

Alabama POA Bill (2011 SB 53)

26-1A-101 Short Title.

This chapter may be cited as the Alabama Uniform Power of Attorney Act.

26-1A-102. Definitions. In this chapter:

- (1) "Agent" means a person granted authority to act for a principal under a power of attorney, whether denominated an agent, attorney-in-fact, or otherwise. The term includes an original agent, co-agent, successor agent, and a person to which an agent's authority is delegated.
- (2) "Durable," with respect to a power of attorney, means not terminated by the principal's incapacity.
- (3) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.
- (4) "Good faith" means honesty in fact.
- (5) "Incapacity" means inability of an individual to manage property or business affairs because the individual:
 - (A) has an impairment in the ability to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions even with the use of technological assistance; or
 - (B) is:
 - (i) missing;
 - (ii) detained, including incarcerated in a penal system; or
 - (iii) outside the United States and unable to return.
- (6) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.
- (7) "Power of attorney" means a writing or other record that grants authority to an agent to act in the place of the principal, whether or not the term power of attorney is used.
- (8) "Presently exercisable general power of appointment," with respect to property or a property interest subject to a power of appointment, means power exercisable at the time in question to vest absolute ownership in the principal individually, the principal's estate, the principal's creditors, or the creditors of the principal's estate. The term includes a power of appointment not exercisable until the occurrence of a specified event, the satisfaction of an ascertainable standard, or the passage of a specified period only after the occurrence of the specified event, the satisfaction of the ascertainable standard, or the passage of the specified period. The term does not include a

Mississippi POA Bill (2013 HB 468)

Section 101. Short title.

This act may be cited as the Uniform Power of Attorney Act.

Section 102. Definitions. In this act:

- (1) "Agent" means a person granted authority to act for a principal under a power of attorney, whether denominated an agent, attorney-in-fact, or otherwise. The term includes an original agent, coagent, successor agent, and a person to which an agent's authority is delegated.
- (2) "Durable," with respect to a power of attorney, means not terminated by the principal's incapacity.
- (3) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.
- (4) "Good faith" means honesty in fact.
- (5) "Incapacity" means inability of an individual to manage property or business affairs because the individual:
 - (A) Has an impairment in the ability to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions even with the use of technological assistance; or
 - (B) Is:
 - (i) Missing;
 - (ii) Detained, including incarcerated in a penal system; or
 - (iii) Outside the United States and unable to return.
- (6) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.
- (7) "Power of attorney" means a writing or other record that grants authority to an agent to act in the place of the principal, whether or not the term power of attorney is used.
- (8) "Presently exercisable general power of appointment," with respect to property or a property interest subject to a power of appointment, means power exercisable at the time in question to vest absolute ownership in the principal individually, the principal's estate, the principal's creditors, or the creditors of the principal's estate. The term includes a power of appointment not exercisable until the occurrence of a specified event, the satisfaction of an ascertainable standard, or the passage of a specified period only after the occurrence of the specified event, the satisfaction of the ascertainable standard, or the passage of the specified period. The term does not include a

power exercisable in a fiduciary capacity or only by will.

(9) "Principal" means an individual who grants authority to an agent in a power of attorney.

(10) "Property" means anything that may be the subject of ownership, whether real or personal, or legal or equitable, or any interest or right therein.

(11) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(12) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record:

(A) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(B) to attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic sound, symbol, or process.

(13) "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.

(14) "Stocks and bonds" means stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and all other types of securities and financial instruments, whether held directly, indirectly, or in any other manner. The term does not include commodity futures contracts and call or put options on stocks or stock indexes.

SECTION 26-1A-103. APPLICABILITY.

(a) This chapter applies to all powers of attorney, executed on or after January 1, 2012, except:

(1) a power to the extent it is coupled with an interest in the subject of the power, including a power given to or for the benefit of a creditor in connection with a credit transaction;

(2) a proxy or other delegation to exercise voting rights or management rights with respect to an entity; and

(3) a power created on a form prescribed by a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality for a governmental purpose.

(b) A power to make health care decisions executed on or after January 1, 2012, is governed by Section 26-1A-404. Nothing in this chapter shall affect any action taken under the Natural Death Act, Chapter 8A of Title 22.

SECTION 26-1A-104. POWER OF ATTORNEY IS DURABLE. A power of attorney to which this chapter applies is durable, unless it expressly provides that it is terminated by the incapacity of the principal.

power exercisable in a fiduciary capacity or only by will.

(9) "Principal" means an individual who grants authority to an agent in a power of attorney.

(10) "Property" means anything that may be the subject of ownership, whether real or personal, or legal or equitable, or any interest or right therein.

(11) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(12) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record:

(A) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(B) To attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic sound, symbol, or process.

(13) "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.

(14) "Stocks and bonds" means stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and all other types of securities and financial instruments, whether held directly, indirectly, or in any other manner. The term does not include commodity futures contracts and call or put options on stocks or stock indexes.

Section 103. Applicability.

This act applies to all powers of attorney except:

(1) A power to the extent it is coupled with an interest in the subject of the power, including a power given to or for the benefit of a creditor in connection with a credit transaction;

(2) A power to make health care decisions;

(3) A proxy or other delegation to exercise voting rights or management rights with respect to an entity; and

(4) A power created on a form prescribed by a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality for a governmental purpose.

Section 104. Power of attorney is durable. A power of attorney created under this act is durable unless it expressly provides that it is terminated by the incapacity of the principal.

SECTION 26-1A-105. EXECUTION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY.

A power of attorney must be signed by the principal or in the principal's conscious presence by another individual directed by the principal to sign the principal's name on the power of attorney. A signature on a power of attorney is presumed to be genuine if the principal acknowledges the signature before a notary public or other individual authorized by law to take acknowledgments.

SECTION 26-1A-106. VALIDITY OF POWER OF ATTORNEY.

- (a) A power of attorney executed in this state on or after January 1, 2012, is valid if its execution complies with Section 26-1A-105.
- (b) A power of attorney executed in this state before January 1, 2012, is valid if its execution complied with the law of this state as it existed at the time of execution.
- (c) A power of attorney executed other than in this state is valid in this state if, when the power of attorney was executed, the execution complied with:
 - (1) the law of the jurisdiction that determines the meaning and effect of the power of attorney pursuant to Section 26-1A-107;
 - (2) the requirements for a military power of attorney pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1044b, as amended; or
 - (3) Alabama law.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided by statute other than this chapter, a photocopy or electronically transmitted copy of an original power of attorney has the same effect as the original.

SECTION 26-1A-107. MEANING AND EFFECT OF POWER OF ATTORNEY.

The meaning and effect of a power of attorney is determined by the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the power of attorney and, in the absence of an indication of jurisdiction, by the law of the jurisdiction in which the power of attorney was executed.

SECTION 26-1A-108. NOMINATION OF CONSERVATOR OR GUARDIAN; RELATION OF AGENT TO COURT-APPOINTED FIDUCIARY.

- (a) In a power of attorney, a principal may nominate a conservator of the principal's estate or guardian of the principal's person for consideration by the court, if protective proceedings for the principal's estate or person are begun after the principal executes the power of attorney. Except for good cause shown or disqualification, the court shall make its appointment in accordance with the

Section 105. Execution of power of attorney.

A power of attorney must be signed by the principal or in the principal's conscious presence by another individual directed by the principal to sign the principal's name on the power of attorney. A signature on a power of attorney is presumed to be genuine if the principal acknowledges the signature before a notary public or other individual authorized by law to take acknowledgments.

Section 106. Validity of power of attorney.

- (a) A power of attorney executed in this state on or after July 1, 2013, is valid if its execution complies with Section 105.
- (b) A power of attorney executed in this state before July 1, 2013, is valid if its execution complied with the law of this state as it existed at the time of execution.
- (c) A power of attorney executed other than in this state is valid in this state if, when the power of attorney was executed, the execution complied with:
 - (1) The law of the jurisdiction that determines the meaning and effect of the power of attorney pursuant to Section 107;
 - (2) The requirements for a military power of attorney pursuant to 10 USCS Section 1044b.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided by statute other than this act, a photocopy or electronically transmitted copy of an original power of attorney has the same effect as the original.

Section 107. Meaning and effect of power of attorney.

The meaning and effect of a power of attorney is determined by the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the power of attorney and, in the absence of an indication of jurisdiction, by the law of the jurisdiction in which the power of attorney was executed.

Section 108. Nomination of conservator or guardian; relation of agent to court-appointed fiduciary.

- (a) In a power of attorney, a principal may nominate a conservator or guardian of the principal's estate or guardian of the principal's person for consideration by the court if protective proceedings for the principal's estate or person are begun after the principal executes the power of attorney. Except for good cause shown or disqualification, the court shall make its appointment in accordance

principal's most recent nomination.

(b) If, after a principal executes a power of attorney, a court appoints a conservator of the principal's estate or other fiduciary charged with the management of all the property of the principal or all of his or her property except specified exclusions, the agent is accountable to the fiduciary as well as to the principal. In such event, the fiduciary has the same power to revoke or amend the power of attorney that the principal would have had if he or she was not disabled, incompetent, or incapacitated.

SECTION 26-1A-109. WHEN POWER OF ATTORNEY EFFECTIVE.

(a) A power of attorney is effective when executed unless the principal provides in the power of attorney that it becomes effective at a future date or upon the occurrence of a future event or contingency.

(b) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the occurrence of a future event or contingency, the principal, in the power of attorney, may authorize one or more persons to determine in a writing or other record that the event or contingency has occurred.

(c) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the principal's incapacity and the principal has not authorized a person to determine whether the principal is incapacitated, or the person authorized is unable or unwilling to make the determination, the power of attorney becomes effective upon a determination in a writing or other record by:

(1) a physician or licensed psychologist that the principal is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 26-1A-102(5)(A); or

(2) an attorney-at-law, a judge, or an appropriate governmental official that the principal is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 26-1A-102(5)(B).

(d) A person authorized by the principal in the power of attorney to determine that the principal is incapacitated may act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 through 1179 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1320d, as amended, and applicable regulations, to obtain access to the principal's health care information and communicate with the principal's health care provider.

SECTION 26-1A-110. TERMINATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AGENT'S AUTHORITY.

(a) A power of attorney terminates when:

(1) the principal dies;

(2) the principal becomes incapacitated, if the power of attorney is not durable;

(3) the principal revokes the power of attorney;

with the principal's most recent nomination.

(b) If, after a principal executes a power of attorney, a court appoints a conservator or guardian of the principal's estate or other fiduciary charged with the management of some or all of the principal's property, the agent is accountable to the fiduciary as well as to the principal. The power of attorney is not terminated and the agent's authority continues unless limited, suspended, or terminated by the court.

Section 109. When power of attorney is effective.

(a) A power of attorney is effective when executed unless the principal provides in the power of attorney that it becomes effective at a future date or upon the occurrence of a future event or contingency.

(b) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the occurrence of a future event or contingency, the principal, in the power of attorney, may authorize one or more persons to determine in a writing or other record that the event or contingency has occurred.

(c) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the principal's incapacity and the principal has not authorized a person to determine whether the principal is incapacitated, or the person authorized is unable or unwilling to make the determination, the power of attorney becomes effective upon a determination in a writing or other record by:

(1) A physician or licensed psychologist that the principal is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 102(5)(A); or

(2) An attorney at law, a judge, or an appropriate governmental official that the principal is incapacitated within the meaning of Section 102(5)(B).

(d) A person authorized by the principal in the power of attorney to determine that the principal is incapacitated may act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 through 1179 of the Social Security Act, 42 USCS Section 1320d and applicable regulations, to obtain access to the principal's health-care information and communicate with the principal's health-care provider.

Section 110. Termination of power of attorney or agent's authority.

(a) A power of attorney terminates when:

(1) The principal dies;

(2) The principal becomes incapacitated, if the power of attorney is not durable;

(3) The principal revokes the power of attorney;

(4) The power of attorney provides that it terminates;

- (4) the power of attorney provides that it terminates;
- (5) the purpose of the power of attorney is accomplished;
- (6) the principal revokes the agent's authority or the agent dies, becomes incapacitated, or resigns, and the power of attorney does not provide for another agent to act under the power of attorney; or
- (7) revoked by a fiduciary appointed by a court.
- (b) An agent's authority terminates when:
- (1) the principal revokes the authority;
- (2) the agent dies, becomes incapacitated, or resigns;
- (3) an action is filed for the divorce or annulment of the agent's marriage to the principal or their legal separation, unless the power of attorney otherwise provides; or
- (4) the power of attorney terminates.
- (c) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent's authority is exercisable until the authority terminates under subsection (b), notwithstanding a lapse of time since the execution of the power of attorney.
- (d) Termination of an agent's authority or of a power of attorney is not effective as to the agent that, without actual knowledge of the termination, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
- (e) Incapacity of the principal of a power of attorney that is not durable does not revoke or terminate the power of attorney as to an agent that, without actual knowledge of the incapacity, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
- (f) The execution of a power of attorney does not revoke a power of attorney previously executed by the principal unless the subsequent power of attorney provides that the previous power of attorney is revoked or that all other powers of attorney are revoked.

SECTION 26-1A-111. CO-AGENTS AND SUCCESSOR AGENTS.

- (a) A principal may designate two or more persons to act as co-agents. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, each co-agent may exercise its authority independently.
- (b) A principal may designate one or more successor agents to act if an agent resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, is not qualified to serve, or declines to serve. A principal may grant authority to designate one or more successor agents to an agent or other person designated by name, office, or function. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a successor agent:

- (5) The purpose of the power of attorney is accomplished; or
- (6) The principal revokes the agent's authority or the agent dies, becomes incapacitated, or resigns, and the power of attorney does not provide for another agent to act under the power of attorney.
- (b) An agent's authority terminates when:
- (1) The principal revokes the authority;
- (2) The agent dies, becomes incapacitated, or resigns;
- (3) An action is filed for the dissolution or annulment of the agent's marriage to the principal or their legal separation, unless the power of attorney otherwise provides; or
- (4) The power of attorney terminates.
- (c) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent's authority is exercisable until the authority terminates under subsection (b), notwithstanding a lapse of time since the execution of the power of attorney.
- (d) Termination of an agent's authority or of a power of attorney is not effective as to the agent or another person that, without actual knowledge of the termination, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
- (e) Incapacity of the principal of a power of attorney that is not durable does not revoke or terminate the power of attorney as to an agent or other person that, without actual knowledge of the incapacity, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
- (f) The execution of a power of attorney does not revoke a power of attorney previously executed by the principal unless the subsequent power of attorney provides that the previous power of attorney is revoked or that all other powers of attorney are revoked.

Section 111. Coagents and successor agents.

- (a) A principal may designate two or more persons to act as coagents. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, each coagent may exercise its authority independently.
- (b) A principal may designate one or more successor agents to act if an agent resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, is not qualified to serve, or declines to serve. A principal may grant authority to designate one or more successor agents to an agent or other person designated by name, office, or function. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a successor agent:

(1) has the same authority as that granted to the original agent; and
(2) may not act until all predecessor agents have resigned, died, become incapacitated, are no longer qualified to serve, or have declined to serve.
(c) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney and subsection (d), an agent that does not participate in or conceal a breach of fiduciary duty committed by another agent, including a predecessor agent, is not liable for the actions of the other agent.

(d) An agent that has accepted appointment and has actual knowledge of a breach or imminent breach of fiduciary duty by another agent shall notify the principal and, if the principal is incapacitated, take any action reasonably appropriate in the circumstances to safeguard the principal's best interest. An agent that fails to notify the principal or take action as required by this subsection is liable for the reasonably foreseeable damages that could have been avoided if the agent had notified the principal or taken such action.

SECTION 26-1A-112. REIMBURSEMENT AND COMPENSATION OF AGENT.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent is entitled to reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the principal and to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.

SECTION 26-1A-113. AGENT'S ACCEPTANCE.

Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, a person accepts appointment as an agent under a power of attorney by exercising authority or performing duties as an agent or by any other assertion or conduct indicating acceptance.

SECTION 26-1A-114. AGENT'S DUTIES.

(a) Notwithstanding provisions in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall:

- (1) act in accordance with the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, in the principal's best interest;
- (2) act in good faith; and
- (3) act only within the scope of authority granted in the power of attorney.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall:

- (1) act loyally for the principal's benefit;
- (2) act so as not to create a conflict of interest that impairs the agent's ability to act impartially in the principal's best interest;
- (3) act with the care, competence, and diligence

(1) Has the same authority as that granted to the original agent; and
(2) May not act until all predecessor agents have resigned, died, become incapacitated, are no longer qualified to serve, or have declined to serve.
(c) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney and subsection (d), an agent that does not participate in or conceal a breach of fiduciary duty committed by another agent, including a predecessor agent, is not liable for the actions of the other agent.

(d) An agent that has actual knowledge of a breach or imminent breach of fiduciary duty by another agent shall notify the principal and, if the principal is incapacitated, take any action reasonably appropriate in the circumstances to safeguard the principal's best interest. An agent that fails to notify the principal or take action as required by this subsection is liable for the reasonably foreseeable damages that could have been avoided if the agent had notified the principal or taken such action.

Section 112. Reimbursement and compensation of agent.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent is entitled to reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the principal and to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.

Section 113. Agent's acceptance.

Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, a person accepts appointment as an agent under a power of attorney by exercising authority or performing duties as an agent or by any other assertion or conduct indicating acceptance.

Section 114. Agent's duties.

(a) Notwithstanding provisions in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall:

- (1) Act in accordance with the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, in the principal's best interest;
- (2) Act in good faith; and
- (3) Act only within the scope of authority granted in the power of attorney.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall:

- (1) Act loyally for the principal's benefit;
- (2) Act so as not to create a conflict of interest that impairs the agent's ability to act impartially in the principal's best interest;
- (3) Act with the care, competence, and diligence ordinarily exercised by agents in similar circumstances;

ordinarily exercised by agents in similar circumstances;

(4) keep a record of all receipts, disbursements, and transactions made on behalf of the principal;

(5) cooperate with a person that has authority to make health care decisions for the principal to carry out the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, act in the principal's best interest; and

(6) attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan, to the extent actually known by the agent, if preserving the plan is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:

(A) the value and nature of the principal's property;

(B) the principal's foreseeable obligations and need for maintenance;

(C) minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance, generation-skipping transfer, and gift taxes; and

(D) eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a statute or regulation.

(c) An agent that acts in good faith is not liable to any beneficiary of the principal's estate plan for failure to preserve the plan.

(d) An agent that acts with care, competence, and diligence for the best interest of the principal is not liable solely because the agent also benefits from the act or has an individual or conflicting interest in relation to the property or affairs of the principal.

(e) If an agent is selected by the principal because of special skills or expertise possessed by the agent or in reliance on the agent's representation that the agent has special skills or expertise, the special skills or expertise must be considered in determining whether the agent has acted with care, competence, and diligence under the circumstances.

(f) Absent a breach of duty to the principal, an agent is not liable if the value of the principal's property declines.

(g) An agent that exercises authority to delegate to another person the authority granted by the principal or that engages another person on behalf of the principal is not liable for an act, error of judgment, or default of that person if the agent exercises care, competence, and diligence in selecting and monitoring the person.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent is not required to disclose receipts, disbursements, or transactions conducted on behalf of the principal unless ordered by a court or requested by the principal, a guardian, a conservator, another fiduciary acting for the principal, a governmental agency having authority to protect the welfare of the principal, or, upon the death of the principal, by the personal representative or successor

(4) Keep a record of all receipts, disbursements, and transactions made on behalf of the principal;

(5) Cooperate with a person that has authority to make health-care decisions for the principal to carry out the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, act in the principal's best interest; and

(6) Attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan, to the extent actually known by the agent, if preserving the plan is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:

(A) The value and nature of the principal's property;

(B) The principal's foreseeable obligations and need for maintenance;

(C) Minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance, generation-skipping transfer, and gift taxes; and

(D) Eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a statute or regulation.

(c) An agent that acts in good faith is not liable to any beneficiary of the principal's estate plan for failure to preserve the plan.

(d) An agent that acts with care, competence, and diligence for the best interest of the principal is not liable solely because the agent also benefits from the act or has an individual or conflicting interest in relation to the property or affairs of the principal.

(e) If an agent is selected by the principal because of special skills or expertise possessed by the agent or in reliance on the agent's representation that the agent has special skills or expertise, the special skills or expertise must be considered in determining whether the agent has acted with care, competence, and diligence under the circumstances.

(f) Absent a breach of duty to the principal, an agent is not liable if the value of the principal's property declines.

(g) An agent that exercises authority to delegate to another person the authority granted by the principal or that engages another person on behalf of the principal is not liable for an act, error of judgment, or default of that person if the agent exercises care, competence, and diligence in selecting and monitoring the person.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent is not required to disclose receipts, disbursements, or transactions conducted on behalf of the principal unless ordered by a court or requested by the principal, a guardian, a conservator, another fiduciary acting for the principal, a governmental agency having authority to protect the welfare of the principal, or, upon the death of the principal, by the personal representative or successor in interest of the principal's estate. If so requested, within thirty (30) days the

in interest of the principal's estate. If so requested, within 30 days the agent shall comply with the request or provide a writing or other record substantiating why additional time is needed and shall comply with the request within an additional 30 days.

SECTION 26-1A-115. EXONERATION OF AGENT.

A provision in a power of attorney relieving an agent of liability for breach of duty is binding on the principal and the principal's successors in interest except to the extent the provision:

- (1) relieves the agent of liability for breach of duty committed dishonestly, with an improper motive, or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the power of attorney or the best interest of the principal; or
- (2) was inserted as a result of an abuse of a confidential or fiduciary relationship with the principal.

SECTION 26-1A-116. JUDICIAL RELIEF.

(a) The following persons may petition a court to construe a power of attorney, determine the validity of a power of attorney, or review the agent's conduct, and grant appropriate relief:

- (1) the principal or the agent;
- (2) a guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary acting for the principal;
- (3) a person authorized to make health care decisions for the principal;
- (4) the principal's spouse, parent, or descendant;
- (5) an individual who would qualify as a presumptive heir of the principal;
- (6) a person named as a beneficiary to receive any property, benefit, or contractual right on the principal's death or as a beneficiary of a trust created by or for the principal that has a financial interest in the principal's estate;
- (7) a governmental agency having regulatory authority to protect the welfare of the principal;
- (8) the principal's caregiver or another person that demonstrates sufficient interest in the principal's welfare;
- (9) a person asked to accept the power of attorney; and
- (10) any other person who demonstrates a sufficient legal interest in the construction or validity of the power of attorney or the agent's conduct in connection with the power of attorney, such as to give that person standing.

(b) Upon motion by the principal, the court shall dismiss a petition filed under this section, unless the court finds that the principal lacks capacity to revoke the agent's authority or the power of attorney.

agent shall comply with the request or provide a writing or other record substantiating why additional time is needed and shall comply with the request within an additional thirty (30) days.

Section 115. Exoneration of agent.

A provision in a power of attorney relieving an agent of liability for breach of duty is binding on the principal and the principal's successors in interest except to the extent the provision:

- (1) Relieves the agent of liability for breach of duty committed dishonestly, with an improper motive, or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the power of attorney or the best interest of the principal; or
- (2) Was inserted as a result of an abuse of a confidential or fiduciary relationship with the principal.

Section 116. Judicial relief.

(a) The following persons may petition a court to construe a power of attorney or review the agent's conduct, and grant appropriate relief:

- (1) The principal or the agent;
- (2) A guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary acting for the principal;
- (3) A person authorized to make health-care decisions for the principal;
- (4) The principal's spouse, parent, or descendant;
- (5) An individual who would qualify as a presumptive heir of the principal;
- (6) A person named as a beneficiary to receive any property, benefit, or contractual right on the principal's death or as a beneficiary of a trust created by or for the principal that has a financial interest in the principal's estate;
- (7) A governmental agency having regulatory authority to protect the welfare of the principal;
- (8) The principal's caregiver or another person that demonstrates sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; and
- (9) A person asked to accept the power of attorney.

(b) Upon motion by the principal, the court shall dismiss a petition filed under this section, unless the court finds that the principal lacks capacity to revoke the agent's authority or the power of attorney.

SECTION 26-1A-117. AGENT'S LIABILITY TO THE PRINCIPAL.

An agent that violates this chapter is liable to the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the amount required to:

- (1) restore the value of the principal's property to what it would have been had the violation not occurred; and
- (2) reimburse the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the attorney's fees and costs paid on the agent's behalf.

SECTION 26-1A-118. AGENT'S RESIGNATION; NOTICE.

Unless the power of attorney provides a different method for an agent's resignation, an agent may resign by giving notice to the principal and, if the principal is incapacitated:

- (1) to the conservator, or guardian if there is no conservator, if either has been appointed for the principal and a co-agent or successor agent; or
- (2) if there is no person described in paragraph (1):
 - (A) the principal's caregiver;
 - (B) another person reasonably believed by the agent to have sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; or
 - (C) a governmental agency having authority to protect the welfare of the principal.

SECTION 26-1A-119. ACCEPTANCE OF AND RELIANCE UPON ACKNOWLEDGED POWER OF ATTORNEY.

- (a) For purposes of this section and Section 26-1A-120, "acknowledged" means purportedly verified before a notary public or other individual authorized to take acknowledgments and "reasonable time" shall not be deemed to be less than seven business days. (b) A person that effects a transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney without actual knowledge that the signature is not genuine may rely upon the presumption under Section 26-1A-105 that the signature is genuine.
- (c) A person that effects a transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney without actual knowledge that the power of attorney is void, invalid, or terminated, that the purported agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority is fully exonerated from any liability for effecting the transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney as if the power of attorney were genuine, valid, and still in effect, the agent's authority were genuine, valid, and still in

Section 117. Agent's liability.

An agent that violates this act is liable to the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the amount required to:

- (1) Restore the value of the principal's property to what it would have been had the violation not occurred; and
- (2) Reimburse the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the attorney's fees and costs paid on the agent's behalf.

Section 118. Agent's resignation; notice.

Unless the power of attorney provides a different method for an agent's resignation, an agent may resign by giving notice to the principal and, if the principal is incapacitated:

- (1) To the conservator or guardian, if one has been appointed for the principal, and a coagent or successor agent; or
- (2) If there is no person described in paragraph (1), to:
 - (A) The principal's caregiver;
 - (B) Another person reasonably believed by the agent to have sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; or
 - (C) A governmental agency having authority to protect the welfare of the principal.

Section 119. Acceptance of and reliance upon acknowledged power of attorney.

- (a) For purposes of this section and Section 120, "acknowledged" means purportedly verified before a notary public or other individual authorized to take acknowledgements.
- (b) A person that in good faith accepts an acknowledged power of attorney without actual knowledge that the signature is not genuine may rely upon the presumption under Section 105 that the signature is genuine.
- (c) A person that in good faith accepts an acknowledged power of attorney without actual knowledge that the power of attorney is void, invalid, or terminated, that the purported agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority may rely upon the power of attorney as if the power of attorney were genuine, valid and still in effect, the agent's authority were genuine, valid and still in effect, and the agent had not exceeded and had properly exercised the authority.

effect, and the agent had not exceeded and had properly exercised the authority.

(d) A person that is asked to effect a transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney may, but is not required to, request, and rely upon, without further investigation:

(1) an agent's certification under penalty of perjury of any factual matter concerning the principal, agent, or power of attorney;

(2) an acknowledged or properly authenticated English translation of the power of attorney if the power of attorney contains, in whole or in part, language other than English; and

(3) an opinion of counsel as to any matter of law concerning the power of attorney if the person making the request provides in a writing or other record the reason for the request.

(e) An English translation or an opinion of counsel requested under this section must be provided at the principal's expense if the request is made within a reasonable time after a person is requested to effect a transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney.

(f) For purposes of this section and Section 7 26-1A-120, a person that conducts activities through employees is without actual knowledge of a fact relating to a power of attorney, a principal, or an agent if the employee effecting the transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney is without actual knowledge of the fact.

SECTION 26-1A-120. LIABILITY FOR REFUSAL TO ACCEPT ACKNOWLEDGED POWER OF ATTORNEY.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b):

(1) a person shall either effect a requested transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney or request a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 26-1A-119(d) within a reasonable time after presentation of the power of attorney and a request to effect the transaction;

(2) if a person requests a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 26-1A-119(d), the person shall effect the transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney within a reasonable time after receipt of the certification, translation, or opinion of counsel; and

(3) a person may not require an additional or different form of power of attorney for authority granted in the power of attorney presented.

(b) A person is not required to effect a transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney:

(1) if the person would not be required to engage in the transaction with the principal if the principal was competent and acting on his or her own behalf;

(d) A person that is asked to accept an acknowledged power of attorney may request, and rely upon, without further investigation:

(1) An agent's certification under penalty of perjury of any factual matter concerning the principal, agent, or power of attorney;

(2) An English translation of the power of attorney if the power of attorney contains, in whole or in part, language other than English; and

(3) An opinion of counsel as to any matter of law concerning the power of attorney if the person making the request provides in a writing or other record the reason for the request.

(e) An English translation or an opinion of counsel requested under this section must be provided at the principal's expense unless the request is made more than seven (7) business days after the power of attorney is presented for acceptance.

(f) For purposes of this section and Section 120, a person that conducts activities through employees is without actual knowledge of a fact relating to a power of attorney, a principal, or an agent if the employee conducting the transaction involving the power of attorney is without actual knowledge of the fact.

Section 120. Liability for refusal to accept acknowledged power of attorney.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b):

(1) A person shall either accept an acknowledged power of attorney or request a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 119(d) no later than seven (7) business days after presentation of the power of attorney for acceptance;

(2) If a person requests a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 119(d), the person shall accept the power of attorney no later than five (5) business days after receipt of the certification, translation, or opinion of counsel; and

(3) A person may not require an additional or different form of power of attorney for authority granted in the power of attorney presented.

(b) A person is not required to accept an acknowledged power of attorney if:

(1) The person is not otherwise required to engage in a transaction with the principal in the same circumstances;

(2) Engaging in a transaction with the agent or the principal in the same circumstances would be inconsistent with federal law;

(2) if the person in good faith believes engaging in the transaction with the agent or the principal in the same circumstances would be inconsistent with law or any rule or regulation of any government or any governmental agency or instrumentality;

(3) if the person has actual knowledge of the fact that the power of attorney is void, invalid, or terminated, that the agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority;

(4) until after a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel requested under Section 26-1A-119(d) is provided to such person;

(5) if the person in good faith believes that the power of attorney is void, invalid, or terminated, that the agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority, whether or not a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 26-1A-119(d) has been requested or provided; or

(6) if the person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person has made, a report to the Department of Human Resources stating a belief that the principal may be subject to physical or financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment by the agent or a person acting for or with the agent.

(c) A person that refuses in violation of this section to effect a transaction in reliance upon an acknowledged power of attorney is subject to, as its sole liability with respect to such a refusal notwithstanding Section 26-1A-123:

(1) a court order mandating that the person effect such transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney; and

(2) liability for reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in any action or proceeding that confirms the validity of the power of attorney or mandates that the person effect such transaction in reliance upon the power of attorney.

SECTION 26-1A-121. PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND EQUITY.

Unless displaced by a provision of this chapter, the principles of law and equity supplement this chapter.

SECTION 26-1A-122. LAWS APPLICABLE TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND ENTITIES.

This chapter does not supersede any other law applicable to financial institutions or other entities, and the other law controls if inconsistent with this chapter.

(3) The person has actual knowledge of the termination of the agent's authority or of the power of attorney before exercise of the power;

(4) A request for a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 119(d) is refused;

(5) The person in good faith believes that the power is not valid or that the agent does not have the authority to perform the act requested, whether or not a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under Section 119(d) has been requested or provided; or

(6) The person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person has made, a report to the Department of Human Services stating a good faith belief that the principal may be subject to physical or financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment by the agent or a person acting for or with the agent.

(c) A person that refuses in violation of this section to accept an acknowledged power of attorney is subject to:

(1) A court order mandating acceptance of the power of attorney; and

(2) Liability for reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in any action or proceeding that confirms the validity of the power of attorney or mandates acceptance of the power of attorney.

Section 121. Principles of law and equity.

Unless displaced by a provision of this act, the principles of law and equity supplement this act.

Section 122. Laws applicable to financial institutions and entities.

This act does not supersede any other law applicable to financial institutions or other entities, and the other law controls if inconsistent with this act.

SECTION 26-1A-123. REMEDIES UNDER OTHER LAW.

The remedies under this chapter are not exclusive and do not abrogate any right or remedy under the law of this state other than this chapter.

SECTION 26-1A-201. AUTHORITY THAT REQUIRES SPECIFIC GRANT; GRANT OF GENERAL AUTHORITY.

(a) An agent under a power of attorney may do the following on behalf of the principal or with the principal's property only if the power of attorney expressly grants the agent the authority and exercise of the authority is not otherwise prohibited by another agreement or instrument to which the authority or property is subject:

- (1) create, amend, revoke, or terminate an inter vivos trust;
- (2) [reserved];
- (3) create or change rights of survivorship;
- (4) create or change a beneficiary designation;
- (5) delegate authority granted under the power of attorney;
- (6) waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a retirement plan; or
- (7) exercise fiduciary powers that the principal has authority to delegate.

(b) Notwithstanding a grant of authority to do an act described in subsection (a), unless the power of attorney otherwise expressly provides, an agent that is not an ancestor, spouse, or descendant of the principal, may not exercise authority under a power of attorney to create in the agent, or in an individual to whom the agent owes a legal obligation of support, an interest in the principal's property, whether by gift, right of survivorship, beneficiary designation, disclaimer, or otherwise.

(c) Subject to subsections (a), (b), (d), and (e), if a power of attorney grants to an agent authority to do all acts that a principal could do, the agent has the general authority described in Sections 26-1A-204 through 26-1A-217, irrespective of whether the power of attorney references any of the transactions described in those sections.

(d) Unless the power of attorney otherwise expressly provides, a grant of authority to make a gift is subject to Section 26-1A-217.

(e) Subject to subsections (a), (b), and (d), if the subjects over which authority is granted in a power of attorney are similar or overlap, the broadest authority controls.

(f) Authority granted in a power of attorney is exercisable with respect to property that the principal has when the power of attorney is executed or acquires later, whether or not the property is located in this state and whether or not the authority is exercised or the power of attorney is executed in this

Section 123. Remedies under other law.

The remedies under this act are not exclusive and do not abrogate any right or remedy under the law of this state other than this act.

Section 201. Authority that requires specific grant; grant of general authority.

(a) An agent under a power of attorney may do the following on behalf of the principal or with the principal's property only if the power of attorney expressly grants the agent the authority and exercise of the authority is not otherwise prohibited by another agreement or instrument to which the authority or property is subject:

- (1) Create, amend, revoke, or terminate an inter vivos trust;
- (2) Make a gift;
- (3) Create or change rights of survivorship;
- (4) Create or change a beneficiary designation;
- (5) Delegate authority granted under the power of attorney;
- (6) Waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a retirement plan;
- (7) Exercise fiduciary powers that the principal has authority to delegate; or
- (8) Disclaim property, including a power of appointment.

(b) Notwithstanding a grant of authority to do an act described in subsection (a), unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent that is not an ancestor, spouse, or descendant of the principal, may not exercise authority under a power of attorney to create in the agent, or in an individual to whom the agent owes a legal obligation of support, an interest in the principal's property, whether by gift, right of survivorship, beneficiary designation, disclaimer, or otherwise.

(c) Subject to subsections (a), (b), (d), and (e), if a power of attorney grants to an agent authority to do all acts that a principal could do, the agent has the general authority described in Sections 204 through 216.

(d) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a grant of authority to make a gift is subject to Section 217.

(e) Subject to subsections (a), (b), and (d), if the subjects over which authority is granted in a power of attorney are similar or overlap, the broadest authority controls.

(f) Authority granted in a power of attorney is exercisable with respect to property that the principal has when the power of attorney is executed or acquires later, whether or not the property is located in this state and whether or not the authority is exercised or the power of attorney is executed in this state.

(g) An act performed by an agent pursuant to a power of attorney has the same

state.

(g) An act performed by an agent pursuant to a power of attorney has the same effect and inures to the benefit of and binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest as if the principal had performed the act.

SECTION 26-1A-202. INCORPORATION OF AUTHORITY.

(a) An agent has authority described in this article if the power of attorney refers to general authority with respect to the descriptive term for the subjects stated in Sections 26-1A-204 through 26-1A-217 or cites the section in which the authority is described.

(b) A reference in a power of attorney to general authority with respect to the descriptive term for a subject in Sections 26-1A-204 through 26-1A-217 or a citation to a section of Sections 26-1A-204 through 26-1A-217 incorporates the entire section as if it were set out in full in the power of attorney.

(c) A principal may modify authority incorporated by reference.

SECTION 26-1A-203. CONSTRUCTION OF AUTHORITY GENERALLY.

Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, by executing a power of attorney that incorporates by reference a subject described in Sections 26-1A-204 through 26-1A-217 or that grants to an agent authority to do all acts that a principal could do pursuant to Section 26-1A-201(c), a principal authorizes the agent, with respect to that subject, to:

- (1) demand, receive, and obtain by litigation or otherwise, money or another thing of value to which the principal is, may become, or claims to be entitled, and conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything so received or obtained for the purposes intended;
- (2) contract in any manner with any person, on terms agreeable to the agent, to accomplish a purpose of a transaction and perform, rescind, cancel, terminate, reform, restate, release, or modify the contract or another contract made by or on behalf of the principal;
- (3) execute, acknowledge, seal, deliver, file, or record any instrument or communication the agent considers desirable to accomplish a purpose of a transaction, including creating at any time a schedule listing some or all of the principal's property and attaching it to the power of attorney;
- (4) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of or against the principal or intervene in litigation relating to the claim;
- (5) seek on the principal's behalf the assistance of a court or other governmental agency to carry out an act authorized in the power of attorney;

effect and inures to the benefit of and binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest as if the principal had performed the act.

Section 202. Incorporation of authority.

(a) An agent has authority described in this act if the power of attorney refers to general authority with respect to the descriptive term for the subjects stated in Sections 204 through 217 or cites the section in which the authority is described.

(b) A reference in a power of attorney to general authority with respect to the descriptive term for a subject in Sections 204 through 217 or a citation to a section of Sections 204 through 217 incorporates the entire section as if it were set out in full in the power of attorney.

(c) A principal may modify authority incorporated by reference.

Section 203. Construction of authority generally.

Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, by executing a power of attorney that incorporates by reference a subject described in Sections 204 through 217 or that grants to an agent authority to do all acts that a principal could do pursuant to Section 201(c), a principal authorizes the agent, with respect to that subject, to:

- (1) Demand, receive, and obtain by litigation or otherwise, money or another thing of value to which the principal is, may become, or claims to be entitled, and conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything so received or obtained for the purposes intended;
- (2) Contract in any manner with any person, on terms agreeable to the agent, to accomplish a purpose of a transaction and perform, rescind, cancel, terminate, reform, restate, release, or modify the contract or another contract made by or on behalf of the principal;
- (3) Execute, acknowledge, seal, deliver, file, or record any instrument or communication the agent considers desirable to accomplish a purpose of a transaction, including creating at any time a schedule listing some or all of the principal's property and attaching it to the power of attorney;
- (4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of or against the principal or intervene in litigation relating to the claim;
- (5) Seek on the principal's behalf the assistance of a court or other governmental agency to carry out an act authorized in the power of attorney;

- (6) engage, compensate, and discharge an attorney, accountant, discretionary investment manager, expert witness, or other advisor;
- (7) prepare, execute, and file a record, report, or other document to safeguard or promote the principal's interest under a statute or regulation;
- (8) communicate with any representative or employee of a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, on behalf of the principal;
- (9) access communications intended for, and communicate on behalf of the principal, whether by mail, electronic transmission, telephone, or other means; and
- (10) do any lawful act with respect to the subject and all property related to the subject.

SECTION 26-1A-204. REAL PROPERTY.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to real property authorizes the agent to:

- (1) demand, buy, lease, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an extension of credit, or otherwise acquire or reject an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;
- (2) sell; exchange; convey with or without covenants, representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; retain title for security; encumber; partition; consent to partitioning; subject to an easement or covenant; subdivide; apply for zoning or other governmental permits; plat or consent to platting; develop; grant an option concerning; lease; sublease; contribute to an entity in exchange for an interest in that entity; or otherwise grant or dispose of an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;
- (3) pledge or mortgage an interest in real property or right incident to real property as security to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (4) release, assign, satisfy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise a mortgage, deed of trust, conditional sale contract, encumbrance, lien, or other claim to real property which exists or is asserted;
- (5) manage or conserve an interest in real property or a right incident to real property owned or claimed to be owned by the principal, including:
 - (A) insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
 - (B) obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the interest or right by litigation or otherwise;
 - (C) paying, assessing, compromising, or contesting taxes or assessments or applying for and receiving refunds in connection with them; and

- (6) Engage, compensate, and discharge an attorney, accountant, discretionary investment manager, expert witness, or other advisor;
- (7) Prepare, execute, and file a record, report, or other document to safeguard or promote the principal's interest under a statute or regulation;
- (8) Communicate with any representative or employee of a government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, on behalf of the principal;
- (9) Access communications intended for, and communicate on behalf of the principal, whether by mail, electronic transmission, telephone, or other means; and
- (10) Do any lawful act with respect to the subject and all property related to the subject.

Section 204. Real property.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to real property authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Demand, buy, lease, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an extension of credit, or otherwise acquire or reject an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;
- (2) Sell; exchange; convey with or without covenants, representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; retain title for security; encumber; partition; consent to partitioning; subject to an easement or covenant; subdivide; apply for zoning or other governmental permits; plat or consent to platting; develop; grant an option concerning; lease; sublease; contribute to an entity in exchange for an interest in that entity; or otherwise grant or dispose of an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;
- (3) Pledge or mortgage an interest in real property or right incident to real property as security to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (4) Release, assign, satisfy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise a mortgage, deed of trust, conditional sale contract, encumbrance, lien, or other claim to real property which exists or is asserted;
- (5) Manage or conserve an interest in real property or a right incident to real property owned or claimed to be owned by the principal, including:
 - (A) Insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
 - (B) Obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the interest or right by litigation or otherwise;
 - (C) Paying, assessing, compromising, or contesting taxes or assessments or

- (D) purchasing supplies, hiring assistance or labor, and making repairs or alterations to the real property;
- (6) use, develop, alter, replace, remove, erect, or install structures or other improvements upon real property in or incident to which the principal has, or claims to have, an interest or right;
- (7) participate in a reorganization with respect to real property or an entity that owns an interest in or right incident to real property and receive, and hold, and act with respect to stocks and bonds or other property received in a plan of reorganization, including:
 - (A) selling or otherwise disposing of them;
 - (B) exercising or selling an option, right of conversion, or similar right with respect to them; and
 - (C) exercising any voting rights in person or by proxy;
- (8) change the form of title of an interest in or right incident to real property; and
- (9) dedicate to public use, with or without consideration, easements or other real property in which the principal has, or claims to have, an interest.

SECTION 26-1A-205. TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to tangible personal property authorizes the agent to:

- (1) demand, buy, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an extension of credit, or otherwise acquire or reject ownership or possession of tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (2) sell; exchange; convey with or without covenants, representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; create a security interest in; grant options concerning; lease; sublease; or, otherwise dispose of tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (3) grant a security interest in tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property as security to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (4) release, assign, satisfy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise, a security interest, lien, or other claim on behalf of the principal, with respect to tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (5) manage or conserve tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property on behalf of the principal, including:

- applying for and receiving refunds in connection with them; and
- (D) Purchasing supplies, hiring assistance or labor, and making repairs or alterations to the real property;
- (6) Use, develop, alter, replace, remove, erect, or install structures or other improvements upon real property in or incident to which the principal has, or claims to have, an interest or right;
- (7) Participate in a reorganization with respect to real property or an entity that owns an interest in or right incident to real property and receive, and hold, and act with respect to stocks and bonds or other property received in a plan of reorganization, including:
 - (A) Selling or otherwise disposing of them;
 - (B) Exercising or selling an option, right of conversion, or similar right with respect to them; and
 - (C) Exercising any voting rights in person or by proxy;
- (8) Change the form of title of an interest in or right incident to real property; and
- (9) Dedicate to public use, with or without consideration, easements or other real property in which the principal has, or claims to have, an interest.

Section 205. Tangible personal property.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to tangible personal property authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Demand, buy, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an extension of credit, or otherwise acquire or reject ownership or possession of tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (2) Sell; exchange; convey with or without covenants, representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; create a security interest in; grant options concerning; lease; sublease; or, otherwise dispose of tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (3) Grant a security interest in tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property as security to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (4) Release, assign, satisfy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise, a security interest, lien, or other claim on behalf of the principal, with respect to tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property;
- (5) Manage or conserve tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property on behalf of the principal, including:

- (A) insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
- (B) obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the property or interest, by litigation or otherwise;
- (C) paying, assessing, compromising, or contesting taxes or assessments or applying for and receiving refunds in connection with taxes or assessments;
- (D) moving the property from place to place;
- (E) storing the property for hire or on a gratuitous bailment; and
- (F) using and making repairs, alterations, or improvements to the property; and
- (6) change the form of title of an interest in tangible personal property.

SECTION 26-1A-206. STOCKS AND BONDS.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to stocks and bonds authorizes the agent to:

- (1) buy, sell, and exchange stocks and bonds;
- (2) establish, continue, modify, or terminate an account with respect to stocks and bonds;
- (3) pledge stocks and bonds as security to borrow, pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal;
- (4) receive certificates and other evidences of ownership with respect to stocks and bonds; and
- (5) exercise voting rights with respect to stocks and bonds in person or by proxy, enter into voting trusts, and consent to limitations on the right to vote.

SECTION 26-1A-207. COMMODITIES AND OPTIONS.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to commodities and options authorizes the agent to:

- (1) buy, sell, exchange, assign, settle, and exercise commodity futures contracts and call or put options on stocks or stock indexes traded on a regulated option exchange; and
- (2) establish, continue, modify, and terminate option accounts.

- (A) Insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
- (B) Obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the property or interest, by litigation or otherwise;
- (C) Paying, assessing, compromising, or contesting taxes or assessments or applying for and receiving refunds in connection with taxes or assessments;
- (D) Moving the property from place to place;
- (E) Storing the property for hire or on a gratuitous bailment; and
- (F) Using and making repairs, alterations, or improvements to the property; and
- (6) Change the form of title of an interest in tangible personal property.

Section 206. Stocks and bonds.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to stocks and bonds authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Buy, sell, and exchange stocks and bonds;
- (2) Establish, continue, modify, or terminate an account with respect to stocks and bonds;
- (3) Pledge stocks and bonds as security to borrow, pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal;
- (4) Receive certificates and other evidences of ownership with respect to stocks and bonds; and
- (5) Exercise voting rights with respect to stocks and bonds in person or by proxy, enter into voting trusts, and consent to limitations on the right to vote.

Section 207. Commodities and options.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to commodities and options authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Buy, sell, exchange, assign, settle, and exercise commodity futures contracts and call or put options on stocks or stock indexes traded on a regulated option exchange; and
- (2) Establish, continue, modify, and terminate option accounts.

SECTION 26-1A-208. BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to banks and other financial institutions authorizes the agent to:

- (1) continue, modify, and terminate an account or other banking arrangement made by or on behalf of the principal;
- (2) establish, modify, and terminate an account or other banking arrangement with a bank, trust company, savings and loan association, credit union, thrift company, brokerage firm, or other financial institution selected by the agent;
- (3) contract for services available from a financial institution, including renting a safe deposit box or space in a vault;
- (4) withdraw, by check, order, electronic funds transfer, or otherwise, money or property of the principal deposited with or left in the custody of a financial institution;
- (5) receive statements of account, vouchers, notices, and similar documents from a financial institution and act with respect to them;
- (6) enter a safe deposit box or vault and withdraw or add to the contents;
- (7) borrow money and pledge as security personal property of the principal necessary to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (8) make, assign, draw, endorse, discount, guarantee, and negotiate promissory notes, checks, drafts, and other negotiable or nonnegotiable paper of the principal or payable to the principal or the principal's order, transfer money, receive the cash or other proceeds of those transactions, and accept a draft drawn by a person upon the principal and pay it when due;
- (9) receive for the principal and act upon a sight draft, warehouse receipt, or other document of title whether tangible or electronic, or other negotiable or nonnegotiable instrument;
- (10) apply for, receive, and use letters of credit, credit and debit cards, electronic transaction authorizations, and traveler's checks from a financial institution and give an indemnity or other agreement in connection with letters of credit; and
- (11) consent to an extension of the time of payment with respect to commercial paper or a financial transaction with a financial institution.

SECTION 26-1A-209. OPERATION OF ENTITY OR BUSINESS.

Subject to the terms of a document or an agreement governing an entity or an entity ownership interest, and unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to operation of an entity or business authorizes the agent to:

Section 208. Banks and other financial institutions.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to banks and other financial institutions authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Continue, modify, and terminate an account or other banking arrangement made by or on behalf of the principal;
- (2) Establish, modify, and terminate an account or other banking arrangement with a bank, trust company, savings and loan association, credit union, thrift company, brokerage firm, or other financial institution selected by the agent;
- (3) Contract for services available from a financial institution, including renting a safe deposit box or space in a vault;
- (4) Withdraw, by check, order, electronic funds transfer, or otherwise, money or property of the principal deposited with or left in the custody of a financial institution;
- (5) Receive statements of account, vouchers, notices, and similar documents from a financial institution and act with respect to them;
- (6) Enter a safe deposit box or vault and withdraw or add to the contents;
- (7) Borrow money and pledge as security personal property of the principal necessary to borrow money or pay, renew, or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;
- (8) Make, assign, draw, endorse, discount, guarantee, and negotiate promissory notes, checks, drafts, and other negotiable or nonnegotiable paper of the principal or payable to the principal or the principal's order, transfer money, receive the cash or other proceeds of those transactions, and accept a draft drawn by a person upon the principal and pay it when due;
- (9) Receive for the principal and act upon a sight draft, warehouse receipt, or other document of title whether tangible or electronic, or other negotiable or nonnegotiable instrument;
- (10) Apply for, receive, and use letters of credit, credit and debit cards, electronic transaction authorizations, and traveler's checks from a financial institution and give an indemnity or other agreement in connection with letters of credit; and
- (11) Consent to an extension of the time of payment with respect to commercial paper or a financial transaction with a financial institution.

Section 209. Operation of entity or business. Subject to the terms of a document or an agreement governing an entity or an entity ownership interest, and unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to operation of an entity or business authorizes the agent to:

(1) operate, buy, sell, enlarge, reduce, or terminate an ownership interest;

(2) perform a duty or discharge a liability and exercise in person or by proxy a right, power, privilege, or option that the principal has, may have, or claims to have;

(3) enforce the terms of an ownership agreement;

(4) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to which the principal is a party because of an ownership interest;

(5) exercise in person or by proxy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise, a right, power, privilege, or option the principal has or claims to have as the holder of stocks and bonds;

(6) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to which the principal is a party concerning stocks and bonds;

(7) with respect to an entity or business owned solely by the principal:

(A) continue, modify, renegotiate, extend, and terminate a contract made by or on behalf of the principal with respect to the entity or business before execution of the power of attorney;

(B) determine:

(i) the location of its operation;

(ii) the nature and extent of its business;

(iii) the methods of manufacturing, selling, merchandising, financing, accounting, and advertising employed in its operation;

(iv) the amount and types of insurance carried; and

(v) the mode of engaging, compensating, and dealing with its employees and accountants, attorneys, or other advisors;

(C) change the name or form of organization under which the entity or business is operated and enter into an ownership agreement with other persons to take over all or part of the operation of the entity or business; and

(D) demand and receive money due or claimed by the principal or on the principal's behalf in the operation of the entity or business and control and disburse the money in the operation of the entity or business;

(8) put additional capital into an entity or business in which the principal has an interest;

(9) join in a plan of reorganization, consolidation, conversion, domestication, or merger of the entity or business;

(10) sell or liquidate all or part of an entity or business;

(11) establish the value of an entity or business under a buy-out agreement to which the principal is a party;

(12) prepare, sign, file, and deliver reports, compilations of information, returns,

(1) Operate, buy, sell, enlarge, reduce, or terminate an ownership interest;

(2) Perform a duty or discharge a liability and exercise in person or by proxy a right, power, privilege, or option that the principal has, may have, or claims to have;

(3) Enforce the terms of an ownership agreement;

(4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to which the principal is a party because of an ownership interest;

(5) Exercise in person or by proxy, or enforce by litigation or otherwise, a right, power, privilege, or option the principal has or claims to have as the holder of stocks and bonds;

(6) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to which the principal is a party concerning stocks and bonds;

(7) With respect to an entity or business owned solely by the principal:

(A) Continue, modify, renegotiate, extend, and terminate a contract made by or on behalf of the principal with respect to the entity or business before execution of the power of attorney;

(B) Determine:

(i) The location of its operation;

(ii) The nature and extent of its business;

(iii) The methods of manufacturing, selling, merchandising, financing, accounting, and advertising employed in its operation;

(iv) The amount and types of insurance carried; and

(v) The mode of engaging, compensating, and dealing with its employees and accountants, attorneys, or other advisors;

(C) Change the name or form of organization under which the entity or business is operated and enter into an ownership agreement with other persons to take over all or part of the operation of the entity or business; and

(D) Demand and receive money due or claimed by the principal or on the principal's behalf in the operation of the entity or business and control and disburse the money in the operation of the entity or business;

(8) Put additional capital into an entity or business in which the principal has an interest;

(9) Join in a plan of reorganization, consolidation, conversion, domestication, or merger of the entity or business;

(10) Sell or liquidate all or part of an entity or business;

(11) Establish the value of an entity or business under a buy-out agreement to which the principal is a party;

(12) Prepare, sign, file, and deliver reports, compilations of information, returns,

or other papers with respect to an entity or business and make related payments; and
(13) pay, compromise, or contest taxes, assessments, fines, or penalties and perform any other act to protect the principal from illegal or unnecessary taxation, assessments, fines, or penalties, with respect to an entity or business, including attempts to recover, in any manner permitted by law, money paid before or after the execution of the power of attorney.

SECTION 26-1A-210. INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to insurance and annuities authorizes the agent to:

- (1) continue, pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, rescind, release, or terminate a contract procured by or on behalf of the principal which insures or provides an annuity to either the principal or another person, whether or not the principal is a beneficiary under the contract;
- (2) procure new, different, and additional contracts of insurance and annuities for the principal and the principal's spouse, children, and other dependents, and select the amount, type of insurance or annuity, and mode of payment;
- (3) pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, rescind, release, or terminate a contract of insurance or annuity procured by the agent;
- (4) apply for and receive a loan secured by a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (5) surrender and receive the cash surrender value on a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (6) exercise an election;
- (7) exercise investment powers available under a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (8) change the manner of paying premiums on a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (9) change or convert the type of insurance or annuity with respect to which the principal has or claims to have authority described in this section;
- (10) apply for and procure a benefit or assistance under a statute or regulation to guarantee or pay premiums of a contract of insurance on the life of the principal;
- (11) collect, sell, assign, hypothecate, borrow against, or pledge the interest of the principal in a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (12) select the form and timing of the payment of proceeds from a contract of insurance or annuity; and
- (13) pay, from proceeds or otherwise, compromise or contest, and apply for

returns, or other papers with respect to an entity or business and make related payments; and
(13) Pay, compromise, or contest taxes, assessments, fines, or penalties and perform any other act to protect the principal from illegal or unnecessary taxation, assessments, fines, or penalties, with respect to an entity or business, including attempts to recover, in any manner permitted by law, money paid before or after the execution of the power of attorney.

Section 210. Insurance and annuities.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to insurance and annuities authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Continue, pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, rescind, release, or terminate a contract procured by or on behalf of the principal which insures or provides an annuity to either the principal or another person, whether or not the principal is a beneficiary under the contract;
- (2) Procure new, different, and additional contracts of insurance and annuities for the principal and the principal's spouse, children, and other dependents, and select the amount, type of insurance or annuity, and mode of payment;
- (3) Pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, rescind, release, or terminate a contract of insurance or annuity procured by the agent;
- (4) Apply for and receive a loan secured by a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (5) Surrender and receive the cash surrender value on a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (6) Exercise an election;
- (7) Exercise investment powers available under a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (8) Change the manner of paying premiums on a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (9) Change or convert the type of insurance or annuity with respect to which the principal has or claims to have authority described in this section;
- (10) Apply for and procure a benefit or assistance under a statute or regulation to guarantee or pay premiums of a contract of insurance on the life of the principal;
- (11) Collect, sell, assign, hypothecate, borrow against, or pledge the interest of the principal in a contract of insurance or annuity;
- (12) Select the form and timing of the payment of proceeds from a contract of insurance or annuity; and
- (13) Pay, from proceeds or otherwise, compromise or contest, and apply for

refunds in connection with, a tax or assessment levied by a taxing authority with respect to a contract of insurance or annuity or its proceeds or liability accruing by reason of the tax or assessment.

SECTION 26-1A-211. ESTATES, TRUSTS, AND OTHER BENEFICIAL INTERESTS.

(a) In this section, "estates, trusts, and other beneficial interests" means a trust, probate estate, guardianship, conservatorship, escrow, or custodianship or a fund from which the principal is, may become, or claims to be, entitled to a share or payment.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to estates, trusts, and other beneficial interests authorizes the agent to:

- (1) accept, receive, receipt for, sell, assign, pledge, or exchange a share in or payment from the fund;
- (2) demand or obtain money or another thing of value to which the principal is, may become, or claims to be, entitled by reason of the fund, by litigation or otherwise;
- (3) exercise for the benefit of the principal a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal;
- (4) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to ascertain the meaning, validity, or effect of a deed, will, declaration of trust, or other instrument or transaction affecting the interest of the principal;
- (5) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to remove, substitute, or surcharge a fiduciary;
- (6) conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything received for an authorized purpose;
- (7) transfer an interest of the principal in real property, stocks and bonds, accounts with financial institutions or securities intermediaries, insurance, annuities, and other property to the trustee of a revocable trust created by the principal as settlor; and
- (8) reject, renounce, disclaim, release, or consent to a reduction in or modification of a share in or payment from the fund.

SECTION 26-1A-212. CLAIMS AND LITIGATION.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to claims and litigation authorizes the agent to:

refunds in connection with, a tax or assessment levied by a taxing authority with respect to a contract of insurance or annuity or its proceeds or liability accruing by reason of the tax or assessment.

Section 211. Estates, trusts, and other beneficial interests.

(a) In this section, "estate, trust, or other beneficial interest" means a trust, probate estate, guardianship, conservatorship, escrow, or custodianship or a fund from which the principal is, may become, or claims to be, entitled to a share or payment.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to estates, trusts, and other beneficial interests authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Accept, receive, receipt for, sell, assign, pledge, or exchange a share in or payment from an estate, trust, or other beneficial interest;
- (2) Demand or obtain money or another thing of value to which the principal is, may become, or claims to be, entitled by reason of an estate, trust, or other beneficial interest, by litigation or otherwise;
- (3) Exercise for the benefit of the principal a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal;
- (4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to ascertain the meaning, validity, or effect of a deed, will, declaration of trust, or other instrument or transaction affecting the interest of the principal;
- (5) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to remove, substitute, or surcharge a fiduciary;
- (6) Conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything received for an authorized purpose;
- (7) Transfer an interest of the principal in real property, stocks and bonds, accounts with financial institutions or securities intermediaries, insurance, annuities, and other property to the trustee of a revocable trust created by the principal as settlor; and
- (8) Reject, renounce, disclaim, release, or consent to a reduction in or modification of a share in or payment from an estate, trust, or other beneficial interest.

Section 212. Claims and litigation.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to claims and litigation authorizes the agent to:

- (1) assert and maintain before a court or administrative agency a claim, claim for relief, cause of action, counterclaim, offset, recoupment, or defense, including an action to recover property or other thing of value, recover damages sustained by the principal, eliminate or modify tax liability, or seek an injunction, specific performance, or other relief;
- (2) bring an action to determine adverse claims or intervene or otherwise participate in litigation;
- (3) seek an attachment, garnishment, order of arrest, or other preliminary, provisional, or intermediate relief and use an available procedure to effect or satisfy a judgment, order, or decree;
- (4) make or accept a tender, offer of judgment, or admission of facts, submit a controversy on an agreed statement of facts, consent to examination, and bind the principal in litigation;
- (5) submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, and propose or accept a compromise;
- (6) waive the issuance and service of process upon the principal, accept service of process, appear for the principal, designate persons upon which process directed to the principal may be served, execute and file or deliver stipulations on the principal's behalf, verify pleadings, seek appellate review, procure and give surety and indemnity bonds, contract and pay for the preparation and printing of records and briefs, receive, execute, and file or deliver a consent, waiver, release, confession of judgment, satisfaction of judgment, notice, agreement, or other instrument in connection with the prosecution, settlement, or defense of a claim or litigation;
- (7) act for the principal with respect to bankruptcy or insolvency, whether voluntary or involuntary, concerning the principal or some other person, or with respect to a reorganization, receivership, or application for the appointment of a receiver or trustee which affects an interest of the principal in property or other thing of value;
- (8) pay a judgment, award, or order against the principal or a settlement made in connection with a claim or litigation; and
- (9) receive money or other thing of value paid in settlement of or as proceeds of a claim or litigation.

SECTION 26-1A-213. PERSONAL AND FAMILY MAINTENANCE.

(a) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to personal and family maintenance authorizes the agent to:

- (1) perform the acts necessary to maintain the customary standard of living of

- (1) Assert and maintain before a court or administrative agency a claim, claim for relief, cause of action, counterclaim, offset, recoupment, or defense, including an action to recover property or other thing of value, recover damages sustained by the principal, eliminate or modify tax liability, or seek an injunction, specific performance, or other relief;
- (2) Bring an action to determine adverse claims or intervene or otherwise participate in litigation;
- (3) Seek an attachment, garnishment, order of arrest, or other preliminary, provisional, or intermediate relief and use an available procedure to effect or satisfy a judgment, order, or decree;
- (4) Make or accept a tender, offer of judgment, or admission of facts, submit a controversy on an agreed statement of facts, consent to examination, and bind the principal in litigation;
- (5) Submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, and propose or accept a compromise;
- (6) Waive the issuance and service of process upon the principal, accept service of process, appear for the principal, designate persons upon which process directed to the principal may be served, execute and file or deliver stipulations on the principal's behalf, verify pleadings, seek appellate review, procure and give surety and indemnity bonds, contract and pay for the preparation and printing of records and briefs, receive, execute, and file or deliver a consent, waiver, release, confession of judgment, satisfaction of judgment, notice, agreement, or other instrument in connection with the prosecution, settlement, or defense of a claim or litigation;
- (7) Act for the principal with respect to bankruptcy or insolvency, whether voluntary or involuntary, concerning the principal or some other person, or with respect to a reorganization, receivership, or application for the appointment of a receiver or trustee which affects an interest of the principal in property or other thing of value;
- (8) Pay a judgment, award, or order against the principal or a settlement made in connection with a claim or litigation; and
- (9) Receive money or other thing of value paid in settlement of or as proceeds of a claim or litigation.

Section 213. Personal and family maintenance.

(a) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to personal and family maintenance authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Perform the acts necessary to maintain the customary standard of living of

the principal, the principal's spouse, and the following individuals, whether living when the power of attorney is executed or later born:

- (A) the principal's children;
- (B) other individuals legally entitled to be supported by the principal; and
- (C) the individuals whom the principal has customarily supported or indicated the intent to support;

(2) make periodic payments of child support and other family maintenance required by a court or governmental agency or an agreement to which the principal is a party;

(3) provide living quarters for the individuals described in paragraph (1) by:

- (A) purchase, lease, or other contract; or
- (B) paying the operating costs, including interest, amortization payments, repairs, improvements, and taxes, for premises owned by the principal or occupied by those individuals;

(4) provide normal domestic help, usual vacations and travel expenses, and funds for shelter, clothing, food, appropriate education, including postsecondary and vocational education, and other current living costs for the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(5) pay expenses for necessary health care and custodial care on behalf of the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(6) act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 through 1179 of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1320d, as amended, and applicable regulations, in making decisions related to the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care consented to by the principal or anyone authorized under the law of this state to consent to health care on behalf of the principal;

(7) continue any provision made by the principal for automobiles or other means of transportation, including registering, licensing, insuring, and replacing them, for the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(8) maintain credit and debit accounts for the convenience of the individuals described in paragraph (1) and open new accounts; and

(9) continue payments incidental to the membership or affiliation of the principal in a religious institution, club, society, order, or other organization or to continue contributions to those organizations.

(b) Authority with respect to personal and family maintenance is neither dependent upon, nor limited by, authority that an agent may or may not have with respect to gifts under this chapter.

the principal, the principal's spouse, and the following individuals, whether living when the power of attorney is executed or later born:

- (A) The principal's children;
- (B) Other individuals legally entitled to be supported by the principal; and
- (C) The individuals whom the principal has customarily supported or indicated the intent to support;

(2) Make periodic payments of child support and other family maintenance required by a court or governmental agency or an agreement to which the principal is a party;

(3) Provide living quarters for the individuals described in paragraph (1) by:

- (A) Purchase, lease, or other contract; or
- (B) Paying the operating costs, including interest, amortization payments, repairs, improvements, and taxes, for premises owned by the principal or occupied by those individuals;

(4) Provide normal domestic help, usual vacations and travel expenses, and funds for shelter, clothing, food, appropriate education, including postsecondary and vocational education, and other current living costs for the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(5) Pay expenses for necessary health care and custodial care on behalf of the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(6) Act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 through 1179 of the Social Security Act, 42 USCS Section 1320d, and applicable regulations, in making decisions related to the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care consented to by the principal or anyone authorized under the law of this state to consent to health care on behalf of the principal;

(7) Continue any provision made by the principal for automobiles or other means of transportation, including registering, licensing, insuring, and replacing them, for the individuals described in paragraph (1);

(8) Maintain credit and debit accounts for the convenience of the individuals described in paragraph (1) and open new accounts; and

(9) Continue payments incidental to the membership or affiliation of the principal in a religious institution, club, society, order, or other organization or to continue contributions to those organizations.

(b) Authority with respect to personal and family maintenance is neither dependent upon, nor limited by, authority that an agent may or may not have with respect to gifts under this act.

SECTION 26-1A-214. BENEFITS FROM GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS OR CIVIL OR MILITARY SERVICE.

(a) In this section, "benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service" means any benefit, program, or assistance provided under a statute or regulation including, but not limited to, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service authorizes the agent to:

(1) execute vouchers in the name of the principal for allowances and reimbursements payable by the United States or a foreign government or by a state or subdivision of a state to the principal, including allowances and reimbursements for transportation of the individuals described in Section 26-1A-213(a)(1), and for shipment of their household effects;

(2) take possession and order the removal and shipment of property of the principal from a post, warehouse, depot, dock, or other place of storage or safekeeping, either governmental or private, and execute and deliver a release, voucher, receipt, bill of lading, shipping ticket, certificate, or other instrument for that purpose;

(3) enroll in, apply for, select, reject, change, amend, or discontinue, on the principal's behalf, a benefit or program;

(4) prepare, file, and maintain a claim of the principal for a benefit or assistance, financial or otherwise, to which the principal may be entitled under a statute or regulation;

(5) initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation concerning any benefit or assistance the principal may be entitled to receive under a statute or regulation; and

(6) receive the financial proceeds of a claim described in paragraph (4) and conserve, invest, disburse, or use for a lawful purpose anything so received.

SECTION 26-1A-215. RETIREMENT PLANS.

(a) In this section, "retirement plan" means a plan or account created by an employer, the principal, or another individual to provide retirement benefits or deferred compensation of which the principal is a participant, beneficiary, or owner, including a plan or account under the following sections of the Internal Revenue Code:

(1) an individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408, 26 U.S.C. Section 408, as amended;

(2) a Roth individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408A, 26 U.S.C. Section 408A, as amended;

Section 214. Benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service.

(a) In this section, "benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service" means any benefit, program or assistance provided under a statute or regulation including social security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service authorizes the agent to:

(1) Execute vouchers in the name of the principal for allowances and reimbursements payable by the United States or a foreign government or by a state or subdivision of a state to the principal, including allowances and reimbursements for transportation of the individuals described in Section 213(a)(1), and for shipment of their household effects;

(2) Take possession and order the removal and shipment of property of the principal from a post, warehouse, depot, dock, or other place of storage or safekeeping, either governmental or private, and execute and deliver a release, voucher, receipt, bill of lading, shipping ticket, certificate, or other instrument for that purpose;

(3) Enroll in, apply for, select, reject, change, amend, or discontinue, on the principal's behalf, a benefit or program;

(4) Prepare, file, and maintain a claim of the principal for a benefit or assistance, financial or otherwise, to which the principal may be entitled under a statute or regulation;

(5) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation concerning any benefit or assistance the principal may be entitled to receive under a statute or regulation; and

(6) Receive the financial proceeds of a claim described in paragraph (4) and conserve, invest, disburse, or use for a lawful purpose anything so received.

Section 215. Retirement plans.

(a) In this section, "retirement plan" means a plan or account created by an employer, the principal, or another individual to provide retirement benefits or deferred compensation of which the principal is a participant, beneficiary, or owner, including a plan or account under the following sections of the Internal Revenue Code:

(1) An individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408, 26 USCS Section 408;

(2) A Roth individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408A, 26 USCS Section 408A;

- (3) a deemed individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408(q), 26 U.S.C. Section 408(q), as amended;
 - (4) an annuity or mutual fund custodial account under Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b), 26 U.S.C. Section 403(b), as amended;
 - (5) a pension, profit-sharing, stock bonus, or other retirement plan qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), 26 U.S.C. Section 401(a), as amended;
 - (6) a plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 457(b), 26 U.S.C. Section 457(b), as amended; and
 - (7) a non-qualified deferred compensation plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 409A, 26 U.S.C. Section 409A, as amended.
- (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to retirement plans authorizes the agent to:
- (1) select the form and timing of payments under a retirement plan and withdraw benefits from a plan;
 - (2) make a rollover, including a direct trustee-to-trustee rollover, of benefits from one retirement plan to another;
 - (3) establish a retirement plan in the principal's name;
 - (4) make contributions to a retirement plan;
 - (5) exercise investment powers available under a retirement plan; and
 - (6) borrow from, sell assets to, or purchase assets from a retirement plan.

SECTION 26-1A-216. TAXES.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to taxes authorizes the agent to:

- (1) prepare, sign, and file federal, state, local, and foreign income, gift, payroll, property, Federal Insurance Contributions Act, and other tax returns, claims for refunds, requests for extension of time, petitions regarding tax matters, and any other tax-related documents, including receipts, offers, waivers, consents, including consents and agreements under Internal Revenue Code Section 2032A, 26 U.S.C. Section 2032A, as amended, closing agreements, and any power of attorney required by the Internal Revenue Service or other taxing authority with respect to a tax year upon which the statute of limitations has not run and the following 25 tax years;
- (2) pay taxes due, collect refunds, post bonds, receive confidential information, and contest deficiencies determined by the Internal Revenue Service or other taxing authority;
- (3) exercise any election available to the principal under federal, state, local, or

- (3) A deemed individual retirement account under Internal Revenue Code Section 408(q), 26 USCS Section 408(q);
 - (4) An annuity or mutual fund custodial account under Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b), 26 USCS Section 403(b);
 - (5) A pension, profit-sharing, stock bonus, or other retirement plan qualified under Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), 26 USCS Section 401(a);
 - (6) A plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 457(b), 26 USCS Section 457(b); and
 - (7) A nonqualified deferred compensation plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 409A, 26 USCS Section 409A.
- (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to retirement plans authorizes the agent to:
- (1) Select the form and timing of payments under a retirement plan and withdraw benefits from a plan;
 - (2) Make a rollover, including a direct trustee-to-trustee rollover, of benefits from one retirement plan to another;
 - (3) Establish a retirement plan in the principal's name;
 - (4) Make contributions to a retirement plan;
 - (5) Exercise investment powers available under a retirement plan; and
 - (6) Borrow from, sell assets to, or purchase assets from a retirement plan.

Section 216. Taxes.

Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to taxes authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Prepare, sign, and file federal, state, local, and foreign income, gift, payroll, property, Federal Insurance Contributions Act, and other tax returns, claims for refunds, requests for extension of time, petitions regarding tax matters, and any other tax-related documents, including receipts, offers, waivers, consents, including consents and agreements under Internal Revenue Code Section 2032A, 26 USCS Section 2032A, closing agreements, and any power of attorney required by the Internal Revenue Service or other taxing authority with respect to a tax year upon which the statute of limitations has not run and the following twenty-five (25) tax years;
- (2) Pay taxes due, collect refunds, post bonds, receive confidential information, and contest deficiencies determined by the Internal Revenue Service or other taxing authority;
- (3) Exercise any election available to the principal under federal, state, local, or

foreign tax law; and

(4) act for the principal in all tax matters for all periods before the Internal Revenue Service, or other taxing authority.

SECTION 26-1A-217. GIFTS.

(a) In this section, a gift "for the benefit of" a person includes a gift to a trust, an account under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, and a tuition savings account or prepaid tuition plan as defined under Internal Revenue Code Section 529, 26 U.S.C. Section 529, as amended.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise expressly provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to gifts authorizes the agent only to:

(1) make outright to, or for the benefit of, a person including the agent, a gift of any of the principal's property, including by the exercise of a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal, in an amount per donee not to exceed the annual dollar limits of the federal gift tax exclusion under Internal Revenue Code Section 2503(b), 26 U.S.C. Section 2503(b), as amended, without regard to whether the federal gift tax exclusion applies to the gift, or if the principal's spouse agrees to consent to a split gift pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 2513, 26 U.S.C. 2513, as amended, in an amount per donee not to exceed twice the annual federal gift tax exclusion limit; and (2) consent, pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 2513, 26 U.S.C. Section 2513, as amended, to the splitting of a gift made by the principal's spouse in an amount per donee not to exceed the aggregate annual gift tax exclusions for both spouses.

(c) An agent may make a gift of the principal's property only as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's objectives if actually known by the agent and, if unknown, as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:

- (1) the value and nature of the principal's property;
- (2) the principal's foreseeable obligations and need for maintenance;
- (3) minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance, generation skipping transfer, and gift taxes;
- (4) eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a statute or regulation; and
- (5) the principal's personal history of making or joining in making gifts.

foreign tax law; and

(4) Act for the principal in all tax matters for all periods before the Internal Revenue Service, or other taxing authority.

Section 217. Gifts.

(a) In this section, a gift "for the benefit of" a person includes a gift to a trust, an account under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, and a tuition savings account or prepaid tuition plan as defined under Internal Revenue Code Section 529, 26 USCS Section 529.

(b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to gifts authorizes the agent only to:

(1) Make outright to, or for the benefit of, a person, a gift of any of the principal's exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal, in an amount per donee not to exceed the annual dollar limits of the federal gift tax exclusion under Internal Revenue Code Section 2503(b), 26 USCS Section 2503(b), as amended, without regard to whether the federal gift tax exclusion applies to the gift, or if the principal's spouse agrees to consent to a split gift pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 2513, 26 USCS 2513, in an amount per donee not to exceed twice the annual federal gift tax exclusion limit; and (2) Consent, pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 2513, 26 USCS Section 2513, [as amended,] to the splitting of a gift made by the principal's spouse in an amount per donee not to exceed the aggregate annual gift tax exclusions for both spouses.

(c) An agent may make a gift of the principal's property only as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's objectives if actually known by the agent and, if unknown, as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:

- (1) The value and nature of the principal's property;
- (2) The principal's foreseeable obligations and need for maintenance;
- (3) Minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance, generation-skipping transfer, and gift taxes;
- (4) Eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a statute or regulation; and
- (5) The principal's personal history of making or joining in making gifts.

SECTION 26-1A-401. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION.

In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among the states that enact it.

SECTION 26-1A-402. RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT.

This chapter modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).

SECTION 26-1A-403. EFFECT ON EXISTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY.

This chapter applies to all powers of attorney executed on or after January 1, 2012.

SECTION 26-1A-404. HEALTH CARE POWERS OF ATTORNEY EXECUTED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2012.

(a) This section applies to a power of attorney for health care decisions executed on or after January 1, 2012.

(b) A durable power of attorney is a power of attorney by which a principal designates another his or her attorney in fact or agent in writing and the writing contains the words "This power of attorney shall not be affected by disability,

Section 401. Uniformity of application and construction.

In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among the states that enact it.

Section 402. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act.

This act modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 USCS Section 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15 USCS Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that act, 15 USCS Section 7003(b).

Section 403. Effect of existing powers of attorney.

Except as otherwise provided in this act, on July 1, 2013:

- (1) This act applies to a power of attorney created before, on, or after July 1, 2013;
- (2) This act applies to a judicial proceeding concerning a power of attorney commenced on or after July 1, 2013;
- (3) This act applies to a judicial proceeding concerning a power of attorney commenced before July 1, 2013, unless the court finds that application of a provision of this act would substantially interfere with the effective conduct of the judicial proceeding or prejudice the rights of a party, in which case that provision does not apply and the superseded law applies; and
- (4) An act done before July 1, 2013, is not affected by this act.

SECTION 2. Sections 87-3-101 through 87-3-113, which constitute the Uniform Durable Power of Attorney Act, are repealed.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2013.

incompetency, or incapacity of the principal" or "This power of attorney shall become effective upon the disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal" or similar words showing the intent of the principal that the authority conferred shall be exercisable notwithstanding the principal's subsequent disability, incompetency, or incapacity.

(c)(1) A principal may designate under a durable power of attorney an individual who shall be empowered to make health care decisions on behalf of the principal, in the manner set forth in the Natural Death Act, if in the opinion of the principal's attending physician the principal is no longer able to give directions to health care providers. Subject to the express limitation on the authority of the attorney in fact contained in the durable power of attorney, the attorney in fact may make any health care decision on behalf of the principal that the principal could make but for the lack of capacity of the principal to make a decision, but not including psychosurgery, sterilization, abortion when not necessary to preserve the life of the principal, or involuntary hospitalization or treatment covered by Subtitle 2 of Title 22. A durable power of attorney executed pursuant to this section may be revoked by written revocation signed and dated by the principal or person acting at the direction of the principal, or being obliterated, burnt, torn, or otherwise destroyed or defaced in a manner indicating intention to cancel or by a verbal expression of intent to revoke made in the presence of a witness 19 years of age or older who signs and dates a writing confirming an expression to revoke.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, an attorney in fact shall have the authority to make decisions regarding provision, withholding, or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment and artificially provided nutrition and hydration but only a. if specifically authorized to do so in the durable power of attorney, b. if the substantive provisions of the durable power of attorney are in substantial compliance and if the durable power of attorney is executed and accepted in substantially the same form as set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act, and c. in instances of terminal illness or injury or permanent unconsciousness, if the authority is implemented in the manner permitted under the Alabama Natural Death Act. All durable powers of attorney executed prior to January 1, 2012, shall be effective to the extent specifically provided therein notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection. The decisions made by the attorney in fact shall be implemented in accordance with the same procedures set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act for health care proxies.

(3) Any authority granted to the spouse under a durable power of attorney shall be revoked if the marriage of the principal is dissolved or annulled, or if the parties are legally separated or a party to divorce proceedings.

(4) Subject to any limitation in the durable power of attorney, an attorney in

fact may, for the purpose of making a health care decision, request, review, and receive any information, oral or written, regarding the principal's physical or mental health, including medical and hospital records, execute a release or other document required to obtain the information, and consent to the disclosure of the information.

(5) Under no circumstances shall the health care provider of the principal or a nonrelative employee of the health care provider of the principal make decisions under the durable power of attorney. For purposes of this subsection, a health care provider is defined as any person or entity who is licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to administer or provide health care in the ordinary course of business or in the practice of a profession.

(6) No health care provider or any employee or agent thereof who in good faith and pursuant to reasonable medical standards follows the direction of a duly authorized attorney in fact shall, as a result thereof, be subject to criminal or civil liability, or be found to have committed an act of unprofessional conduct for an action taken thereunder. Any health care cost or liability for the cost associated with any decision made pursuant to this section shall be the same as if the health care were provided as a result of the principal's decision relating to his or her own care.

(7) Any person who, without the consent of the principal, willfully conceals, cancels, or alters a durable power of attorney or any amendment or revocation of the agency or who falsifies or forges a durable power of attorney, amendment, or revocation for purposes of making health care decisions shall be civilly liable. In addition, those persons shall be subject to the criminal penalties set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act.

(8) Any individual acting as an attorney in fact under a duly executed durable power of attorney, which includes provisions which comply with subdivision (2) regarding health care decisions who authorizes the providing, withholding, or withdrawing of life-sustaining treatments or artificially provided nutrition or hydration in accordance with the durable power of attorney and pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability for that action.

(9) Nothing in this subsection regarding the appointment of an attorney in fact with respect to health care decisions shall impair or supersede any legal right or legal responsibility which any person may have, under case law, common law, or statutory law to effect the provision, withholding, or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration in any lawful manner. In such respect, the provisions of this subsection are cumulative.

(10) No physician or other health care provider, and no health care service plan,

health maintenance organization, insurer issuing disability or life or health insurance, self-insured employee welfare benefit plan, nonprofit medical service corporation, or mutual nonprofit hospital or hospital service corporation shall require any person to execute a durable power of attorney with respect to health care decisions as a condition for being insured for, or receiving, health care services.

(11) Nothing in this subsection regarding the appointment of an attorney in fact with respect to health care decisions shall impair or supersede the jurisdiction of the circuit court in the county where a patient is undergoing treatment to determine whether life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration shall be withheld or withdrawn in circumstances not governed by this subsection.

(12) This subsection shall create no presumption concerning the intention of an individual, who has not executed a durable power of attorney regarding health care decisions, or any other advance directive for health care, or if the durable power of attorney, or advance directive for health care is executed, the durable power of attorney or advance directive for health care is ambiguous or silent as to a particular health care matter, to consent to the use or withdrawing or withholding of life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration. The terms "person" and "advance directive for health care" shall have the meaning as under Sections 22-8A-1, et seq.

(13) A durable power of attorney executed in another state in compliance with the law of that state or of this state is valid for purposes of this subsection, but this subsection does not authorize the administration, withholding, or withdrawal of health care otherwise prohibited by the laws of this state.

(14) Any durable power of attorney regarding health care decisions made prior to January 1, 2012, shall be given effect provided that the durable power of attorney was legally effective when written and artificially provided nutrition and hydration shall not be withdrawn pursuant to the durable power of attorney unless specifically authorized herein.

Section 2. Section 26-1-2 of the Code of Alabama

11 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§26-1-2. "(a) A durable power of attorney is a power of attorney by which a principal designates another his or her attorney in fact or agent in writing and the writing contains the words "This power of attorney shall not be affected by disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal" or "This power of attorney shall become effective upon the disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal" or similar words showing the intent of the principal that the authority conferred shall be exercisable notwithstanding the principal's

subsequent disability, incompetency, or incapacity.

"(b) All acts done by an attorney in fact pursuant to a durable power of attorney during any period of disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal have the same effect and inure to the benefit of and bind the principal and his or her successors in interest as if the principal was competent, not disabled, and not incapacitated. "(c)(1) If, following execution of a durable power of attorney, a court of the domicile of the principal appoints a guardian, curator, or other fiduciary charged with the management of all the property of the principal or all of his or her property except specified exclusions, the attorney in fact is accountable to the fiduciary as well as to the principal. The fiduciary has the same power to revoke or amend the power of attorney that the principal would have had if he or she was not disabled, incompetent, or incapacitated.

"(2) A principal may nominate, by a durable power of attorney, the guardian, curator, or other fiduciary for consideration by the court if proceedings to appoint a fiduciary for the principal are thereafter commenced. The court shall make its appointment in accordance with the most recent nomination of the principal in a durable power of attorney except for good cause or disqualification.

"(d)(1) The death of a principal who has executed a written power of attorney, durable or otherwise, does not revoke or terminate the agency as to the attorney in fact or other person who, without actual knowledge of the death of the principal, acts in good faith under the power. Any action so taken, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the successors in interest of the principal. "(2) The disability, incompetency, or incapacity of a principal who has previously executed a written power of attorney that is not a durable power does not revoke or terminate the agency as to the attorney in fact or other person who, without actual knowledge of the disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal, acts in good faith under the power. Any action so taken, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and his or her successors in interest.

"(e) As to acts undertaken in good faith reliance thereon, an affidavit executed by the attorney in fact under a power of attorney, durable or otherwise, stating that he or she did not have, at the time of the exercise of the power, actual knowledge of the termination of the power by revocation or of the death, disability, incompetency, or incapacity of the principal is conclusive proof of the nonrevocation or nontermination of the power at that time. If the exercise of the power of attorney requires execution and delivery of any instrument that is recordable, the affidavit, when authenticated for record, is likewise recordable.

"(f) This section shall not affect any provision in a power of attorney for its termination by expiration of time or occurrence of an event other than express

revocation or a change in the principal's capacity.

"(g)(1) A principal may designate under a durable power of attorney an individual who shall be empowered to make health care decisions on behalf of the principal, in the manner set forth in the Natural Death Act, if in the opinion of the principal's attending physician the principal is no longer able to give directions to health care providers. Subject to the express limitation on the authority of the attorney in fact contained in the durable power of attorney, the attorney in fact may make any health care decision on behalf of the principal that the principal could make but for the lack of capacity of the principal to make a decision, but not including psychosurgery, sterilization, abortion when not necessary to preserve the life of the principal, or involuntary hospitalization or treatment covered by Subtitle 2 of Title 22. A durable power of attorney executed pursuant to this section may be revoked by written revocation signed and dated by the principal or person acting at the direction of the principal, or being obliterated, burnt, torn, or otherwise destroyed or defaced in a manner indicating intention to cancel or by a verbal expression of intent to revoke made in the presence of a witness 19 years of age or older who signs and dates a writing confirming an expression to revoke.

"(2) Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, an attorney in fact shall have the authority to make decisions regarding provision, withholding, or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment and artificially provided nutrition and hydration but only a. if specifically authorized to do so in the durable power of attorney, b. if the substantive provisions of the durable power of attorney are in substantial compliance and if the durable power of attorney is executed and accepted in substantially the same form as set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act, and c. in instances of terminal illness or injury or permanent unconsciousness, if the authority is implemented in the manner permitted under the Alabama Natural Death Act. All durable powers of attorney executed prior to May 8, 1997, shall be effective to the extent specifically provided therein notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection. The decisions made by the attorney in fact shall be implemented in accordance with the same procedures set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act for health care proxies.

"(3) Any authority granted to the spouse under a durable power of attorney shall be revoked if the marriage of the principal is dissolved or annulled, or if the parties are legally separated or a party to divorce proceedings.

"(4) Subject to any limitation in the durable power of attorney, an attorney in fact may, for the purpose of making a health care decision, request, review, and receive any information, oral or written, regarding the principal's physical or mental health, including medical and hospital records, execute a release or other document required to obtain the information, and consent to the

disclosure of the information.

"(5) Under no circumstances shall the health care provider of the principal or a nonrelative employee of the health care provider of the principal make decisions under the durable power of attorney. For purposes of this subsection, a health care provider is defined as any person or entity who is licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized by the laws of this state to administer or provide health care in the ordinary course of business or in the practice of a profession.

"(6) No health care provider or any employee or agent thereof who in good faith and pursuant to reasonable medical standards follows the direction of a duly authorized attorney in fact shall, as a result thereof, be subject to criminal or civil liability, or be found to have committed an act of unprofessional conduct for an action taken thereunder. Any health care cost or liability for the cost associated with any decision made pursuant to this section shall be the same as if the health care were provided as a result of the principal's decision relating to his or her own care.

"(7) Any person who, without the consent of the principal, willfully conceals, cancels, or alters a durable power of attorney or any amendment or revocation of the agency or who falsifies or forges a durable power of attorney, amendment, or revocation for purposes of making health care decisions shall be civilly liable. In addition, those persons shall be subject to the criminal penalties set forth in the Alabama Natural Death Act.

"(8) Any individual acting as an attorney in fact under a duly executed durable power of attorney, which includes provisions which comply with subdivision (2) regarding health care decisions who authorizes the providing, withholding, or withdrawing of life-sustaining treatments or artificially provided nutrition or hydration in accordance with the durable power of attorney and pursuant to this subsection shall not be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability for that action.

"(9) Nothing in this subsection regarding the appointment of an attorney in fact with respect to health care decisions shall impair or supersede any legal right or legal responsibility which any person may have, under case law, common law, or statutory law to effect the provision, withholding, or withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration in any lawful manner. In such respect, the provisions of this subsection are cumulative.

"(10) No physician or other health care provider, and no health care service plan, health maintenance organization, insurer issuing disability or life or health insurance, self-insured employee welfare benefit plan, nonprofit medical service corporation, or mutual nonprofit hospital or hospital service corporation shall require any person to execute a durable power of attorney with respect to

health care decisions as a condition for being insured for, or receiving, health care services.

"(11) Nothing in this subsection regarding the appointment of an attorney in fact with respect to health care decisions shall impair or supersede the jurisdiction of the circuit court in the county where a patient is undergoing treatment to determine whether life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration shall be withheld or withdrawn in circumstances not governed by this subsection.

"(12) This subsection shall create no presumption concerning the intention of an individual, who has not executed a durable power of attorney regarding health care decisions, or any other advance directive for health care, or if the durable power of attorney, or advance directive for health care is executed, the durable power of attorney or advance directive for health care is ambiguous or silent as to a particular health care matter, to consent to the use or withdrawing or withholding of life-sustaining treatment or artificially provided nutrition and hydration. The terms "person" and "advance directive for health care" shall have the meaning as under Sections 22-8A-1, et seq.

"(13) A durable power of attorney executed in another state in compliance with the law of that state or of this state is valid for purposes of this subsection, but this subsection does not authorize the administration, withholding, or withdrawal of health care otherwise prohibited by the laws of this state.

"(14) Any durable power of attorney regarding health care decisions made prior to May 8, 1997, shall be given effect provided that the durable power of attorney was legally effective when written and artificially provided nutrition and hydration shall not be withdrawn pursuant to the durable power of attorney unless specifically authorized herein.

"(h) This provision applies to all powers executed prior to January 1, 2012."

Section 3. This act takes effect January 1, 2012.