

## HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2703 (Formerly HSB 741)	House Committee:	<b>PASSED</b> on February 19 (20-0)
Committee:	Judiciary	House Floor:	
Floor Manager:	Rep. Stone	Senate Floor:	
Date:	March 5, 2026	Governor:	
Staff:	Amanda Wille (1-5230)		

### Interviews with Children

- As amended, HF 2703 will expand the definition of interview of a child in a child abuse case.
- Allows court authorized entry, observation, or interview with a child in a child abuse case.

### Section by Section Analysis

#### Section 1 – Juvenile Justice- Definitions (232.68)

Amends the definition of interview to include an exchange between a forensic interviewer and a child at either a child advocacy center or a child protection center for the purpose of developing information necessary to protect the child.

#### Section 2 — Juvenile Justice- Duties of the Department Upon Receipt of Report (232.71B)

Allows a court to authorize entry into a child’s home, an interview with a child or observation of a child if a child abuse allegation is referred to law enforcement and the child’s parents do not give permission. .

### Amendment Analysis

H-8152 by Stone – Analysis above.