizona	Expanded on	AZ Rev. Stat. § 8- 201	Means any of the following: The inability or unwillingness of a parent, guardian, or custodian of a child to provide that child with supervision, food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, if	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			that inability or unwillingness causes substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare;	
			Allowing a child to enter or remain in any structure or vehicle in which volatile, toxic, or flammable chemicals are found or equipment is possessed by any person with the intent and for the purpose of manufacturing a dangerous drug;	
			A determination by a health professional that a newborn infant was prenatally exposed to a drug or substance listed in § 13-3401 and that this exposure was not the result of a medical treatment administered to the mother or the newborn infant by a health professional;	
			A diagnosis by a health professional of an infant under age 1 with clinical findings consistent with fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol effects.	
Arkansas	Uses both "failure" and "refusal"	AR Ann. Code § 12-18-103	Means those acts or omissions that constitute the following: Failure or refusal to prevent the abuse of the child when the person knows or should know the child is or has been abused;	Yes
			Failure or refusal to provide the food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment necessary for the child's well-being;	
Arkansas, cont.			Failure to take reasonable action to protect the child from abandonment, abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, neglect, or parental unfitness when the existence of the condition was known or should have been known;	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			Failure or inability to provide for the essential and necessary physical, mental, or emotional needs of the child, including the failure to provide a shelter that does not pose a risk to the health or safety of the child;	
			Failure to provide for the child's care and maintenance, proper or necessary support, or medical, surgical, or other necessary care;	
			Failure, although able, to assume responsibility for the care and custody of the child or to participate in a plan to assume such responsibility;	
			Failure to appropriately supervise the child that results in the child's being left alone at an inappropriate age or in inappropriate circumstances creating a dangerous situation or a situation that puts the child at risk of harm;	
			Failure to ensure a child between age 6 and 17 is enrolled in school or is being legally home schooled, or the child is habitually absent from school as a result of an act or omission by the child's parent.	
California,	Separates into "severe" and "general" neglect	CA Pen. Code § 11165.2	'Severe neglect' means the negligent failure of a person having the care or custody of a child to protect the child from severe malnutrition or medically diagnosed nonorganic failure to thrive. 'Severe neglect' also means those situations of neglect where any person having the care or custody of a child willfully causes or permits the child to be placed in a situation where their person	Yes
cont.			or health is endangered, including the intentional failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care.	
			'General neglect' means the negligent	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			failure of a person having the care or custody of a child to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, or supervision where no physical injury to the child has occurred.	
Colorado	Includes what neglect may not include	CO Rev. Stat. §§ 19-1-103; 19-3-102	A child is 'neglected' or 'dependent' if any of the following are true: The parent, guardian, or legal custodian has subjected the child to mistreatment or abuse or has allowed another to mistreat or abuse the child without taking lawful means to stop such mistreatment or abuse and prevent it from recurring; The child lacks proper parental care through the actions or omissions of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian; The child's environment is injurious to their welfare; The parent, guardian, or legal custodian fails or refuses to provide the child with proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical care, or any other necessary care; The child is homeless, without proper care, or not domiciled with their parent, guardian, or legal custodian through no fault of such parent, guardian, or legal custodian;	Yes
			The child has run away from home or is otherwise beyond the control of their parent, guardian, or legal custodian;	
Colorado, cont.			The child is born affected by alcohol or substance exposure, except when taken as prescribed or recommended and monitored by a licensed health care provider, and the newborn child's health	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			or welfare is threatened by substance use.	
Connecticut	Similar	CT Gen. Stat. § 46b-120	A child may be found 'neglected' who, for reasons other than being impoverished, has experienced any of the following: Has been abandoned; Is being denied proper physical, educational, emotional, or moral care and attention; Is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances, or associations injurious to the well-being of the child; Has been abused.	Yes
Delaware	Expanded on	Del Ann. Code Tit. 16, § 902; Tit. 10, § 901	Means that a person who is responsible for the care, custody, and/or control of the child and has the ability and financial means to provide for the care of the child does any of the following: Fails to provide necessary care with regard to food, clothing, shelter, education, health, medical, or other care necessary for the child's emotional, physical, or mental health, or safety and general well-being; Abuses alcohol or a controlled substance chronically and severely, is not active in treatment for such abuse, and the abuse threatens the child's ability to receive care necessary for that child's safety and general well-being;	No
Delaware, cont.			Fails to provide necessary supervision appropriate for a child when the child is unable to care for their own basic needs or safety, after considering such factors as the child's age, mental ability,	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			physical condition, the length of the caregiver's absence, and the context of the child's environment.	
District of Columbia, cont.	Expanded on	DC Ann. Code § 16-2301	Means any of the following applies to a child: Whose parent, guardian, or custodian has failed to make reasonable efforts to prevent the infliction of abuse upon the child; Who is without proper parental care or control, subsistence, education, or other care or control necessary for their physical, mental, or emotional health; Whose parent, guardian, or other custodian is unable to discharge their responsibilities to and for the child because of incarceration, hospitalization, or other physical or mental incapacity; Whose parent, guardian, or custodian refuses or is unable to assume responsibility for the child's care, control, or subsistence and the person or institution providing for the child states an intention to discontinue such care; Who is in imminent danger of being abused and another child living in the same household has been abused; Who has received negligent treatment or maltreatment; Who has resided in a hospital located in the District of Columbia for at least 10 calendar days following their birth, despite a medical determination that the child is ready for discharge from the hospital, and the parent has not taken any action or made any effort to maintain	Yes
			a parental, guardianship, or custodial	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			relationship or contact with the child; Who is born addicted or dependent on a controlled substance or has a significant presence of a controlled substance in their system at birth; In whose body there is a controlled substance as a direct and foreseeable consequence of the acts or omissions of the child's parent; Who is regularly exposed to illegal drug-related activity in the home.	
Florida	Includes financial considerations in the definition of neglect	FL ST § 39.01	Occurs when a child is deprived of, or is allowed to be deprived of, necessary food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment or a child is permitted to live in an environment when such deprivation or environment causes the child's physical, mental, or emotional health to be significantly impaired or to be in danger of being significantly impaired. Neglect of a child includes acts or omissions.	No
			Within the context of the definition of 'harm,' the term 'neglects the child' means that the parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare fails to supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or health care, although financially able to do so or although offered financial or other means to do so.	
Georgia Georgia,	Similar	GA ST § 19-7-5(b)	Means any of the following: The failure to provide proper parental care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for a child's physical, mental, or emotional health or morals;	Yes
cont.			The failure to provide a child with	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			adequate supervision necessary for the child's well-being;	
			The abandonment of a child by their parent, guardian, or legal custodian.	
Hawaii	Expanded on	HI Rev. Stat. § 350-1	Occurs when a child is not provided in a timely manner with adequate food, clothing, shelter, psychological care, physical care, medical care, or supervision.	No
Idaho	Includes education	ID Code § 16-1602	Means a child to whom any of the following applies:	Yes
			Who is without proper parental care and control, subsistence, medical care, or other care necessary for their well-being because of the conduct or omission of their parents, guardian, or other custodian or their neglect or refusal to provide care;	
			Whose parents, guardian, or other custodian is unable to discharge their responsibilities to and for the child, and, as a result of such inability, the child lacks the parental care necessary for their health, safety, or well-being;	
			Who has been placed for care or adoption in violation of the law;	
			Who is without proper education because of failure to comply with § 33-202.	
Illinois	Includes refusal	IL Comp. Stat. Ch. 325, § 5/3	Means any child to whom any of the following applies:	Yes
Illinois, cont.			Is not receiving proper or necessary nourishment or medically indicated treatment, including food or care, that is not provided solely on the basis of the present or anticipated mental or physical	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			impairment as determined by a physician, or otherwise is not receiving the proper or necessary support or medical or other remedial care as necessary for a child's well-being;	
			Is not receiving other care necessary for their well-being, including adequate food, clothing, and shelter.	
			Is subjected to an environment that is injurious insofar as the following:	
			The child's environment creates a likelihood of harm to the child's health, physical well-being, or welfare;	
			The likely harm to the child is the result of a blatant disregard of parent or caregiver responsibilities;	
			Has been provided with interim crisis intervention services under chapter 705, § 405/3-5, and whose parent, guardian, or custodian refuses to permit the child to return home and no other living arrangement agreeable to the parent, guardian, or custodian can be made, and the parent, guardian, or custodian has not made any other appropriate living arrangement for the child;	
			Is a newborn infant whose blood, urine, or meconium contains any amount of a controlled substance or a metabolite thereof.	
Indiana	Similar	IN 31-34- 1-1	A child is a 'child in need of services' if, before the child reaches age 18, any of the following applies:	Yes
Indiana, cont.			The child's physical or mental condition is seriously impaired or seriously endangered because of the inability, refusal, or neglect of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian to supply	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			the child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education, or supervision, and either of the following applies:	
			The parent, guardian, or custodian is financially able to do so; or	
			The parent, guardian, or custodian have failed, refused, or is unable to seek financial or other reasonable means to do so.	
			The child is born with fetal alcohol syndrome; neonatal abstinence syndrome; or any amount, including a trace amount, of a controlled substance or a legend drug (prescription drug) in the child's body.	
			The child has an injury, abnormal physical or psychological development, symptoms of neonatal intoxication or withdrawal, or is at a substantial risk of a life-threatening condition that arises or is substantially aggravated because the child's mother used alcohol, a controlled substance, or a legend drug during pregnancy.	
			The term 'child in need of services' includes a child with a disability who is deprived of nutrition that is necessary to sustain life or is deprived of medical or surgical intervention that is necessary to remedy or ameliorate a life-threatening medical condition if the nutritional, medical, or surgical intervention is generally provided to similarly situated children with or without disabilities.	
lowa	Expanded on	IA Ann. Stat. § 232.68	Includes the following: The failure on the part of a person	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			responsible for the care of a child to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical or mental health treatment, supervision, or other care necessary for the child's health and welfare when financially able to do so or when offered financial or other reasonable means to do so;	
			Failure to provide for the adequate supervision of a child that a reasonable and prudent person would exercise under similar facts and circumstances and the failure resulted in direct harm or created a risk of harm to the child;	
			The presence of an illegal drug in a child's body as a direct and foreseeable consequence of the acts or omissions of the person responsible for the care of the child;	
			That the person responsible for the care of a child, in the presence of a child unlawfully uses, possesses, manufactures, cultivates, or distributes a dangerous substance; knowingly allows such use, possession, manufacture, cultivation, or distribution by another person in the presence of a child; possesses a product with the intent to use the product as a precursor or an intermediary to a dangerous substance in the presence of a child; or unlawfully uses, possesses, manufactures, cultivates, or distributes a dangerous substance in a child's home, on the premises, or in a motor vehicle located on the premises;	
			Knowingly allowing a person to have custody of, control of, or unsupervised access to a child after knowing the person is required to register or is on the sex offender registry.	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Kentucky	Expanded on	KY Rev. Stat. § 600.020	Includes a child whose health or welfare is harmed or threatened with harm when their parent, guardian, or other person exercising custodial control or supervision does any of the following: Engages in a pattern of conduct that renders the parent incapable of caring for the immediate and ongoing needs of the child, including, but not limited to, parental incapacity due to a substance use disorder; Continuously or repeatedly fails or refuses to provide essential parental care and protection for the child, considering the age of the child with adequate care, supervision, food, clothing, shelter, education, or medical care necessary for the child's well-being when financially able to do so or offered financial or other means to do so; Fails to make sufficient progress toward identified goals as set forth in the court-approved case plan to allow for the safe return of the child to the parent that results in the child remaining committed to the cabinet and remaining in foster care for 15 cumulative months out 48 months.	Yes
Louisiana	Includes prenatal neglect	LA Ch. Code Art. 603	Means the refusal or unreasonable failure of a parent or caregiver to supply the child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, care, treatment, or counseling for any injury, illness, or condition of the child, and as a result the child's physical, mental, or emotional health and safety is substantially threatened or impaired. Neglect includes prenatal neglect.	Yes
Maine	Similar, includes	ME Ann. Stat. Tit.	Means a threat to a child's health or welfare by deprivation of essential needs	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
	truancy	22, § 4002	or lack of protection by a person responsible for the child.	
			'Abuse or neglect' also means truancy, as defined by title 20-A, §§ 3272(2)(B-C) or 5051-A(1)(C-D), when truancy is the result of neglect by a person responsible for the child.	
			'Jeopardy to health or welfare' or 'jeopardy' means serious abuse or neglect as evidenced by the following:	
			Deprivation of adequate food, clothing, shelter, supervision, or care;	
			Deprivation of necessary health care when the deprivation places the child in danger of serious harm;	
			Abandonment of the child or absence of any person responsible for the child that creates a threat of serious harm;	
			The end of voluntary placement, when the imminent return of the child to their custodian causes a threat of serious harm.	
Maryland	Similar	MD Fam. Law § 5- 701	Means leaving a child unattended or other failure to give proper care and attention to a child by any parent or other person who has permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for supervision of the child under circumstances that indicate either of the following:	Yes
			That the child's health or welfare is harmed or placed at substantial risk of harm;	
Maryland,			Mental injury to the child or a substantial risk of mental injury.	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
cont.				
Massachu- setts	Not dependent on finances or location	Code of Mass. Regs. Tit. 110, § 2.00	Means failure by a caregiver, either deliberately or through negligence or inability, to take those actions necessary to provide a child with minimally adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, supervision, emotional stability, and growth, or other essential care. This definition is not dependent upon location.	Yes
Michigan	Similar	MI Comp. Laws § 722.622	Means harm or threatened harm to a child's health or welfare by a parent, legal guardian, or any other person responsible for the child's health or welfare that occurs through either of the following: Negligent treatment, including the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, though financially able to do so, or by the failure to seek financial or other reasonable means to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care; Placing a child at an unreasonable risk to the child's health or welfare by failure to intervene to eliminate that risk when the parent, legal guardian, or other person responsible for the child's health or welfare can do so and has, or should have, knowledge of the risk.	Yes
Minnesota Minnesota,	Expanded on	MN ST § 260E.03	Means the commission or omission of any of the acts specified below by other than accidental means: Failure by a person responsible for a child's care to supply a child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, health, medical, or other care required for the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so;	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
cont.			Failure to protect a child from conditions or actions that seriously endanger the child's physical or mental health when reasonably able to do so, including a growth delay (which may be referred to as "failure to thrive") that has been diagnosed by a physician and is due to parental neglect;	
			Failure to provide necessary supervision or child care arrangements appropriate for a child after considering such factors as the child's age, mental ability, physical condition, length of absence, or environment when the child is unable to care for their own basic needs or safety or the basic needs or safety of another child in their care;	
			Failure to ensure that the child is educated as required by State law, which does not include a parent's refusal to provide their child with sympathomimetic medications;	
			Prenatal exposure to a controlled substance used by the mother for a nonmedical purpose, as evidenced by withdrawal symptoms in the child at birth, results of a toxicology test performed on the mother at delivery or the child at birth, or medical effects or developmental delays during the child's first year of life that medically indicate prenatal exposure to a controlled substance, or the presence of a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder;	
			'Medical neglect' that includes, but is not limited to, withholding medically indicated treatment from a disabled infant with a life-threatening condition;	
			Chronic and severe use of alcohol or a controlled substance by a parent or person responsible for the care of the child that adversely affects the child's	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Minnesota, cont.			basic needs and safety.	
Mississippi	Expanded on	MS Code Ann. § 43- 21-105	Means a child to whom any of the following apply: Whose parent, guardian, custodian, or any person responsible for their care or support neglects or, when able to do so, refuses to provide proper and necessary care or support; education as required by law; or medical, surgical, or other care necessary for their well-being; Who is otherwise without proper care, custody, supervision, or support; Who, for any reason, lacks the special care made necessary for them by reason of their mental condition, whether said mental condition be mentally retarded or mentally ill; Who, for any reason, lacks the care necessary for their health, morals, or well-being.	Yes
Missouri	Similar	RSMo § 210.110	Means failure to provide, by those responsible for the care, custody, and control of the child, proper or necessary support; education as required by law; nutrition; or medical, surgical, or any other care necessary for the child's wellbeing.	Yes
Montana	Similar, uses "failure"	MT Ann. Code § 41-3-102	Means any of the following: Failure to provide basic necessities, including, but not limited to, appropriate and adequate nutrition, protective shelter from the elements, and appropriate clothing related to weather conditions;	Yes
Montana, cont.			Failure to provide cleanliness and	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
			general supervision; Exposing or allowing the child to be exposed to an unreasonable physical or psychological risk.	
Nebraska	Highlights multiple negligent situations	NE Rev. Stat. § 28- 710	Means knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care or causing or permitting a child aged 6 or younger to be left unattended in a motor vehicle.	Yes
Nevada	Similar	NV Rev. Stat. § 432B.140	Occurs if a child has been subjected to harmful behavior that is terrorizing, degrading, painful, or emotionally traumatic; has been abandoned; is without proper care, control, or supervision; or lacks the subsistence, education, shelter, medical care, or other care necessary for the well-being of the child because of the faults or habits of the person responsible for the welfare of the child or the neglect or refusal of the person to provide them when able to do so.	No
New Hampshire	Similar, includes financial means	NH Rev. Stat. § 169-C:3	Means a child to whom the following applies: Who is without proper parental care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for their physical, mental, or emotional health, when it is established that their health has suffered or is very likely to suffer serious impairment, and the deprivation is not due primarily to the lack of financial means of the parents, guardian, or custodian; Whose parents, guardian, or custodian are unable to discharge their responsibilities to and for the child because of incarceration, hospitalization,	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
New Hampshire, cont.			or other physical or mental incapacity.	
New Jersey	Expanded on	NJ Ann. Stat. § 9:6- 8.21	Means a child younger than age 18 whose physical, mental, or emotional condition has been impaired or is in imminent danger of becoming impaired as the result of the failure of his parent, guardian, or other person having custody and control, to exercise a minimum degree of care, including the failure to do the following: To supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, education, medical, or surgical care, although financially able to do so or although offered financial or other reasonable means to do so; To provide the child with proper supervision or guardianship.	Yes
New Mexico	Uses "failure" and "refusal"	NM Ann. Stat. § 32A-4-2	Means a child to whom any of the following apply: Who has been abandoned by the child's parent, guardian, or custodian; Who is without proper parental care and control or subsistence, education, medical, or other care or control necessary for the child's well-being because of the faults or habits of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian or that person's failure or refusal, when able to do so, to provide them; Who has been physically or sexually abused when the child's parent, guardian, or custodian knew or should have known of the abuse and failed to take reasonable steps to protect the child from further harm;	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
New Mexico, cont.			Whose parent, guardian, or custodian is unable to discharge their responsibilities to and for the child because of incarceration, hospitalization, or other physical or mental disorder or incapacity; Who has been placed for care or adoption in violation of the law.	
New York	Expanded on	NY Family Court Act § 1012	Means a child younger than age 18 whose physical, mental, or emotional condition has been impaired or is in imminent danger of becoming impaired as a result of the failure of their parent or other person legally responsible for their care to exercise a minimum degree of care, as follows: In supplying the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, education, or medical or surgical care, although financially able to do so or offered financial or other reasonable means to do so; In providing the child with proper supervision or guardianship; By unreasonably inflicting or allowing harm to be inflicted, or a substantial risk thereof, including the infliction of excessive corporal punishment; By misusing drugs or alcoholic beverages to the extent that they lose self-control of their actions;	Yes
			By any other acts of a similarly serious nature requiring the aid of the court.	
North Carolina	Expanded on	NC Gen. Stat. § 7B- 101	A 'neglected juvenile' is any juvenile under age 18 to whom any of the following apply:	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
North Carolina, cont.			Who is found to be a minor victim of human trafficking under § 14-43.15.	
CONT.			Whose parent, guardian, custodian, or caregiver does any of the following:	
			Does not provide proper care, supervision, or discipline;	
			Abandons the juvenile;	
			Has not provided or arranged for the provision of necessary medical or remedial care;	
			Has refused to follow the recommendations of the Juvenile and Family Team made pursuant to article 27A of this chapter;	
			Creates or allows to be created a living environment that is injurious to the juvenile's welfare;	
			Has participated or attempted to participate in the unlawful transfer of custody of the juvenile under § 14-321.2;	
			Has placed the juvenile for care or adoption in violation of law.	
North Dakota	Includes financial means	ND Cent. Code § 50-25.1-02	Means a child who, due to the action or inaction of a person responsible for the child's welfare, is subject to any of the following:	
			Is without proper care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for the child's physical, mental, or emotional health, or morals, and is not due primarily to the lack of financial means of a person responsible for the child's welfare;	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
North Dakota, cont.			Has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; Has been abandoned; Is without proper care, control, or education as required by law, or other care and control necessary for the child's well-being because of the physical, mental, emotional, or other illness or disability of a person responsible for the child's welfare; Is in need of treatment and a person responsible for the child's welfare has refused to participate in treatment as ordered by the court; Was subject to prenatal exposure to chronic or severe use of alcohol or any controlled substance in a manner not lawfully prescribed by a practitioner; Is present in an environment subjecting the child to exposure of a controlled substance, chemical substance, or drug paraphernalia, including any amount of marijuana; Is a victim of human trafficking.	
Ohio	Expanded on	OH Rev. Stat. § 2151.03(A)	Includes any child to whom any of the following apply: Who lacks proper parental care because of the faults or habits of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian; Whose parents, guardian, or custodian neglects the child or refuses to provide proper or necessary subsistence, education, medical or surgical care or treatment, or other care necessary for the child's health, morals, or well-being;	No

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Ohio, cont.			Whose parents, guardian, or custodian neglects the child or refuses to provide the special care made necessary by the child's mental condition;	
			Whose parents, legal guardian, or custodian have placed or attempted to place the child in violation of statutes regarding the placement and adoption of children;	
			Who, because of the omission of the child's parents, guardian, or custodian, suffers physical or mental injury that harms or threatens to harm the child's health or welfare;	
			Who is subjected to child neglect while in out-of-home care.	
Oklahoma	Includes what neglect does not mean	OK Ann. Stat. Tit. 10A, § 1- 1-105	Means any of the following: The failure or omission to provide any of the following:	Yes
			Adequate nurturance and affection, food, clothing, shelter, sanitation, hygiene, or appropriate education;	
			Medical, dental, or behavioral health care;	
			Supervision or appropriate caregivers to protect the child from harm or threatened harm of which any reasonable and prudent person responsible for the child's health, safety or welfare would be aware;	
			Special care made necessary by the physical or mental condition of the child;	
			The failure or omission to protect a child from exposure to any of the	

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Oklahoma, cont.			following: The use, possession, sale, or manufacture of illegal drugs; Illegal activities; Sexual acts or materials that are not age-appropriate; Abandonment.	
Oregon	Uses "abuse" and "negligent treatment or maltreatment"	ORS § 419B.005	Includes negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including, but not limited to, the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or welfare of the child.	Yes
Pennsylva- nia	Similar, highlights "serious physical neglect"	PA Cons. Stat. Tit. 23, § 6303	Means any of the following acts when committed by a perpetrator that endangers a child's life or health; threatens a child's well-being; causes bodily injury; or impairs a child's health, development, or functioning: A repeated, prolonged, or egregious failure to supervise a child in a manner that is appropriate, considering the child's developmental age and abilities; The failure to provide a child with adequate essentials of life, including food, shelter, or medical care.	No
Rhode Island	Expanded on	RI Gen. Laws § 40- 11-2	Includes a child whose physical or mental health or welfare is harmed or threatened with harm when the child's parent or other person responsible for their welfare does any of the following: Fails to supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical care, although financially able to do so or offered financial or other reasonable	No

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Rhode Island, cont.			means to do so; Fails to provide the child with a minimum degree of care or proper supervision or guardianship because of their unwillingness or inability to do so by situations or conditions such as, but not limited to, social problems, mental incompetency, or the use of a drug, drugs, or alcohol to the extent that the parent or other person responsible for the child's welfare loses their ability or is unwilling to properly care for the child.	
South Carolina	Includes financial means and education	SC Ann. Code § 63-7-20	Occurs when the parent, guardian, or other person responsible for the child's welfare fails to supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, education as required by law; supervision appropriate to the child's age and development; or health care though financially able to do so or offered financial or other reasonable means to do so, and the failure to do so has caused or presents a substantial risk of causing physical or mental injury.	Yes
South Dakota	Uses "failure" and "refusal"	SD Ann. Laws § 26- 8A-2	Includes a child to whom the following applies: Who lacks proper parental care through the actions or omissions of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian; Whose environment is injurious to the child's welfare; Whose parent, guardian, or custodian fails or refuses to provide proper or necessary subsistence, supervision, education, medical care, or any other care necessary for the child's health, guidance, or well-being; Who is homeless, without proper care, or not domiciled with the child's parent,	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
South Dakota, cont.			guardian, or custodian through no fault of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian; Whose parent, guardian, or custodian knowingly exposes the child to an environment that is being used for the manufacture, use, or distribution of methamphetamine or any other unlawfully manufactured controlled drug or substance.	
Tennessee	Uses "dependent and neglected child"	TN Ann. Code § 37-1-102	Means a child to whom any of the following apply: Who is without a parent, guardian, or legal custodian; Whose parent, guardian, or person with whom the child lives, by reason of cruelty, mental incapacity, immorality, or depravity, is unfit to care properly for the child; Who is under unlawful or improper care, supervision, custody, or restraint by any person, corporation, agency, association, institution, society, or other organization or who is unlawfully kept out of school; Whose parent, guardian, or custodian neglects or refuses to provide necessary medical, surgical, institutional, or hospital care; Who, because of lack of proper supervision, is found in a place the existence of which is in violation of law; Who is in a condition of such want or suffering, or is under such improper guardianship or control, as to injure or endanger the morals or health of the child or others;	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Tennessee, cont.			Who is suffering from abuse or neglect; Who has been in the care and control of one or more agencies or persons not related by blood or marriage for a continuous period of 6 months or longer in the absence of a power of attorney or court order, and that person or agency has not initiated judicial proceedings seeking either legal custody or adoption of the child; Who is or has been allowed, encouraged, or permitted to engage in prostitution or obscene or pornographic photographing, filming, posing, or similar activity and whose parent or guardian neglects or refuses to protect the child from further such activity; Who willfully has been left in the sole financial and physical care of a related caregiver for no less than 18 consecutive months by the child's parent(s) or legal custodian, and the child will suffer substantial harm if removed from the continuous care of such relative.	
Texas	Expanded on	TX Fam. Code § 261.001	Means an act or failure to act by a person responsible for a child's care, custody, or welfare that evidences the person's blatant disregard for the consequences of the act or failure to act and results in harm to the child or creates an immediate danger to the child's physical health or safety. The term includes leaving of child in a situation in which the child would be exposed to a substantial risk of physical or mental harm, without arranging for necessary care for the child, and the demonstration of an intent not to return by a parent, guardian, or managing or possessory conservator of the child.	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Utah	Includes what neglect does not mean	UT Ann. Code § 80-1-102	Means action or inaction causing any of the following: Lack of proper parental care of a child by reason of the fault or habits of the parent, guardian, or custodian; Failure or refusal of a parent, guardian, or custodian to provide proper or necessary subsistence or medical care or any other care necessary for the child's health, safety, morals, or wellbeing; A child at risk of being neglected or abused because another child in the same home is neglected or abused; Educational neglect.	Yes
Vermont	Similar, uses "abused or neglected child"	33 VSA § 4912	'Harm' can occur by failure to supply the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or health care. As used in this subchapter, 'adequate health care' includes any medical or non-medical remedial health care permitted or authorized under State law. 'Risk of harm' means a significant danger that a child will suffer serious harm by other than accidental means, and that harm would be likely to cause physical injury.	Yes
Virginia	Expanded on	VA Ann. Code § 63.2-100	Means any child younger than age 18 to whom any of the following apply: Whose parents or other person responsible for their care neglects or refuses to provide care necessary for their health; Who is without parental care or guardianship caused by the unreasonable absence or the mental or	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
Virginia, cont. Washington	Uses "negligent treatment or maltreatment"	WA Rev. Code §§ 26.44.020; 9A.42.100	physical incapacity of the child's parent, guardian, legal custodian, or other person standing <i>in loco parentis</i> ; Whose parents or other person responsible for their care creates a substantial risk of physical or mental injury by knowingly leaving the child alone in the same dwelling, including an apartment, with a person to whom the child is not related by blood or marriage and who the parent or other person responsible for their care knows has been convicted of an offense against a minor for which registration is required as a violent sexual offender. Means an act or a failure to act, or the cumulative effects of a pattern of conduct, behavior, or inaction, that evidences a serious disregard of consequences of such magnitude as to constitute a clear and present danger to a child's health, welfare, or safety, including, but not limited to, conduct prohibited under § 9A.42.100 (endangerment with a controlled substance). When considering whether a clear and present danger exists, evidence of a parent's substance abuse as a contributing factor to negligent treatment or maltreatment shall be given great weight.	No
West Virginia	Includes "refusal, failure, or inability"	WV Ann. Code § 49-1-201	Means a child to whom any of the following apply: Whose physical or mental health is harmed or threatened by a present refusal, failure, or inability of the child's parent, guardian, or custodian to supply the child with necessary food, clothing, shelter, supervision, medical care, or education;	Yes

State	How Differs from Federal	Statute	Definition	Reviewed in Past 5 Years?
West Virginia, cont.			Who is presently without necessary food, clothing, shelter, medical care, education, or supervision because of the disappearance or absence of the child's parent or custodian.	
Wisconsin	Specifies for reasons other than poverty	WI Ann. Stat. § 48.02	Means failure, refusal, or inability on the part of a caregiver, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care, or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child.	No
Wyoming	Similar	WY Ann. Stat. § 14- 3-202	Means a failure or refusal by those responsible for the child's welfare to provide adequate care; maintenance; supervision; education; or medical, surgical, or any other care necessary for the child's well-being. For the purposes of education, 'neglect' includes willful absenteeism.	Yes