

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00688**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*Cynthia S. Creem*

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to establish the Massachusetts Uniform Trust Code.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Cynthia S. Creem*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Middlesex and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 00688**

By Ms. Creem, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 688) of Creem for legislation to establish the Massachusetts Uniform Trust Code [Joint Committee on the Judiciary].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to establish the Massachusetts Uniform Trust Code.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Parts 1 through 4 of Article VII of chapter 190B of the General Laws, as  
2 inserted by section 9 of chapter 521 of the Acts of 2008, are hereby repealed; Part 1 is changed to  
3 read, “Sections 7-101 to 7-105. [Reserved.]”; Part 2 is changed to read, “Sections 7-201 to 7-  
4 206. [Reserved.]”; Part 3 is changed to read, “Sections 7-301 to 7-311. [Reserved]”; Part 4 is  
5 changed to read, “Section 7-401. [Reserved.]”; and the Table of Contents is changed in the same  
6 manner.

7 SECTION 2. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after chapter 203D  
8 the following chapter—

9 CHAPTER 203E

10 MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM TRUST CODE

11 ARTICLE 1

12 GENERAL PROVISIONS AND DEFINITIONS

13           Section 101. [Short Title.] This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the  
14 Massachusetts Uniform Trust Code.

15           Section 102. [Scope.] This chapter applies to express trusts, charitable or non-  
16 charitable, of a donative nature and trusts created pursuant to a judgment or decree that requires  
17 the trust to be administered in the manner of said express trusts.

18 Section 103. [Definitions.] In this chapter:

19           (1) “Action,” with respect to an act of a trustee, includes a failure to act.

20           (2) “Ascertainable standard” means a standard relating to an individual’s health,  
21 education, support, or maintenance.

22           (3) “Beneficiary” means a person who has a present or future beneficial interest in a  
23 trust, vested or contingent.

24           (4) “Charitable trust” means a trust, or portion of a trust, created for a charitable  
25 purpose described in section 405(a).

26           (5) “Environmental law” means a federal, state, or local law, rule, regulation, or  
27 ordinance relating to protection of the environment.

28           (6) “Interests of the beneficiaries” means the beneficial interests provided in the terms  
29 of the trust.

30           (7) “Jurisdiction,” with respect to a geographic area, includes a state or country.

31 (8) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership,  
32 limited liability company, association, joint venture, government; governmental subdivision,  
33 agency, or instrumentality; public corporation, or any other legal or commercial entity.

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

36 (10) "Qualified beneficiary" means a beneficiary who, on the date the beneficiary's  
37 qualification is determined:

38 (A) is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal; or

39 (B) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or  
40 principal if the trust terminated on that date.

41 (11) "Revocable," as applied to a trust, means revocable by the settlor without the  
42 consent of the trustee or a person holding an adverse interest.

43 (12) "Settlor" means a person, including a testator, who creates, or contributes  
44 property to, a trust. If more than one person creates or contributes property to a trust, each  
45 person is a settlor of the portion of the trust property attributable to that person's contribution  
46 except to the extent another person has the power to revoke or withdraw that portion.

47 (13) "Spendthrift provision" means a term of a trust which restrains transfer of a  
48 beneficiary's interest.

49 (14) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,  
50 the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction

51 of the United States. The term includes an Indian tribe or band recognized by federal law or  
52 formally acknowledged by a state.

53 (15) “Terms of a trust” means the manifestation of the settlor’s intent regarding a  
54 trust’s provisions as expressed in the trust instrument or as may be established by other evidence  
55 that would be admissible in a judicial proceeding.

56 (16) “Trust instrument” means an instrument that contains terms of the trust, including  
57 any amendments thereto.

58 (17) “Trustee” includes an original, additional, and successor trustee, and a co-trustee.

59 Section 104. [Knowledge.]

60 (a) Subject to subsection (b), a person has knowledge of a fact if the person:

61 (1) has actual knowledge of it;

62 (2) has received a notice or notification of it; or

63 (3) from all the facts and circumstances known to the person at the time in question,  
64 has reason to know it.

65 (b) An organization that conducts activities through employees has notice or  
66 knowledge of a fact involving a trust only from the time the information was received by an  
67 employee having responsibility to act for the trust, or would have been brought to the employee’s  
68 attention if the organization had exercised reasonable diligence. An organization exercises  
69 reasonable diligence if it maintains reasonable routines for communicating significant  
70 information to the employee having responsibility to act for the trust and there is reasonable

71 compliance with the routines. Reasonable diligence does not require an employee of the  
72 organization to communicate information unless the communication is part of the individual's  
73 regular duties or the individual knows a matter involving the trust would be materially affected  
74 by the information.

75           Section 105. [Default And Mandatory Rules.]

76           (a) Except as otherwise provided in the terms of the trust, this chapter governs the  
77 duties and powers of a trustee, relations among trustees, and the rights and interests of a  
78 beneficiary.

79           (b) The terms of a trust prevail over any provision of this chapter except:

80                       (1) the requirements for creating a trust;

81                       (2) the duty of a trustee to act in good faith and in accordance with the terms  
82 and purposes of the trust and the interests of the beneficiaries;

83                       (3) the requirement that a trust have a purpose that is lawful and not contrary  
84 to public policy;

85                       (4) the power of the court to modify or terminate a trust under sections 410  
86 through 416;

87                       (5) the effect of a spendthrift provision and the rights of certain creditors and  
88 assignees to reach a trust as provided in article 5;

89                       (6) the power of the court under section 702 to require, dispense with, or  
90 modify or terminate a bond;

- 91 (7) the power of the court under section 708(b) to adjust a trustee's  
92 compensation specified in the terms of the trust which is unreasonably low or high;
- 93 (8) the effect of an exculpatory term under section 1008;
- 94 (9) the rights under sections 1010 through 1013 of a person other than a  
95 trustee or beneficiary; and
- 96 (10) the power of the court to take such action and exercise such jurisdiction  
97 as may be necessary in the interests of justice.

98 Section 106. [Common Law of Trusts; Principles of Equity.] The common law of  
99 trusts and principles of equity supplement this chapter, except to the extent modified by this  
100 chapter or another statute of the commonwealth.

101 Section 107. [Reserved.]

102 Section 108. [Principal Place of Administration.]

103 (a) Without precluding other means for establishing a sufficient connection with the  
104 designated jurisdiction, terms of a trust designating the principal place of administration are valid  
105 and controlling if:

106 (1) a trustee's principal place of business is located in or a trustee is a  
107 resident of the designated jurisdiction; or

108 (2) all or part of the administration occurs in the designated jurisdiction.

109 (b) Without precluding the right of the court to order, approve, or disapprove a  
110 transfer, the trustee, may, but has no affirmative duty to, transfer the trust's principal place of  
111 administration to another state or to a jurisdiction outside of the United States.

112 (c) The trustee shall notify the qualified beneficiaries of a proposed transfer of a  
113 trust's principal place of administration not less than 60 days before initiating the transfer. The  
114 notice of proposed transfer must include:

115 (1) the name of the jurisdiction to which the principal place of  
116 administration is to be transferred;

117 (2) the address and telephone number at the new location at which the  
118 trustee can be contacted;

119 (3) an explanation of the reasons for the proposed transfer;

120 (4) the date on which the proposed transfer is anticipated to occur; and

121 (5) the date, not less than 60 days after the giving of the notice, by which the  
122 qualified beneficiary must notify the trustee of an objection to the proposed transfer.

123 (d) The authority of a trustee under this section to transfer a trust's principal place of  
124 administration terminates if a qualified beneficiary notifies the trustee of an objection to the  
125 proposed transfer on or before the date specified in the notice.

126 Section 109. [Methods and Waiver of Notice.]

127 (a) Notice to a person under this chapter or the sending of a document to a person  
128 under this chapter must be accomplished in a manner reasonably suitable under the



129 circumstances and likely to result in receipt of the notice or document. Permissible methods of  
130 notice or for sending a document include first-class mail, personal delivery, or delivery to the  
131 person's last known place of residence or place of business.

132 (b) Notice required under this chapter or a document required to be sent under this  
133 chapter need not be provided to a person whose identity or location is unknown to and not  
134 reasonably ascertainable by the trustee.

135 (c) Notice under this chapter or the sending of a document under this chapter may be  
136 waived by the person to be notified or sent the document.

137 (d) Notice of a judicial proceeding must be given as provided in the applicable rules of  
138 civil procedure.

139 Section 110. [Others Treated as Qualified Beneficiaries.]

140 (a) Whenever notice to qualified beneficiaries of a trust is required under this chapter,  
141 the trustee must also give notice to any other beneficiary who has sent the trustee a request for  
142 notice.

143 (b) A charitable organization expressly designated to receive distributions under the  
144 terms of a charitable trust has the rights of a qualified beneficiary under this chapter if the  
145 charitable organization, on the date the charitable organization's qualification is being  
146 determined:

147 (1) is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal; or

148 (2) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or  
149 principal if the trust terminated on that date.

150 (c) A person appointed to enforce a trust created for the care of an animal or another  
151 non-charitable purpose as provided in section 408 or 409 has the rights of a qualified beneficiary  
152 under this chapter.

153 Section 111. [Non-judicial Settlement Agreements.]

154 (a) For purposes of this section, “interested persons” means persons whose consent  
155 would be required in order to achieve a binding settlement were the settlement to be approved by  
156 the court.

157 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c), interested persons may enter into a  
158 binding non-judicial settlement agreement with respect to any matter involving a trust.

159 (c) A non-judicial settlement agreement is valid only to the extent it does not violate a  
160 material purpose of the trust and includes terms and conditions that could be properly approved  
161 by the court under this chapter or other applicable law.

162 (d) Matters that may be resolved by a non-judicial settlement agreement include:

163 (1) the interpretation or construction of the terms of the trust;

164 (2) the approval of a trustee’s report or accounting;

165 (3) direction to a trustee to refrain from performing a particular act or the  
166 grant to a trustee of any necessary or desirable power;

167 (4) the resignation or appointment of a trustee and the determination of a  
168 trustee’s compensation;

169 (5) transfer of a trust’s principal place of administration; and

170 (6) liability of a trustee for an action relating to the trust.

171 (e) Any interested person may request the court to approve a non-judicial settlement  
172 agreement, to determine whether the representation as provided in article 3 was adequate, and to  
173 determine whether the agreement contains terms and conditions the court could have properly  
174 approved.

175 Section 112. [Rules of Construction.]

176 The rules of construction that apply in the commonwealth to the interpretation of and  
177 disposition of property by will also apply as appropriate to the interpretation of the terms of a  
178 revocable trust and the disposition of the trust property. A “revocable trust”, for purposes of this  
179 section, means a trust that was (1) revocable by the settlor until the time of his or her death, (2)  
180 created or amended by the settlor after the effective date of this act, and (3) was intended to  
181 dispose of the settlor’s property at death (whether under will or otherwise and whether the trust  
182 was funded at the time of the settlor’s death or not).

183 Section 113. [Qualification of Foreign Trustee.]

184 A foreign corporate trustee is required to qualify as a foreign corporation doing  
185 business in the commonwealth if it maintains the principal place of administration of any trust  
186 within the commonwealth. A foreign co-trustee is not required to qualify in the commonwealth  
187 solely because its co-trustee maintains the principal place of administration in the  
188 commonwealth. Unless otherwise doing business in the commonwealth, local qualification by a  
189 foreign trustee, corporate or individual, is not required in order for the trustee to receive  
190 distribution from a local estate, to hold, invest in, manage or acquire property located in the

191 commonwealth, or to maintain litigation. Nothing in this section affects a determination of what  
192 other acts require qualification as doing business in the commonwealth.

## 193 ARTICLE 2

### 194 JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

195 Section 201. [Role of Court in Administration of Trust.]

196 (a) The court may intervene in the administration of a trust to the extent its jurisdiction  
197 is invoked by an interested person or as provided by law.

198 (b) A trust is not subject to continuing judicial supervision unless ordered by the court.

199 (c) A judicial proceeding involving a trust may relate to any matter involving the  
200 trust's administration, including a request for instructions and an action to declare rights.

201 Section 202. [Jurisdiction Over Trustee and Beneficiary.]

202 (a) By accepting the trusteeship of a trust having its principal place of administration  
203 in the commonwealth or by moving the principal place of administration to the commonwealth,  
204 the trustee submits personally to the jurisdiction of the courts of the commonwealth regarding  
205 any matter involving the trust.

206 (b) With respect to their interests in the trust, the beneficiaries of a trust having its  
207 principal place of administration in the commonwealth are subject to the jurisdiction of the  
208 courts of the commonwealth regarding any matter involving the trust. By accepting a  
209 distribution from such a trust, the recipient submits personally to the jurisdiction of the courts of  
210 the commonwealth regarding any matter involving the trust.

211 (c) This section does not preclude other methods of obtaining jurisdiction over a  
212 trustee, beneficiary, or other person receiving property from the trust.

213 Section 203. [Trust Proceedings; Dismissal of Matters Relating to Foreign Trusts.]

214 The court will not, over the objection of a party, entertain proceedings under section  
215 201 involving a trust registered or having its principal place of administration in another state,  
216 unless (1) when all appropriate parties could not be bound by litigation in the courts of the state  
217 where the trust is registered or has its principal place of administration or (2) when the interests  
218 of justice otherwise would seriously be impaired. The court may condition a stay or dismissal of  
219 a proceeding under this section on the consent of any party to jurisdiction of the state in which  
220 the trust is registered or has its principal place of administration, or the court may grant a  
221 continuance or enter any other appropriate order.

222 Section 204. [Venue.]

223 A trust shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the probate and family court department of  
224 the trial court of the commonwealth for the county in which is located its principal place of  
225 administration. The principal place of administration of a testamentary trust shall be deemed to  
226 be the location of the court of the commonwealth in which the will creating the trust was granted  
227 informal or formal probate. Unless otherwise designated in the trust instrument, the principal  
228 place of administration of an inter vivos trust is the trustee's usual place of business where the  
229 records pertaining to the trust are kept, or at the trustee's residence if the trustee has no such  
230 place of business. In the case of co-trustees, the principal place of administration, if not  
231 otherwise designated in the trust instrument, is (1) the usual place of business of the corporate  
232 trustee if there is but one corporate co-trustee, or (2) the usual place of business or residence of

233 the individual trustee who is a professional fiduciary if there is but one such person and no  
234 corporate co-trustee, and otherwise (3) the usual place of business or residence of any of the co-  
235 trustees as agreed upon by them.

236           Section 205. [Petition for Transfers of Trust Property Whose Disposition Depends  
237 upon the Death of an Absentee.]

238           (a) If a trustee holds trust property the disposition of which depends upon the death of  
239 an absentee whose death has not otherwise been determined, on or after the day five years after  
240 the date of the absentee's disappearance the trustee, or any person who would be interested in the  
241 trust property were the absentee dead, may petition the court having jurisdiction of the trust for  
242 an order that the trust property be disposed of to the persons to whom and in the shares or  
243 proportions in which it would be distributed under the provisions of the trust if the absentee had  
244 died on that day.

245           (b) The court may direct the petitioner to report the results of, or make and report back  
246 concerning, a reasonably diligent search for the absentee in any manner that may seem advisable,  
247 including any or all of the following methods:

248                       (1) by inserting in one or more suitable periodicals a notice requesting  
249 information from any person having knowledge of the whereabouts of the absentee;

250                       v(2) by notifying law enforcement officials, public welfare agencies and registers of  
251 deaths in appropriate locations of the disappearance of the absentee;

252                       (3) by engaging the services of an investigator.

253 The costs of any search so directed shall be paid from the trust property.

254 (c) After any such report directed by the court under paragraph (b) above has been  
255 completed to the satisfaction of the court, notice of the hearing on the petition shall be given.

256 (d) If after the hearing the court finds that the facts warrant a presumption of death, it  
257 shall enter an appropriate order of disposition of the trust property and any undistributed net  
258 income.

## 259 ARTICLE 3

### 260 REPRESENTATION

261 Section 301. [Representation: Basic Effect.]

262 (a) Notice to a person who may represent and bind another person under this article  
263 has the same effect as if notice were given directly to the other person.

264 (b) The consent of a person who may represent and bind another person under this  
265 article is binding on the person represented unless the person represented objects to the  
266 representation before the consent would otherwise have become effective.

267 (c) Except as otherwise provided in section 602, a person who under this article may  
268 represent a settlor who lacks capacity may receive notice and give a binding consent on the  
269 settlor's behalf.

270 (d) A settlor may not represent and bind a beneficiary under this article with respect to  
271 the termination or modification of a trust under section 411(a).

272 Section 302. [Representation by Holder of General Testamentary Power of  
273 Appointment.] To the extent there is no conflict of interest between the holder of a general

274 testamentary power of appointment and the persons represented with respect to the particular  
275 question or dispute, the holder may represent and bind persons whose interests, as permissible  
276 appointees, takers in default, or otherwise, are subject to the power.

277           Section 303. [Representation by Fiduciaries and Parents.] To the extent there is no  
278 conflict of interest between the representative and the person represented or among those being  
279 represented with respect to a particular question or dispute:

280           (1) a conservator may represent and bind the estate that the conservator controls;

281           (2) a guardian may represent and bind the ward or protected person if a conservator  
282 has not been appointed;

283           (3) an agent having authority to act with respect to the particular question or dispute  
284 may represent and bind the principal;

285           (4) a trustee may represent and bind the beneficiaries of the trust;

286           (5) a personal representative of a decedent's estate may represent and bind persons  
287 interested in the estate; and

288           (6) a parent may represent and bind the parent's minor or unborn child if a conservator  
289 or guardian for the child has not been appointed.

290           Section 304. [Representation by Person Having Substantially Identical Interest.]

291 Unless otherwise represented, a minor, incapacitated, or unborn individual, or a person whose  
292 identity or location is unknown and not reasonably ascertainable, may be represented by and  
293 bound by another having a substantially identical interest with respect to the particular question



294 or dispute, but only to the extent there is no conflict of interest between the representative and  
295 the person represented.

296 Section 305. [Appointment of Guardian ad Litem.]

297 (a) If the court determines that an interest is not represented under this article, or that  
298 the otherwise available representation might be inadequate, the court may appoint a guardian ad  
299 litem to receive notice, give consent, and otherwise represent, bind, and act on behalf of a minor,  
300 incapacitated, or unborn individual, or a person whose identity or location is unknown. A  
301 guardian ad litem may be appointed to represent several persons or interests.

302 (b) A guardian ad litem may act on behalf of the individual represented with respect to  
303 any matter arising under this chapter, whether or not a judicial proceeding concerning the trust is  
304 pending.

305 (c) In making decisions, a guardian ad litem may consider general benefit accruing to  
306 the living members of the individual's family.

307 ARTICLE 4

308 CREATION, VALIDITY, MODIFICATION, AND TERMINATION OF TRUST

309 Section 401. [Methods Of Creating Trust.] A trust may be created by:

310 (1) transfer of property to another person as trustee during the settlor's lifetime or by  
311 will or other disposition taking effect upon the settlor's death;

312 (2) declaration by the owner of property that the owner holds identifiable property as  
313 trustee; or

314 (3) exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a trustee.

315 Section 402. [Requirements For Creation.]

316 (a) A trust is created only if:

317 (1) the settlor has capacity to create a trust;

318 (2) the settlor indicates an intention to create the trust;

319 (3) the trust has a definite beneficiary or is:

320 (A) a charitable trust;

321 (B) a trust for the care of an animal, as provided in section 408; or

322 (C) a trust for a non-charitable purpose, as provided in section

323 409;

324 (4) the trustee has duties to perform; and

325 (5) the same person is not the sole trustee and sole beneficiary.

326 (b) A beneficiary is definite if the beneficiary can be ascertained now or in the future,

327 subject to any applicable rule against perpetuities.

328 (c) A power in a trustee to select a beneficiary from an indefinite class is valid. If the

329 power is not exercised within a reasonable time, the power fails and the property subject to the

330 power passes to the persons who would have taken the property had the power not been

331 conferred.

332           Section 403. [Trusts Created in Other Jurisdictions.] A trust not created by will is  
333 validly created if its creation complies with the law of the jurisdiction in which the trust  
334 instrument was executed, or the law of the jurisdiction in which, at the time of creation:

335           (1) the settlor was domiciled, had a place of abode, or was a national;

336           (2) a trustee was domiciled or had a place of business; or

337           (3) any trust property was located.

338           Section 404. [Trust Purposes.] A trust may be created only to the extent its purposes  
339 are lawful and not contrary to public policy.

340           Section 405. [Charitable Purposes; Enforcement.]

341           (a) A charitable trust may be created for the relief of poverty, the advancement of  
342 education or religion, the promotion of health, governmental or municipal purposes, or other  
343 purposes the achievement of which is beneficial to the community.

344           (b) If the terms of a charitable trust do not indicate a particular charitable purpose or  
345 beneficiary and do not provide a method to select such a purpose or beneficiary, the court may  
346 select one or more charitable purposes or beneficiaries. The selection must be consistent with  
347 the settlor's intention to the extent it can be ascertained.

348           (c) The settlor of a charitable trust, among others, may maintain a proceeding to  
349 enforce the trust.

350           Section 406. [Creation of Trust Induced By Fraud, Duress, or Undue Influence.] A  
351 trust is void to the extent its creation was induced by fraud, duress, or undue influence.

352           Section 407. [Evidence of Oral Trust.] Except as required by a statute other than this  
353 chapter, a trust need not be evidenced by a trust instrument, but the creation of an oral trust and  
354 its terms may be established only by clear and convincing evidence.

355           Section 408. [Trust for Care of Animal.]

356           (a) A trust may be created to provide for the care of an animal alive during the  
357 settlor's lifetime. The trust terminates upon the death of the animal or, if the trust was created to  
358 provide for the care of more than one animal alive during the settlor's lifetime, upon the death of  
359 the last surviving animal.

360           (b) A trust authorized by this section may be enforced by a person appointed in the  
361 terms of the trust or, if no person is so appointed, by a person appointed by the court. A person  
362 having an interest in the welfare of the animal may request the court to appoint a person to  
363 enforce the trust or to remove a person appointed.

364           (c) Property of a trust authorized by this section may be applied only to its intended  
365 use, except to the extent the court determines that the value of the trust property exceeds the  
366 amount required for the intended use. Except as otherwise provided in the terms of the trust,  
367 property not required for the intended use must be distributed to the settlor, if then living,  
368 otherwise to the settlor's successors in interest.

369           Section 409. [Non-charitable Trust Without Ascertainable Beneficiary.] Except as  
370 otherwise provided in section 408 or by another statute, the following rules apply:

371 (1) A trust may be created for a non-charitable purpose without a definite or definitely  
372 ascertainable beneficiary or for a non-charitable but otherwise valid purpose to be selected by the  
373 trustee.

374 (2) A trust authorized by this section may be enforced by a person appointed in the  
375 terms of the trust or, if no person is so appointed, by a person appointed by the court.

376 (3) Property of a trust authorized by this section may be applied only to its intended  
377 use, except to the extent the court determines that the value of the trust property exceeds the  
378 amount required for the intended use. Except as otherwise provided in the terms of the trust,  
379 property not required for the intended use must be distributed to the settlor, if then living,  
380 otherwise to the settlor's successors in interest.

381 Section 410. [Modification or Termination of Trust; Proceedings for Approval or  
382 Disapproval.]

383 (a) In addition to the methods of termination prescribed by sections 411 through 414, a  
384 trust terminates to the extent the trust is revoked or expires pursuant to its terms, no purpose of  
385 the trust remains to be achieved, or the purposes of the trust have become unlawful, contrary to  
386 public policy, or impossible to achieve.

387 (b) A proceeding to approve or disapprove a proposed modification or termination  
388 under sections 411 through 416, or trust combination or division under section 417, may be  
389 commenced by a trustee or beneficiary, and a proceeding to approve or disapprove a proposed  
390 modification or termination under section 411 may be commenced by the settlor.

391           Section 411. [Modification or Termination of Non-charitable Irrevocable Trust by  
392 Consent.]

393           (a) If, upon petition, the court finds that the settlor and all beneficiaries consent to the  
394 modification or termination of a non-charitable irrevocable trust, the court may approve the  
395 modification or termination even if the modification or termination is inconsistent with a  
396 material purpose of the trust.

397           (b) A non-charitable irrevocable trust may be terminated upon consent of all of the  
398 beneficiaries if the court concludes that continuance of the trust is not necessary to achieve any  
399 material purpose of the trust. A non-charitable irrevocable trust may be modified upon consent of  
400 all of the beneficiaries if the court concludes that modification is not inconsistent with a material  
401 purpose of the trust.

402           (c) If not all of the beneficiaries consent to a proposed modification or termination of  
403 the trust under subsection (a) or (b), the modification or termination may be approved by the  
404 court if the court is satisfied that:

405                   (1) if all of the beneficiaries had consented, the trust could have been  
406 modified or terminated under this section; and

407                   (2) the interests of a beneficiary who does not consent will be adequately  
408 protected.

409           Section 412. [Modification or Termination Because of Unanticipated Circumstances  
410 or Inability to Administer Trust Effectively.]

411 (a) The court may modify the administrative or dispositive terms of a trust or  
412 terminate the trust if, because of circumstances not anticipated by the settlor, modification or  
413 termination will further the purposes of the trust. To the extent practicable, the modification  
414 must be made in accordance with the settlor's probable intention.

415 (b) The court may modify the administrative terms of a trust if continuation of the  
416 trust on its existing terms would be impracticable or wasteful or impair the trust's administration.

417 Section 413. [Reserved.]

418 Section 414. [Modification or Termination of Uneconomic Trust.]

419 (a) After notice to the qualified beneficiaries, the trustee of a trust consisting of trust  
420 property having a total value less than \$200,000 may terminate the trust if the trustee concludes  
421 that the value of the trust property is insufficient to justify the cost of administration.

422 (b) The court may modify or terminate a trust or remove the trustee and appoint a  
423 different trustee if it determines that the value of the trust property is insufficient to justify the  
424 cost of administration.

425 (c) Upon termination of a trust under this section, the trustee shall distribute the trust  
426 property in a manner consistent with the purposes of the trust.

427 (d) This section does not apply to an easement for conservation or preservation.

428 (e) Action may be taken under this section regardless of any spendthrift or similar  
429 protective provision.

430           Section 415. [Reformation to Correct Mistakes.] The court may reform the terms of a  
431 trust, even if unambiguous, to conform the terms to the settlor's intention if it is proved by clear  
432 and convincing evidence that the settlor's intent or the terms of the trust were affected by a  
433 mistake of fact or law, whether in expression or inducement.

434           Section 416. [Reserved.]

435           Section 417. [Combination and Division of Trusts.] After notice to the qualified  
436 beneficiaries, a trustee may combine two or more trusts into a single trust or divide a trust into  
437 two or more separate trusts, if the result does not impair rights of any beneficiary or adversely  
438 affect achievement of the purposes of the trust.

439 ARTICLE 5

440 CREDITOR'S CLAIMS; SPENDTHRIFT AND     DISCRETIONARY TRUSTS

441           Section 501. [Rights of Beneficiary's Creditor or Assignee.] To the extent a  
442 beneficiary's interest is not subject to a spendthrift provision, the court may authorize a creditor  
443 or assignee of the beneficiary to reach the beneficiary's interest by attachment of present or  
444 future distributions to or for the benefit of the beneficiary or other means. The court may limit  
445 the award to such relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

446           Section 502. [Spendthrift Provision.]

447           (a) A spendthrift provision in any instrument executed after the effective date of this  
448 chapter is valid only if it restrains both voluntary and involuntary transfer of a beneficiary's  
449 interest.



450 (b) A term of a trust providing that the interest of a beneficiary is held subject to a  
451 “spendthrift trust,” or words of similar import, is sufficient to restrain both voluntary and  
452 involuntary transfer of the beneficiary’s interest.

453 (c) A beneficiary may not transfer an interest in a trust in violation of a valid  
454 spendthrift provision and, except as otherwise provided in this article, a creditor or assignee of  
455 the beneficiary may not reach the interest or a distribution by the trustee before its receipt by the  
456 beneficiary.

457 Section 503. [Reserved.]

458 Section 504. [Reserved.]

459 Section 505. [Creditor’s Claim Against Settlor.]

460 (a) Whether or not the terms of a trust contain a spendthrift provision, the following  
461 rules apply:

462 (1) During the lifetime of the settlor, the property of a revocable trust is  
463 subject to claims of the settlor’s creditors.

464 (2) With respect to an irrevocable trust, a creditor or assignee of the settlor  
465 may reach the maximum amount that can be distributed to or for the settlor’s benefit and, if a  
466 trust has more than one settlor, the amount the creditor or assignee of a particular settlor may  
467 reach may not exceed the settlor’s interest in the portion of the trust attributable to that settlor’s  
468 contribution. Trust property shall not be considered distributable to or for the settlor’s benefit  
469 solely because the trustee is authorized by the terms of the trust to reimburse the settlor for any  
470 tax on trust income or capital gain that is payable by the settlor under the law imposing such tax;

471 no creditor or assignee of the settlor of an irrevocable trust shall be entitled to reach any trust  
472 property based on the discretionary authority described in this sentence.

473 (3) After the death of a settlor, and subject to the settlor's right to direct the  
474 source from which liabilities will be paid, the property of a trust that was revocable at the  
475 settlor's death is subject to claims of the settlor's creditors, the expenses of the settlor's funeral  
476 and disposal of remains, and statutory allowances to a surviving spouse and children to the extent  
477 the settlor's probate estate is inadequate to satisfy those claims, expenses, and allowances.

478 Section 506. [Overdue Distribution.]

479 (a) In this section, "mandatory distribution" means a distribution of income or  
480 principal which the trustee is required to make to a beneficiary under the terms of the trust,  
481 including a distribution upon termination of the trust. The term does not include a distribution  
482 subject to the exercise of the trustee's discretion even if (1) the discretion is expressed in the  
483 form of a standard of distribution, or (2) the terms of the trust authorizing a distribution couple  
484 language of discretion with language of direction.

485 (b) Whether or not a trust contains a spendthrift provision, a creditor or assignee of a  
486 beneficiary may reach a mandatory distribution of income or principal, including a distribution  
487 upon termination of the trust, if the trustee has not made the distribution to the beneficiary within  
488 a reasonable time after the designated distribution date.

489 Section 507. [Personal Obligations of Trustee.] Trust property is not subject to personal  
490 obligations of the trustee, even if the trustee becomes insolvent or bankrupt.

491 ARTICLE 6

492 REVOCABLE TRUSTS

493 Section 601. [Reserved.]

494 Section 602. [Revocation or Amendment of Revocable Trust.]

495 (a) Unless the terms of a trust expressly provide that the trust is irrevocable, the settlor  
496 may revoke or amend the trust. This subsection does not apply to a trust created under an  
497 instrument executed before the effective date of this chapter.

498 (b) If a revocable trust is created or funded by more than one settlor:

499 (1) to the extent the trust consists of community property, the trust may be  
500 revoked by either spouse acting alone but may be amended only by joint action of both spouses;

501 (2) to the extent the trust consists of property other than community  
502 property, each settlor may revoke or amend the trust with regard the portion of the trust property  
503 attributable to that settlor's contribution; and

504 (3) upon the revocation or amendment of the trust by fewer than all of the  
505 settlors, the trustee shall promptly notify the other settlors of the revocation or amendment.

506 (c) The settlor may revoke or amend a revocable trust:

507 (1) by complying with a method provided in the terms of the trust; or

508 (2) if the terms of the trust do not provide a method, by any method  
509 manifesting clear and convincing evidence of the settlor's intent.

510 (d) Upon revocation of a revocable trust, the trustee shall deliver the trust property as  
511 the settlor directs.

512 (e) A settlor's powers with respect to revocation, amendment, or distribution of trust  
513 property may be exercised by an agent under a power of attorney only to the extent expressly  
514 authorized by the terms of the trust and the power.

515 (f) A trustee who does not know that a trust has been revoked or amended is not liable  
516 to the settlor or settlor's successors in interest for distributions made and other actions taken on  
517 the assumption that the trust had not been amended or revoked.

518 Section 603. [Settlor's Powers; Powers of Withdrawal.]

519 (a) While a trust is revocable and the settlor has capacity to revoke the trust, rights of  
520 the beneficiaries are subject to the control of, and the duties of the trustee are owed exclusively  
521 to, the settlor.

522 (b) During the period the power may be exercised, the holder of a non-lapsing power  
523 of withdrawal shall be treated for purposes of this section as if he or she were the settlor of a  
524 revocable trust to the extent of the property subject to the power.

525 Section 604. [Limitation on Action Contesting Validity of Revocable Trust;  
526 Distribution of Trust Property.]

527 (a) A person may commence a judicial proceeding to contest the validity of a trust that  
528 was revocable at the settlor's death within the earlier of:

- 529 (1) one year after the settlor's death; or

530                   (2) 60 days after the trustee sent the person a copy of the trust instrument  
531 and a notice informing the person of the trust's existence, of the trustee's name and address, and  
532 of the time allowed for commencing a proceeding.

533                   (b) Upon the death of the settlor of a trust that was revocable at the settlor's death, the  
534 trustee may proceed to distribute the trust property in accordance with the terms of the trust. The  
535 trustee is not subject to liability for doing so unless:

536                   (1) the trustee knows of a pending judicial proceeding contesting the validity  
537 of the trust; or

538                   (2) a potential contestant has notified the trustee of a possible judicial  
539 proceeding to contest the trust and a judicial proceeding is commenced within 60 days after the  
540 contestant sent the notification.

541                   (c) A beneficiary of a trust that is determined to have been invalid is liable to return  
542 any distribution received.

## 543 ARTICLE 7

### 544 OFFICE OF TRUSTEE

#### 545 Section 701. [Accepting or Declining Trusteeship.]

546                   (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c), a person designated as trustee  
547 accepts the trusteeship:

548                   (1) by substantially complying with a method of acceptance provided in the  
549 terms of the trust; or

550 (2) if the terms of the trust do not provide a method or the method provided  
551 in the terms is not expressly made exclusive, by accepting delivery of the trust property,  
552 exercising powers or performing duties as trustee, or otherwise indicating acceptance of the  
553 trusteeship.

554 (b) A person designated as trustee who has not yet accepted the trusteeship may reject  
555 the trusteeship. A designated trustee who does not accept the trusteeship within a reasonable  
556 time after knowing of the designation is deemed to have rejected the trusteeship.

557 (c) A person designated as trustee, without accepting the trusteeship, may, but need  
558 not:

559 (1) act to preserve the trust property if, within a reasonable time after acting,  
560 the person sends a rejection of the trusteeship to the settlor or, if the settlor is dead or lacks  
561 capacity, to a qualified beneficiary; and

562 (2) inspect or investigate trust property to determine potential liability under  
563 environmental or other law or for any other purpose.

564 Section 702. [Duty to Provide Bond.]

565 In the case of a testamentary trust, a trustee shall furnish a bond for the performance of  
566 the trustee's fiduciary duties and a surety shall be required unless waived by the terms of the  
567 trust, or found by the court to be not necessary to protect the interests of the beneficiaries. On  
568 petition of the trustee or other interested person the court may excuse a requirement of bond,  
569 reduce the amount of the bond, release the surety, or permit the substitution of another bond with  
570 the same or different sureties. When the instrument creating the trust exempts the trustee from

571 furnishing a bond or limits the amount thereof, or the court determines that the bond is  
572 insufficient, the court may if it concludes that a bond be necessary or that a bond of a larger  
573 amount is necessary, require the furnishing of such bond.

574 Section 703. [Co-Trustees.]

575 (a) Co-trustees who are unable to reach a unanimous decision may act by majority  
576 decision.

577 (b) If a vacancy occurs in a co-trusteeship, the remaining co-trustees may act for the  
578 trust.

579 (c) A co-trustee must participate in the performance of a trustee's function unless the  
580 co-trustee is unavailable to perform the function because of absence, illness, disqualification  
581 under other law, or other temporary incapacity or the co-trustee has properly delegated the  
582 performance of the function to another trustee.

583 (d) If a co-trustee is unavailable to perform duties because of absence, illness,  
584 disqualification under other law, or other temporary incapacity, and prompt action is necessary to  
585 achieve the purposes of the trust or to avoid injury to the trust property, the remaining co-trustee  
586 or a majority of the remaining co-trustees may act for the trust.

587 (e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (f), a trustee who does not join in an  
588 action of another trustee is not liable for the action.

589 (f) Each trustee shall exercise reasonable care to:

590 (1) prevent a co-trustee from committing a breach of trust; and

591 (2) compel a co-trustee to redress a breach of trust.

592 (g) The provisions of this section permitting trustees to act in certain circumstances by  
593 majority rather than unanimity shall not apply with respect to trusts established under  
594 instruments executed before the effective date of this act.

595 Section 704. [Vacancy in Trusteeship; Appointment of Successor.]

596 (a) A vacancy in a trusteeship occurs if:

597 (1) a person designated as trustee rejects the trusteeship;

598 (2) a person designated as trustee cannot be identified or does not exist;

599 (3) a trustee resigns;

600 (4) a trustee is disqualified or removed;

601 (5) a trustee dies; or

602 (6) a guardian or conservator is appointed for an individual serving as  
603 trustee.

604 (b) If one or more co-trustees remain in office, a vacancy in a trusteeship need not be  
605 filled. A vacancy in a trusteeship must be filled if the trust has no remaining trustees.

606 (c) A vacancy in a trusteeship that is required to be filled must be filled in the  
607 following order of priority:

608 (1) by a person designated by the terms of the trust to act as successor  
609 trustee;



610 (2) by a person appointed by unanimous agreement of the qualified  
611 beneficiaries; or

612 (3) by a person appointed by the court.

613 (d) Whether or not a vacancy in a trusteeship exists or is required to be filled, the court  
614 may appoint an additional trustee or special fiduciary whenever the court considers the  
615 appointment necessary for the administration of the trust.

616 Section 705. [Resignation of Trustee.]

617 (a) A trustee may resign:

618 (1) upon at least 30 days' notice to: (i) in the case of a revocable trust, the  
619 settlor and all co-trustees of the trust, and (ii) in the case of any other trust, the qualified  
620 beneficiaries and all co-trustees of the trust; or

621 (2) with the approval of the court.

622 (b) In approving a resignation, the court may issue orders and impose conditions  
623 reasonably necessary for the protection of the trust property.

624 (c) Any liability of a resigning trustee or of any sureties on the trustee's bond for acts  
625 or omissions of the trustee is not discharged or affected by the trustee's resignation.

626 Section 706. [Removal of Trustee.]

627 (a) The settlor, a co-trustee, or a beneficiary may request the court to remove a trustee,  
628 or a trustee may be removed by the court on its own initiative.

629 (b) The court may remove a trustee if:

630 (1) the trustee has committed a serious breach of trust;

631 (2) lack of cooperation among co-trustees substantially impairs the  
632 administration of the trust;

633 (3) because of unfitness, unwillingness, or persistent failure of the trustee to  
634 administer the trust effectively, the court determines that removal of the trustee best serves the  
635 interests of the beneficiaries; or

636 (4) there has been a substantial change of circumstances or removal is  
637 requested by all of the qualified beneficiaries, the court finds that removal of the trustee best  
638 serves the interests of all of the beneficiaries and is not inconsistent with a material purpose of  
639 the trust, and a suitable co-trustee or successor trustee is available.

640 (c) Pending a final decision on a request to remove a trustee, or in lieu of or in  
641 addition to removing a trustee, the court may order such appropriate relief under section 1001(b)  
642 as may be necessary to protect the trust property or the interests of the beneficiaries.

643 Section 707. [Delivery of Property by Former Trustee.]

644 A trustee who has resigned or been removed shall proceed expeditiously to deliver the trust  
645 property within the trustee's possession to the co-trustee, successor trustee, or other person  
646 entitled to it.

647 Section 708. [Compensation of Trustee.]

648 (a) If the terms of a trust do not specify the trustee's compensation, a trustee is entitled  
649 to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.

650 (b) If the terms of a trust specify the trustee's compensation, the trustee is entitled to  
651 be compensated as specified, but the court may allow more or less compensation if:

652 (1) the duties of the trustee are substantially different from those  
653 contemplated when the trust was created; or

654 (2) the compensation specified by the terms of the trust would be  
655 unreasonably low or high.

656 Section 709. [Reimbursement of Expenses.]

657 (a) A trustee is entitled to be reimbursed out of the trust property, with interest as  
658 appropriate, for:

659 (1) expenses that were properly incurred in the administration of the trust;  
660 and

661 (2) to the extent necessary to prevent unjust enrichment of the trust,  
662 expenses that were not properly incurred in the administration of the trust.

663 (b) An advance by the trustee of money for the protection of the trust gives rise to a  
664 lien against trust property to secure reimbursement with reasonable interest.

665 ARTICLE 8

666 DUTIES AND POWERS OF TRUSTEE

667           Section 801. [Duty to Administer Trust.] Upon acceptance of a trusteeship, the trustee  
668 shall administer the trust in good faith, in accordance with its terms and purposes and the  
669 interests of the beneficiaries, and in accordance with this chapter.

670           Section 802. [Duty of Loyalty.]

671           (a) A trustee shall administer the trust solely in the interests of the beneficiaries.

672           (b) Subject to the rights of persons dealing with or assisting the trustee as provided in  
673 section 1012, a sale, encumbrance, or other transaction involving the investment or management  
674 of trust property entered into by the trustee for the trustee's own personal account or which is  
675 otherwise affected by a conflict between the trustee's fiduciary and personal interests is voidable  
676 by a beneficiary affected by the transaction unless:

677                   (1) the transaction was authorized by the terms of the trust;

678                   (2) the transaction was approved by the court;

679                   (3) the beneficiary did not commence a judicial proceeding within the time  
680 allowed by section 1005;

681                   (4) the beneficiary consented to the trustee's conduct, ratified the  
682 transaction, or released the trustee in compliance with section 1009; or

683                   (5) the transaction involves a contract entered into or claim acquired by the  
684 trustee before the person became a trustee.

685 (c) A sale, encumbrance, or other transaction involving the investment or management  
686 of trust property is presumed to be affected by a conflict between personal and fiduciary interests  
687 if it is entered into by the trustee with:

688 (1) the trustee's spouse; or

689 (2) the trustee's descendants, siblings, parents, or their spouses.

690 (d) A transaction not concerning trust property in which the trustee engages in the  
691 trustee's individual capacity involves a conflict between personal and fiduciary interests if the  
692 transaction concerns an opportunity properly belonging to the trust.

693 (e) An investment by a trustee in securities of an investment company or investment  
694 trust to which the trustee, or its affiliate, provides services in a capacity other than as trustee is  
695 not presumed to be affected by a conflict between personal and fiduciary interests if the  
696 investment otherwise complies with the prudent investor rule of chapter 203C. In addition to its  
697 compensation for acting as trustee, the trustee may be compensated by the investment company  
698 or investment trust for providing those services out of fees charged to the trust. If the trustee  
699 receives compensation from the investment company or investment trust for providing  
700 investment advisory or investment management services, the trustee must at least annually notify  
701 the persons entitled under section 813 to receive a copy of the trustee's annual report of the rate  
702 and method by which that compensation was determined.

703 (f) In voting shares of stock or in exercising powers of control over similar interests in  
704 other forms of enterprise, the trustee shall act in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

705 (g) This section does not preclude the following transactions, if fair to the  
706 beneficiaries:

707 (1) an agreement between a trustee and a beneficiary relating to the  
708 appointment or compensation of the trustee;

709 (2) payment of reasonable compensation to the trustee;

710 (3) a transaction between a trust and another trust, decedent's estate, or  
711 conservatorship of which the trustee is a fiduciary or in which a beneficiary has an interest;

712 (4) a deposit of trust money in a regulated financial-service institution  
713 operated by the trustee; or

714 (5) an advance or loan by the trustee of money to the trust for a proper trust  
715 purpose.

716 Section 803. [Impartiality.] If a trust has two or more beneficiaries, the trustee shall  
717 act impartially in investing, managing, and distributing the trust property, giving due regard to  
718 the beneficiaries' respective interests.

719 Section 804. [Prudent Administration.] A trustee shall administer the trust as a  
720 prudent person would, considering the purposes, terms, and other circumstances of the trust. In  
721 satisfying this standard, the trustee shall exercise reasonable care, skill, and caution.

722 Section 805. [Costs of Administration.] In administering a trust, the trustee may incur  
723 only costs that are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the trust property, the purposes of the  
724 trust, and the skills of the trustee.

725           Section 806. [Trustee's Skills.] A trustee who has special skills or expertise, or is  
726 named trustee in reliance upon the trustee's representation that the trustee has such special skills  
727 or expertise, shall have a duty to use such special skills or expertise.

728           Section 807. [Delegation by Trustee.]

729           (a) A trustee may delegate duties and powers if it is prudent to do so. The trustee shall  
730 exercise reasonable care, skill, and caution in:

731                       (1) selecting an agent;

732                       (2) establishing the scope and terms of the delegation, consistent with the  
733 purposes and terms of the trust; and

734                       (3) periodically reviewing the agent's actions in order to monitor the agent's  
735 performance and compliance with the terms of the delegation.

736           (b) In performing a delegated function, an agent owes a duty to the trust to exercise  
737 reasonable care to comply with the terms of the delegation.

738           (c) A trustee who complies with subsection (a) is not liable to the beneficiaries or to  
739 the trust for an action of the agent to whom the function was delegated.

740           (d) By accepting a delegation of powers or duties from the trustee of a trust that is  
741 subject to the law of the commonwealth, an agent submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of the  
742 commonwealth.

743           Section 808. [Powers to Direct.]

744 (a) While a trust is revocable, the trustee may follow a direction of the settlor that is  
745 contrary to the terms of the trust.

746 (b) If the terms of a trust confer upon a person other than the settlor of a revocable  
747 trust power to direct certain actions of the trustee, the trustee shall act in accordance with an  
748 exercise of the power unless the attempted exercise is manifestly contrary to the terms of the  
749 trust or the trustee knows the attempted exercise would constitute a serious breach of a fiduciary  
750 duty that the person holding the power owes to the beneficiaries of the trust.

751 (c) A person who holds a power to direct is presumptively a fiduciary who, as such, is  
752 required to act in good faith with regard to the purposes of the trust and the interests of the  
753 beneficiaries. The holder of a power to direct is liable for any loss that results from breach of a  
754 fiduciary duty.

755 Section 809. [Control and Protection of Trust Property.] A trustee shall take reasonable steps to  
756 take control of and protect the trust property.

757 Section 810. [Recordkeeping and Identification of Trust Property.]

758 (a) A trustee shall keep adequate records of the administration of the trust.

759 (b) A trustee shall keep trust property separate from the trustee's own property.

760 (c) If the trustee maintains records clearly indicating the respective interests, a trustee  
761 may invest as a whole the property of two or more separate trusts.

762 Section 811. [Enforcement and Defense of Claims.] A trustee shall take reasonable  
763 steps to enforce claims of the trust and to defend claims against the trust.



764           Section 812. [Collecting Trust Property.] A trustee shall take reasonable steps to  
765 compel a former trustee or other person to deliver trust property to the trustee, and to redress a  
766 breach of trust known to the trustee to have been committed by a former trustee.

767           Section 813. [Duty to Inform and Report.]

768           (a) A trustee shall keep the qualified beneficiaries of the trust reasonably informed  
769 about the administration of the trust. Unless unreasonable under the circumstances, a trustee  
770 shall promptly respond to a qualified beneficiary's request for information related to the  
771 administration of the trust.

772           (b) Within 30 days after acceptance of the trust or the trust becomes irrevocable,  
773 whichever is later, the trustee shall inform in writing the qualified beneficiaries of the trustee's  
774 name and address. The information shall be delivered or sent by ordinary first class mail.

775           (c) A trustee shall send an account to the distributees and permissible distributees of  
776 trust income or principal, and to other qualified beneficiaries who request it, at least annually and  
777 at the termination of the trust. The account may be formal or informal, but shall include  
778 information relating to the trust property, liabilities, receipts, and disbursements, including the  
779 amount of the trustee's compensation, a listing of the trust assets and, if feasible, their respective  
780 market values.

781           (d) A beneficiary may waive the right to a trustee's account or other information  
782 otherwise required to be furnished under this section. A beneficiary, with respect to future  
783 accounts and other information, may withdraw a waiver previously given. A waiver of a  
784 trustee's account or other information does not relieve the trustee from accountability and  
785 potential liability for matters that the account or other information would have disclosed.

786 Section 814. [Discretionary Powers; Tax Savings.]

787 (a) Notwithstanding the breadth of discretion granted to a trustee in the terms of the  
788 trust, including the use of such terms as “absolute”, “sole”, or “uncontrolled”, the trustee shall  
789 exercise a discretionary power in good faith and in accordance with the terms and purposes of  
790 the trust and the interests of the beneficiaries.

791 (b) Subject to subsection (d), and unless the terms of the trust expressly indicate that a  
792 rule in this subsection does not apply:

793 (1) a person other than a settlor who is a beneficiary and trustee of a trust  
794 that confers on the trustee a power to make discretionary distributions to or for the trustee’s  
795 personal benefit may exercise the power only in accordance with an ascertainable standard; and

796 (2) a trustee may not exercise a power to make discretionary distributions to  
797 satisfy a legal obligation of support that the trustee personally owes another person.

798 (c) A power whose exercise is limited or prohibited by subsection (b) may be  
799 exercised by a majority of the remaining trustees whose exercise of the power is not so limited or  
800 prohibited. If the power of all trustees is so limited or prohibited, the court may appoint a special  
801 fiduciary with authority to exercise the power.

802 (d) Subsection (b) does not apply to:

803 (1) a power held by the settlor’s spouse who is the trustee of a trust for  
804 which a marital deduction was previously allowed; or

805 (2) any trust during any period that the trust may be revoked or amended by  
806 its settlor.

807 Section 815. [General Powers of Trustee.]

808 (a) A trustee, without authorization by the court, may exercise:

809 (1) powers conferred by the terms of the trust; or

810 (2) except as limited by the terms of the trust:

811 (A) all powers over the trust property which an unmarried  
812 competent owner has over individually owned property;

813 (B) any other powers appropriate to achieve the proper  
814 investment, management, and distribution of the trust property; and

815 (C) any other powers conferred by this chapter.

816 (b) The exercise of a power is subject to the fiduciary duties prescribed by this article.

817 Section 816. [Specific Powers of Trustee.] Without limiting the authority conferred  
818 by section 815, a trustee may:

819 (1) collect trust property and accept or reject additions to the trust property from a  
820 settlor or any other person;

821 (2) acquire or sell property, for cash or on credit, at public or private sale;

822 (3) exchange, partition, or otherwise change the character of trust property;

823 (4) deposit trust money in an account in a regulated financial-service institution;

824 (5) borrow money, with or without security, and mortgage or pledge trust property for  
825 a period within or extending beyond the duration of the trust;

826 (6) with respect to an interest in a proprietorship, partnership, limited liability  
827 company, business trust, corporation, or other form of business or enterprise, continue the  
828 business or other enterprise and take any action that may be taken by shareholders, members, or  
829 property owners, including merging, dissolving, or otherwise changing the form of business  
830 organization or contributing additional capital;

831 (7) with respect to stocks or other securities, exercise the rights of an absolute owner,  
832 including the right to:

833 (A) vote, or give proxies to vote, with or without power of substitution, or  
834 enter into or continue a voting trust agreement;

835 (B) hold a security in the name of a nominee or in other form without  
836 disclosure of the trust so that title may pass by delivery;

837 (C) pay calls, assessments, and other sums chargeable or accruing against  
838 the securities, and sell or exercise stock subscription or conversion rights; and

839 (D) deposit the securities with a depository or other regulated financial-  
840 service institution;

841 (8) with respect to an interest in real property, construct, or make ordinary or  
842 extraordinary repairs to, alterations to, or improvements in, buildings or other structures,  
843 demolish improvements, raze existing or erect new party walls or buildings, subdivide or  
844 develop land, dedicate land to public use or grant public or private easements, and make or  
845 vacate plats and adjust boundaries;

846 (9) enter into a lease for any purpose as lessor or lessee, including a lease or other  
847 arrangement for exploration and removal of natural resources, with or without the option to  
848 purchase or renew, for a period within or extending beyond the duration of the trust;

849 (10) grant an option involving a sale, lease, or other disposition of trust property or  
850 acquire an option for the acquisition of property, including an option exercisable beyond the  
851 duration of the trust, and exercise an option so acquired;

852 (11) insure the property of the trust against damage or loss and insure the trustee, the  
853 trustee's agents, and beneficiaries against liability arising from the administration of the trust;

854 (12) abandon or decline to administer property of no value or of insufficient value to  
855 justify its collection or continued administration;

856 (13) with respect to possible liability for violation of environmental law:

857 (A) inspect or investigate property the trustee holds or has been asked to  
858 hold, or property owned or operated by an organization in which the trustee holds or has been  
859 asked to hold an interest, for the purpose of determining the application of environmental law  
860 with respect to the property;

861 (B) take action to prevent, abate, or otherwise remedy any actual or potential  
862 violation of any environmental law affecting property held directly or indirectly by the trustee,  
863 whether taken before or after the assertion of a claim or the initiation of governmental  
864 enforcement;

865 (C) decline to accept property into trust or disclaim any power with respect  
866 to property that is or may be burdened with liability for violation of environmental law;

867 (D) compromise claims against the trust which may be asserted for an  
868 alleged violation of environmental law; and

869 (E) pay the expense of any inspection, review, abatement, or remedial action  
870 to comply with environmental law;

871 (14) pay or contest any claim, settle a claim by or against the trust, and release, in  
872 whole or in part, a claim belonging to the trust;

873 (15) pay taxes, assessments, compensation of the trustee and of employees and agents  
874 of the trust, and other expenses incurred in the administration of the trust;

875 (16) exercise elections with respect to federal, state, and local taxes;

876 (17) select a mode of payment under any employee benefit or retirement plan, annuity,  
877 or life insurance payable to the trustee, exercise rights thereunder, including exercise of the right  
878 to indemnification for expenses and against liabilities, and take appropriate action to collect the  
879 proceeds;

880 (18) make loans out of trust property, including loans to a beneficiary on terms and  
881 conditions the trustee considers to be fair and reasonable under the circumstances, and the trustee  
882 has a lien on future distributions for repayment of those loans;

883 (19) pledge trust property to guarantee loans made by others to the beneficiary;

884 (20) appoint a trustee to act in another jurisdiction with respect to trust property  
885 located in the other jurisdiction, confer upon the appointed trustee all of the powers and duties of  
886 the appointing trustee, require that the appointed trustee furnish security, and remove any trustee  
887 so appointed;

888           (21) pay an amount distributable to a beneficiary who is under a legal disability or  
889 who the trustee reasonably believes is incapacitated, by paying it directly to the beneficiary or  
890 applying it for the beneficiary's benefit, or by:

891                   (A) paying it to the beneficiary's conservator or, if the beneficiary does not  
892 have a conservator, the beneficiary's guardian;

893                   (B) paying it to the beneficiary's custodian under chapter 201A or custodial  
894 trustee under part 5 of Article VII of chapter 190B, and, for that purpose, creating a  
895 custodianship or custodial trust;

896                   (C) if the trustee does not know of a conservator, guardian, custodian, or  
897 custodial trustee, paying it to an adult relative or other person having legal or physical care or  
898 custody of the beneficiary, to be expended on the beneficiary's behalf; or

899                   (D) managing it as a separate fund on the beneficiary's behalf, subject to the  
900 beneficiary's continuing right to withdraw the distribution;

901           (22) on distribution of trust property or the division or termination of a trust, make  
902 distributions in divided or undivided interests, allocate particular assets in proportionate or  
903 disproportionate shares, value the trust property for those purposes, and adjust for resulting  
904 differences in valuation;

905           (23) resolve a dispute concerning the interpretation of the trust or its administration by  
906 mediation, arbitration, or other procedure for alternative dispute resolution;

907           (24) prosecute or defend an action, claim, or judicial proceeding in any jurisdiction to  
908 protect trust property and the trustee in the performance of the trustee's duties;

909           (25) sign and deliver contracts and other instruments that are useful to achieve or  
910 facilitate the exercise of the trustee’s powers;

911           (26) establish or continue title-holding entities, including so-called “nominee trusts”  
912 for the purposes of holding legal title to any portion or all of the trust property without the need  
913 to record or make public the terms of the trust; and

914           (27) on termination of the trust, exercise the powers appropriate to wind up the  
915 administration of the trust and distribute the trust property to the persons entitled to it.

916           Section 817. [Distribution upon Termination.]

917           (a) Upon termination or partial termination of a trust, the trustee may send to the  
918 beneficiaries a proposal for distribution. The right of any beneficiary to object to the proposed  
919 distribution terminates if the beneficiary does not notify the trustee of an objection within 30  
920 days after the proposal was sent but only if the proposal (i) informed the beneficiary of the right  
921 to object and of the time allowed for objection and (ii) provided the beneficiary with sufficient  
922 material facts to enable the beneficiary to evaluate the proposal.

923           (b) Upon the occurrence of an event terminating or partially terminating a trust, the  
924 trustee shall proceed expeditiously to distribute the trust property to the persons entitled to it,  
925 subject to the right of the trustee to retain a reasonable reserve for the payment of debts,  
926 expenses, and taxes.

927 ARTICLE 9

928 [RESERVED]

929 ARTICLE 10



930 LIABILITY OF TRUSTEES AND RIGHTS OF

931 PERSONS DEALING WITH TRUSTEE

932 Section 1001. [Remedies for Breach of Trust.]

933 (a) A violation by a trustee of a duty the trustee owes to a beneficiary is a breach of  
934 trust.

935 (b) To remedy a breach of trust that has occurred or may occur, the court may:

936 (1) compel the trustee to perform the trustee's duties;

937 (2) enjoin the trustee from committing a breach of trust;

938 (3) compel the trustee to redress a breach of trust by paying money,  
939 restoring property, or other means;

940 (4) order a trustee to account;

941 (5) appoint a special fiduciary to take possession of the trust property and  
942 administer the trust;

943 (6) suspend the trustee;

944 (7) remove the trustee as provided in section 7-308 of chapter 190B;

945 (8) reduce or deny compensation to the trustee;

946 (9) subject to section 1012, void an act of the trustee, impose a lien or a  
947 constructive trust on trust property, or trace trust property wrongfully disposed of and recover the  
948 property or its proceeds; or

949 (10) order any other appropriate relief.

950 Section 1002. [Reserved.]

951 Section 1003. [Reserved.]

952 Section 1004. [Reserved.]

953 Section 1005. [Limitation of Action Against Trustee.]

954 (a) Unless previously barred by adjudication, consent or limitation, any claim against  
955 a trustee for breach of trust is barred as to any beneficiary who has received a final account or  
956 other statement fully disclosing the matter and showing termination of the trust relationship  
957 between the trustee and the beneficiary unless a proceeding to assert the claim is commenced  
958 within six months after receipt of the final account or statement. In any event and  
959 notwithstanding lack of full disclosure a trustee who has issued a final account or statement  
960 received by the beneficiary and has informed the beneficiary of the location and availability of  
961 records for examination by the beneficiary is protected after three years. A beneficiary is  
962 deemed to have received a final account or statement if, being an adult, it is received by the  
963 beneficiary personally or if, being a minor or disabled person, it is received by the beneficiary's  
964 representative as described in article 3.

965 (b) Where a claim is not barred by the provisions of subsection (a), a beneficiary may  
966 not commence a proceeding against a trustee for breach of trust more than three years after the  
967 date the beneficiary or a representative of the beneficiary knew or reasonably should have known  
968 of the existence of a potential claim for breach of trust.

969 (c) If subsections (a) and (b) do not apply, a judicial proceeding against a trustee for  
970 breach of trust must be commenced within five years after the first to occur of:

971 (1) the removal, resignation, or death of the trustee;

972 (2) the termination of the beneficiary's interest in the trust; or

973 (3) the termination of the trust.

974 Section 1006. [Reliance on Trust Instrument.] A trustee who acts in reasonable  
975 reliance on the terms of the trust as expressed in the trust instrument is not liable to a beneficiary  
976 for a breach of trust to the extent the breach resulted from the reliance.

977 Section 1007. [Event Affecting Administration or Distribution.] If the happening of  
978 an event or change of status, including, but not limited to: birth, adoption, marriage, divorce,  
979 performance of educational requirements, or death, affects the administration or distribution of a  
980 trust, a trustee who has exercised reasonable care to ascertain the happening of the event or  
981 change of status is not liable for a loss resulting from the trustee's lack of knowledge.

982 Section 1008. [Exculpation of Trustee.]

983 (a) A term of a trust relieving a trustee of liability for breach of trust is unenforceable  
984 to the extent that it:

985 (1) relieves the trustee of liability for breach of trust committed in bad faith  
986 or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the trust or the interests of the beneficiaries; or

987 (2) was inserted as the result of an abuse by the trustee of a fiduciary or  
988 confidential relationship to the settlor.

989 (b) An exculpatory term drafted or caused to be drafted by the trustee may be invalid  
990 as an abuse of a fiduciary or confidential relationship unless the trustee proves that its existence  
991 and contents were adequately communicated to the settlor.

992 Section 1009. [Beneficiary's Consent, Release, or Ratification.] A trustee is not liable to a  
993 beneficiary for breach of trust if the beneficiary, while having capacity, in writing, consented to  
994 the conduct constituting the breach, released the trustee from liability for the breach, or ratified  
995 the transaction constituting the breach, unless:

996 (1) the consent, release, or ratification of the beneficiary was induced by  
997 improper conduct of the trustee; or

998 (2) at the time of the consent, release, or ratification, the beneficiary did not  
999 know of the material facts relating to the breach.

1000 Section 1010. [Limitation on Personal Liability of Trustee.]

1001 (a) Except as otherwise provided in the contract, a trustee is not personally liable on a  
1002 contract properly entered into in the trustee's fiduciary capacity in the course of administering  
1003 the trust if the trustee in the contract disclosed the fiduciary capacity.

1004 (b) A trustee is personally liable for torts committed in the course of administering a  
1005 trust, or for obligations arising from ownership or control of trust property, including liability for  
1006 violation of environmental law, only if the trustee is personally at fault.

1007 (c) A claim based on a contract entered into by a trustee in the trustee's fiduciary  
1008 capacity, on an obligation arising from ownership or control of trust property, or on a tort  
1009 committed in the course of administering a trust, may be asserted in a judicial proceeding against

1010 the trustee in the trustee's fiduciary capacity, whether or not the trustee is personally liable for  
1011 the claim.

1012           Section 1011. [Interest as General Partner.]

1013           (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) or unless personal liability is  
1014 imposed in the contract, a trustee who holds an interest as a general partner in a general or  
1015 limited partnership is not personally liable on a contract entered into by the partnership after the  
1016 trust's acquisition of the interest if the fiduciary capacity was disclosed in the contract or in a  
1017 statement previously filed pursuant to chapter 108A or chapter 109.

1018           (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c), a trustee who holds an interest as a  
1019 general partner is not personally liable for torts committed by the partnership or for obligations  
1020 arising from ownership or control of the interest unless the trustee is personally at fault.

1021           (c) The immunity provided by this section does not apply if an interest in the  
1022 partnership is held by the trustee in a capacity other than that of trustee or is held by the trustee's  
1023 spouse or one or more of the trustee's descendants, siblings, or parents, or the spouse of any of  
1024 them.

1025           (d) If the trustee of a revocable trust holds an interest as a general partner, the settlor is  
1026 personally liable for contracts and other obligations of the partnership as if the settlor were a  
1027 general partner.

1028           Section 1012. [Protection of Person Dealing with Trustee.]

1029           (a) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith assists a trustee, or who in  
1030 good faith and for value deals with a trustee, without knowledge that the trustee is exceeding or

1031 improperly exercising the trustee's powers is protected from liability as if the trustee properly  
1032 exercised the power.

1033 (b) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith deals with a trustee is not  
1034 required to inquire into the extent of the trustee's powers or the propriety of their exercise.

1035 (c) A person who in good faith delivers assets to a trustee need not ensure their proper  
1036 application.

1037 (d) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith assists a former trustee, or  
1038 who in good faith and for value deals with a former trustee, without knowledge that the  
1039 trusteeship has terminated is protected from liability as if the former trustee were still a trustee.

1040 (e) Comparable protective provisions of other laws relating to commercial transactions  
1041 or transfer of securities by fiduciaries prevail over the protection provided by this section.

1042 Section 1013. [Certification of Trust.]

1043 (a) Instead of furnishing a copy of the trust instrument to a person other than a  
1044 beneficiary, the trustee may furnish to the person a certification of trust containing the following  
1045 information:

1046 (1) that the trust exists and the date the trust instrument was executed;

1047 (2) the identity of the settlor;

1048 (3) the identity and address of the currently acting trustee;

1049 (4) the powers of the trustee;

1050 (5) the revocability or irrevocability of the trust and the identity of any  
1051 person holding a power to revoke the trust;

1052 (6) the authority of co-trustees to sign or otherwise authenticate and whether  
1053 all or less than all are required in order to exercise powers of the trustee;

1054 (7) the trust's taxpayer identification number; and

1055 (8) the manner of taking title to trust property.

1056 (b) A certification of trust may be signed or otherwise authenticated by any trustee.

1057 (c) A certification of trust must state that the trust has not been revoked, modified, or  
1058 amended in any manner that would cause the representations contained in the certification of  
1059 trust to be incorrect.

1060 (d) A certification of trust need not contain the dispositive terms of a trust.

1061 (e) A recipient of a certification of trust may require the trustee to furnish copies of  
1062 those excerpts from the original trust instrument and later amendments which designate the  
1063 trustee and confer upon the trustee the power to act in the pending transaction.

1064 (f) A person who acts in reliance upon a certification of trust without knowledge that  
1065 the representations contained therein are incorrect is not liable to any person for so acting and  
1066 may assume without inquiry the existence of the facts contained in the certification. Knowledge  
1067 of the terms of the trust may not be inferred solely from the fact that a copy of all or part of the  
1068 trust instrument is held by the person relying upon the certification.

1069 (g) A person who in good faith enters into a transaction in reliance upon a certification  
1070 of trust may enforce the transaction against the trust property as if the representations contained  
1071 in the certification were correct.

1072 (h) A person making a demand for the trust instrument in addition to a certification of  
1073 trust or excerpts is liable for damages if the court determines that the person did not act in good  
1074 faith in demanding the trust instrument.

1075 (i) This section does not limit the right of a person to obtain a copy of the trust  
1076 instrument in a judicial proceeding concerning the trust.

1077 SECTION 3. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this act, on the effective date of this  
1078 act:

1079 (1) this act shall apply to all trusts created before, on, or after the effective  
1080 date;

1081 (2) this act shall apply to all judicial proceedings concerning trusts  
1082 commenced on or after the effective date;

1083 (3) this chapter shall apply to judicial proceedings concerning trusts  
1084 commenced before the effective date unless the court finds that application of a particular  
1085 provision of this chapter would substantially interfere with the effective conduct of the judicial  
1086 proceedings or prejudice the rights of the parties, in which case the particular provision of this  
1087 act shall not apply and the superseded law shall apply;

1088 (4) an act done before the effective date shall not be affected by this act.



1089 (b) If a right is acquired, extinguished, or barred upon the expiration of a prescribed  
1090 period that has commenced to run under any other statute before the effective date of this act,  
1091 that statute shall continue to apply to the right even if it has been superseded.

1092 SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.