

(V) "RELATIVE" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS:

(1) RELATED TO THE CHILD BY BLOOD OR MARRIAGE WITHIN FIVE DEGREES OF CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY UNDER THE CIVIL LAW; AND

(2) (I) AT LEAST 18 21 YEARS OLD; OR

(II) 1. AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD; AND

2. LIVES WITH A SPOUSE WHO IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD.

[(v)] (W) (1) "Sexual abuse" means an act that involves sexual molestation or sexual exploitation of a child by:

(i) A parent or other individual who has permanent or temporary care or custody or responsibility for supervision of the child; or

(ii) A household or family member.

(2) "Sexual abuse" includes:

(i) Incest;

(ii) Rape;

(iii) Sexual offense in any degree;

(iv) Sodomy; and

(v) Unnatural or perverted sexual practices.

[(w)] (X) "Shelter care" means a temporary placement of a child outside of the home at any time before disposition.

[(x)] (Y) "Shelter care hearing" means a hearing held before disposition to determine whether the temporary placement of the child outside of the home is warranted.

[(y)] (Z) "TPR proceeding" means a proceeding to terminate parental rights.

[(z)] (AA) "Voluntary placement" means a placement in accordance with § 5-525(a)(1)(i) or (iii) of the Family Law Article.

[(aa)] (BB) "Voluntary placement hearing" means a hearing to obtain a judicial determination as to whether continuing a voluntary placement is in the best interests of the child.

3-815.

(a) In accordance with regulations adopted by the Department of Human Resources, a local department may authorize shelter care for a child who may be in need of assistance and has been taken into custody under this subtitle.

(b) A local department may place a child in emergency shelter care before a hearing if: