**§1732. Definitions**

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**1. Abandoned.**  "Abandoned" means left without provision for reasonable and necessary care or supervision.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**2. Child.**  "Child" means an individual who has not attained 18 years of age.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**3. Child custody determination.**  "Child custody determination" means a judgment, decree or other order of a court providing for the legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child. The term includes a permanent, temporary, initial and modification order. The term does not include an order relating to child support or other monetary obligation of an individual.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**4. Child custody proceeding.**  "Child custody proceeding" means a proceeding in which legal custody, physical custody or visitation with respect to a child is an issue. The term includes a proceeding for divorce, separation, neglect, abuse, dependency, guardianship, paternity, termination of parental rights and protection from domestic violence, in which the issue may appear. The term does not include a proceeding involving juvenile delinquency, contractual emancipation or enforcement under subchapter III.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**5. Commencement.**  "Commencement" means the filing of the first pleading in a proceeding.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**6. Court.**  "Court" means an entity authorized under the law of a state to establish, enforce or modify a child custody determination.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**7. Home state.**  "Home state" means the state in which a child lived with a parent or a person acting as a parent for at least 6 consecutive months immediately before the commencement of a child custody proceeding. In the case of a child less than 6 months of age, the term means the state in which the child lived from birth with any of the persons mentioned. A period of temporary absence of any of the mentioned persons is part of the period.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**8. Initial determination.**  "Initial determination" means the first child custody determination concerning a particular child.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**9. Issuing court.**  "Issuing court" means the court that makes a child custody determination for which enforcement is sought under this chapter.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**10. Issuing state.**  "Issuing state" means the state in which a child custody determination is made.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**11. Modification.**  "Modification" means a child custody determination that changes, replaces, supersedes or is otherwise made after a previous determination concerning the same child, whether or not it is made by the court that made the previous determination.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**12. Person.**  "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government; governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality; public corporation; or any other legal or commercial entity.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**13. Person acting as a parent.**  "Person acting as a parent" means a person, other than a parent, who:

A. Has physical custody of the child or has had physical custody for a period of 6 consecutive months, including any temporary absence, within one year immediately before the commencement of a child custody proceeding; and [PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

B. Has been awarded legal custody by a court or claims a right to legal custody under the law of this State. [PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**14. Physical custody.**  "Physical custody" means the physical care and supervision of a child.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**15. State.**  "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**16. Tribe.**  "Tribe" means an Indian tribe or band or an Alaskan Native village recognized by federal law or formally acknowledged by a state.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

**17. Warrant.**  "Warrant" means an order issued by a court authorizing law enforcement officers to take physical custody of a child.

[PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW); PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 486, §3 (NEW). PL 1999, c. 486, §6 (AFF).

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