

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REREVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 10-1050.01 Richard Sweetman

**SENATE BILL 10-199**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Carroll M.,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Court,**

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**Senate Committees**  
Judiciary

**House Committees**  
Judiciary

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING CLARIFYING REVISIONS TO CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE**  
102 **COLORADO PROBATE CODE.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill requires the revisor of statutes to include in the publication of the "Colorado Probate Code" as nonstatutory matter, following each amended or added section, the full text of the official comments to that section contained in the 2008 official text of "Amendments to Uniform Probate Code" issued by the national conference of commissioners on

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 10, 2010

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 7, 2010

SENATE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
May 3, 2010

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 30, 2010

uniform state laws, with any changes in the official comments or Colorado comments to correspond to Colorado changes in the uniform probate code.

The bill requires cost-of-living adjustments of certain dollar amounts to be rounded to one-thousand-dollar increments, rather than one-hundred-dollar increments, for purposes of the Colorado probate code.

The bill provides that a "will" does not include a designated beneficiary agreement for purposes of the Colorado probate code.

The bill removes statutory language awarding a part or all of an intestate estate to a designated beneficiary who was designated by the decedent to be his or her designated beneficiary for purposes of intestate succession. The bill adds new statutory language concerning the rights of a designated beneficiary to receive all or part of an intestate estate.

The bill removes statutory language awarding a share of an intestate estate for a decedent's stepchildren when there are no blood relatives of the decedent available to receive an intestate share.

A child who is in the process of being adopted by a second adult in a second-parent adoption when the second adult dies is treated as adopted by the second adult if the child's parent survives the second adult by 120 hours.

The bill reduces the degree of evidence required to overcome a presumption that a deceased spouse has a parent-child relationship with a child born using assisted reproduction technologies.

The bill revises the scope of the rules of construction applicable to wills and other governing instruments to specify that new class gift rules apply only to documents executed or re-published on or after the effective date of the applicable statute.

Terms of relationship in a governing instrument that do not differentiate relationships by blood from those by marriage, such as uncles, aunts, nieces, or nephews, are construed to exclude relatives by marriage.

A personal representative is protected from potential surcharges and liability as a result of the personal representative making distributions of assets without knowledge that an individual intends or may intend to use a decedent's genetic material to create a child and that the birth of such a child would affect the asset distribution formula.

The bill amends the effective date-applicability clause of House Bill 09-1287, enacted in 2009.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 2-5-102, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY

1 THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

2 **2-5-102. Inclusions - nonstatutory.** (11) THERE SHALL BE  
3 INCLUDED IN THE PUBLICATION OF THE "COLORADO PROBATE CODE" AS  
4 NONSTATUTORY MATTER, FOLLOWING EACH AMENDED OR ADDED  
5 SECTION, THE FULL TEXT OF THE OFFICIAL COMMENTS TO THAT SECTION  
6 CONTAINED IN THE 2008 OFFICIAL TEXT OF "AMENDMENTS TO UNIFORM  
7 PROBATE CODE" ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
8 COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS, WITH ANY CHANGES IN THE  
9 OFFICIAL COMMENTS     TO CORRESPOND TO COLORADO CHANGES IN THE  
10 "UNIFORM PROBATE CODE". THE COMMENTS SHALL BE PREPARED BY THE  
11 REVISOR OF STATUTES AND APPROVED FOR PUBLICATION BY THE  
12 COMMITTEE ON LEGAL SERVICES.

13 **SECTION 2.** 15-10-112 (1) (b), (2), and (3), Colorado Revised  
14 Statutes, as they will become effective July 1, 2010, are amended to read:

15 **15-10-112. Cost of living adjustment of certain dollar**  
16 **amounts.** (1) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise  
17 requires:

18 (b) "Reference base index" means the CPI for the calendar year  
19 ~~2009~~ 2010.

20 (2) The dollar amounts stated in sections 15-11-102, 15-11-201  
21 (2), 15-11-403, ~~and~~ 15-11-405, AND 15-12-1201 apply to the estate of a  
22 decedent who died during or after 2010, but for the estate of a decedent  
23 who died after 2011, these dollar amounts must be increased or decreased  
24 if the CPI for the calendar year immediately preceding the year of death  
25 exceeds or is less than the reference base index. The amount of any  
26 increase or decrease is computed by multiplying each dollar amount by  
27 the percentage by which the CPI for the calendar year immediately

1 preceding the year of death exceeds or is less than the reference base  
2 index. If ~~any~~ THE AMOUNT OF THE increase or decrease produced by the  
3 computation is not a multiple of one ~~hundred~~ THOUSAND dollars, THEN the  
4 AMOUNT OF THE increase or decrease is rounded down if IT IS an increase,  
5 or ROUNDED up if IT IS a decrease, to the next multiple of one ~~hundred~~  
6 THOUSAND dollars, but for the purpose of section 15-11-405, the periodic  
7 installment amount is the lump-sum amount divided by twelve. If the CPI  
8 for ~~2009~~ 2010 is changed by the bureau of labor statistics, the reference  
9 base index must be revised using the rebasing factor reported by the  
10 bureau of labor statistics, or other comparable data if a rebasing factor is  
11 not reported.

12 (3) Before ~~February 1, 2011~~ FEBRUARY 1, 2012, and before  
13 February 1 of each succeeding year, the department of revenue shall  
14 publish a cumulative list, beginning with the dollar amounts effective for  
15 the estate of a decedent who died in ~~2011~~ 2012 of each dollar amount as  
16 increased or decreased under this section.

17 **SECTION 3.** 15-10-201 (59), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended to read:

19 **15-10-201. General definitions.** Subject to additional definitions  
20 contained in the subsequent articles that are applicable to specific articles,  
21 parts, or sections, and unless the context otherwise requires, in this code:

22 (59) "Will" includes any codicil and any testamentary instrument  
23 that merely appoints an executor, revokes or revises another will,  
24 nominates a guardian, or expressly excludes or limits the right of an  
25 individual or class to succeed to property of the decedent passing by  
26 intestate succession. "WILL" DOES NOT INCLUDE A DESIGNATED  
27 BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT THAT IS EXECUTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 22

1 OF THIS TITLE.

2 **SECTION 4.** Part 1 of article 11 of title 15, Colorado Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to  
4 read:

5 **15-11-102.5. Share of designated beneficiary.** (1) IF THE  
6 DECEDENT IS SURVIVED BY A PERSON WITH THE RIGHT TO INHERIT REAL OR  
7 PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE DECEDENT IN A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY  
8 AGREEMENT EXECUTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 22 OF THIS TITLE, THE  
9 INTESTATE SHARE OF THE DECEDENT'S DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY IS:

10 (a) THE ENTIRE ESTATE IF NO DESCENDENT OF THE DECEDENT  
11 SURVIVES THE DECEDENT; OR

12 (b) ONE HALF OF THE INTESTATE ESTATE IF ONE OR MORE  
13 DESCENDANTS OF THE DECEDENT SURVIVE THE DECEDENT.

14 **SECTION 5.** The introductory portion to 15-11-103 and  
15 15-11-103 (1) and (7), Colorado Revised Statutes, as they will become  
16 effective July 1, 2010, are amended to read:

17 **15-11-103. Share of heirs other than surviving spouse and**  
18 **designated beneficiary.** Any part of the intestate estate not passing to  
19 the decedent's surviving spouse under section 15-11-102, OR TO THE  
20 DECEDENT'S SURVIVING DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY UNDER SECTION  
21 15-11-102.5, or the entire intestate estate if there is no surviving spouse  
22 AND NO SURVIVING DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY WITH THE RIGHT TO INHERIT  
23 REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE DECEDENT THROUGH INTESTATE  
24 SUCCESSION, passes in the following order to the individuals who survive  
25 the decedent:

26 (1) ~~To a designated beneficiary who was designated by the~~  
27 ~~decedent to be his or her designated beneficiary for purposes of intestate~~

1 ~~succession pursuant to a designated beneficiary agreement that has been~~  
2 ~~executed and recorded with a county clerk and recorder as provided in~~  
3 ~~article 22 of this title; except that, if the decedent has surviving children,~~  
4 ~~then the designated beneficiary shall receive one-half of the intestate~~  
5 ~~estate and the surviving children shall receive one-half of the intestate~~  
6 ~~estate;~~

7 (7) ~~If there is no taker under subsections (1) to (6) of this section,~~  
8 ~~but the decedent has:~~

9 (a) ~~One deceased spouse who has one or more descendants who~~  
10 ~~survive the decedent, the estate or part thereof passes to that spouse's~~  
11 ~~descendants per capita at each generation; or~~

12 (b) ~~More than one deceased spouse who has one or more~~  
13 ~~descendants who survive the decedent, an equal share of the estate or part~~  
14 ~~thereof passes to each set of descendants per capita at each generation.~~

15 **SECTION 6.** 15-11-118 (3), Colorado Revised Statutes, as it will  
16 become effective July 1, 2010, is amended, and the said 15-11-118, as it  
17 will become effective July 1, 2010, is further amended BY THE  
18 ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

19 **15-11-118. Adoptee and adoptee's adoptive parent or parents.**  
20 **(2.5) Individual in process of being adopted by second parent.** FOR  
21 PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, A CHILD WHO IS IN THE  
22 PROCESS OF BEING ADOPTED BY A SECOND ADULT IN A SECOND-PARENT  
23 ADOPTION WHEN THE SECOND ADULT DIES IS TREATED AS ADOPTED BY THE  
24 SECOND ADULT IF THE CHILD'S PARENT SURVIVES THE SECOND ADULT BY  
25 ONE HUNDRED TWENTY HOURS.

26 (3) **Child of assisted reproduction or gestational child in**  
27 **process of being adopted.** If, after a parent-child relationship is

1 established between a child of assisted reproduction and a parent under  
2 section 15-11-120 or between a gestational child and a parent under  
3 section 15-11-121, the child is in the process of being adopted by the  
4 parent's spouse OR ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL when that spouse OR INDIVIDUAL  
5 dies, the child is treated as adopted by the deceased spouse OR  
6 INDIVIDUAL for the purpose of paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of this  
7 section.

8 **SECTION 7.** 15-11-119 (2.5) (a) and (2.5) (b), Colorado Revised  
9 Statutes, as they will become effective July 1, 2010, are amended to read:

10 **15-11-119. Adoptee and adoptee's genetic parents. (2.5) Child**  
11 **of a second-parent adoption.** A parent-child relationship exists between  
12 an individual who is adopted by a second parent and:

13 (a) ~~The~~ A genetic parent who consented to a second-parent  
14 adoption; and

15 (b) ~~The other~~ ANOTHER genetic parent WHO IS NOT A THIRD-PARTY  
16 DONOR, but only for the purpose of the right of the adoptee or a  
17 descendant of the adoptee to inherit from or through the other genetic  
18 parent.

19 **SECTION 8.** 15-11-120 (8), Colorado Revised Statutes, as it will  
20 become effective July 1, 2010, is amended to read:

21 **15-11-120. Child conceived by assisted reproduction other**  
22 **than child born to gestational carrier. (8) Presumption - birth**  
23 **mother is married or surviving spouse.** For the purpose of paragraph  
24 (b) of subsection (6) of this section, the following rules apply:

25 (a) If the birth mother is married AT THE TIME OF CONCEPTION and  
26 no divorce proceeding is THEN pending, ~~in the absence of clear and~~  
27 ~~convincing evidence to the contrary,~~ her spouse satisfies IS PRESUMED TO

1 SATISFY the requirements of subparagraph (I) or (II) of paragraph (b) of  
2 subsection (6) of this section.

3 (b) If the birth mother is a surviving spouse and at her deceased  
4 spouse's death no divorce proceeding was pending, ~~in the absence of clear~~  
5 ~~and convincing evidence to the contrary~~, her deceased spouse satisfies IS  
6 PRESUMED TO SATISFY the requirements of subparagraph (II) or (III) of  
7 paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of this section.

8 **SECTION 9.** 15-11-502, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
9 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

10 **15-11-502. Execution - witnessed or notarized wills -**  
11 **holographic wills.** (5) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PART 5, "WILL" DOES NOT  
12 INCLUDE A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT THAT IS EXECUTED  
13 PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 22 OF THIS TITLE.

14 **SECTION 10.** 15-11-503, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
15 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

16 **15-11-503. Writings intended as wills.** (4) SUBSECTION (1) OF  
17 THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY  
18 AGREEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 22 OF THIS TITLE.

19 **SECTION 11.** 15-11-701 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended, and the said 15-11-701 is further amended BY THE  
21 ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

22 **15-11-701. Scope.** For the purposes of this part 7, the term  
23 "governing instrument" shall be as defined in section 15-10-201 (22);  
24 except:

25 (1) "Governing instrument" shall not include a deed ~~which~~ THAT  
26 transfers any interest in real property; however, section 15-11-712 shall  
27 apply to such deeds. ~~and~~



1 (3) IN THE ABSENCE OF A FINDING OF A CONTRARY INTENTION, THE  
2 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION IN SECTION 15-11-705 APPLY TO A GOVERNING  
3 INSTRUMENT EXECUTED OR REPUBLISHED OR REAFFIRMED ON OR AFTER  
4 JULY 1, 2010, AND THE RULES OF CONSTRUCTION UNDER SECTION  
5 15-11-705, AS IT EXISTED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2010, APPLY TO A GOVERNING  
6 INSTRUMENT EXECUTED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2010, AND NOT REPUBLISHED OR  
7 REAFFIRMED AFTER THAT DATE.

8 **SECTION 12.** 15-11-705 (3) and (4), Colorado Revised Statutes,  
9 as they will become effective July 1, 2010, are amended to read:

10 **15-11-705. Class gifts construed to accord with intestate**  
11 **succession.** (3) **Relatives by marriage.** Terms of relationship in a  
12 governing instrument that do not differentiate relationships by blood from  
13 those by marriage, such as uncles, aunts, nieces, or nephews, ~~are~~  
14 STANDING ALONE SHALL BE construed to exclude relatives by marriage.  
15 ~~unless:~~

16 ~~(a) When the governing instrument was executed, the class was~~  
17 ~~then and foreseeably would be empty; or~~

18 ~~(b) The language or circumstances otherwise establish that~~  
19 ~~relatives by marriage were intended to be included.~~

20 (4) **Half-blood relatives.** Terms of relationship in a governing  
21 instrument that do not differentiate relationships by the half blood from  
22 those by the whole blood, such as brothers, sisters, nieces, or nephews,  
23 ~~are~~ STANDING ALONE SHALL BE construed to include both types of  
24 relationships.

25 **SECTION 13.** 15-12-203 (1) (b.5), Colorado Revised Statutes,  
26 is amended to read:

27 **15-12-203. Priority among persons seeking appointment as**

1 **personal representative.** (1) Whether the proceedings are formal or  
2 informal, persons who are not disqualified have priority for appointment  
3 in the following order:

4 (b.5) A person ~~nominated~~ GIVEN PRIORITY to be a personal  
5 representative ~~by a power conferred~~ in a designated beneficiary  
6 agreement MADE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 22 OF THIS TITLE;

7 **SECTION 14.** 15-12-703, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
8 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

9 **15-12-703. General duties - relation and liability to persons**  
10 **interested in estate - standing to sue.** (3.5) A PERSONAL  
11 REPRESENTATIVE SHALL NOT BE SURCHARGED FOR DISTRIBUTIONS MADE  
12 THAT DO NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE POSSIBLE BIRTH OF A  
13 POSTHUMOUSLY CONCEIVED CHILD UNLESS PRIOR TO SUCH DISTRIBUTION:

14 (a) THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE HAS RECEIVED NOTICE OR HAS  
15 ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT A PARTY INTENDS TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL'S  
16 GENETIC MATERIAL TO CREATE A CHILD OR HAS RECEIVED WRITTEN  
17 NOTICE THAT A PARTY MAY INTEND TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL'S GENETIC  
18 MATERIAL TO CREATE A CHILD; AND

19 (b) THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD COULD AFFECT THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
20 THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE.

21 **SECTION 15.** 15-12-705 (1) (g) and (1) (h), Colorado Revised  
22 Statutes, are amended, and the said 15-12-705 (1) is further amended BY  
23 THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH, to read:

24 **15-12-705. Duty of personal representative - information to**  
25 **heirs and devisees.** (1) Not later than thirty days after appointment,  
26 every personal representative, except any special administrator, shall give  
27 information of his or her appointment to the heirs and devisees, including,

1 if there has been no formal testacy proceeding and if the personal  
2 representative was appointed on the assumption that the decedent died  
3 intestate, the devisees in any will mentioned in the application for  
4 appointment of a personal representative. The information shall be  
5 delivered or sent by ordinary mail to each of the heirs and devisees whose  
6 address is reasonably available to the personal representative. The duty  
7 does not extend to require information to persons who have been  
8 adjudicated in a prior formal testacy proceeding to have no interest in the  
9 estate. The information shall:

10 (g) Indicate that, because a court will not routinely review or  
11 adjudicate matters unless it is specifically requested to do so by a  
12 beneficiary, creditor, or other interested person, all interested persons,  
13 including beneficiaries and creditors, have the responsibility to protect  
14 their own rights and interests in the estate in the manner provided by the  
15 provisions of this code by filing an appropriate pleading with the court by  
16 which the estate is being administered and serving it on all interested  
17 persons pursuant to section 15-10-401; ~~and~~

18 (h) Indicate that all interested parties have the right to obtain  
19 information about the estate by filing a demand for notice pursuant to  
20 section 15-12-204; AND

21 (i) INDICATE THAT ANY PERSON WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE THAT A  
22 PARTY INTENDS OR MAY INTEND TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL'S GENETIC  
23 MATERIAL TO CREATE A CHILD AND THAT THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD COULD  
24 AFFECT THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE SHOULD GIVE  
25 WRITTEN NOTICE OF SUCH KNOWLEDGE TO THE PERSONAL  
26 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE.

27 **SECTION 16.** 15-12-808, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended

1 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

2 **15-12-808. Individual liability of personal representative.**

3 (5) A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IS NOT INDIVIDUALLY LIABLE FOR  
4 MAKING DISTRIBUTIONS THAT DO NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE  
5 POSSIBLE BIRTH OF A POSTHUMOUSLY CONCEIVED CHILD IF THE PERSONAL  
6 REPRESENTATIVE MADE THE DISTRIBUTION PRIOR TO RECEIVING NOTICE OR  
7 ACQUIRING ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT:

8 (a) A PARTY INTENDS OR MAY INTEND TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL'S  
9 GENETIC MATERIAL TO CREATE A CHILD; AND

10 (b) THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD COULD AFFECT THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
11 THE DECEDENT'S ESTATE.

12 **SECTION 17.** 15-16-306, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended  
13 BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION to read:

14 **15-16-306. Personal liability of trustee to third parties.** (7) A  
15 TRUSTEE IS NOT PERSONALLY LIABLE FOR MAKING DISTRIBUTIONS OF  
16 PROPERTY THAT DO NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE POSSIBLE BIRTH  
17 OF A POSTHUMOUSLY CONCEIVED CHILD UNLESS, PRIOR TO THE  
18 DISTRIBUTION, THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVED NOTICE OR  
19 ACQUIRED ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT:

20 (a) A PARTY INTENDS OR MAY INTEND TO USE AN INDIVIDUAL'S  
21 GENETIC MATERIAL TO CREATE A CHILD; AND

22 (b) THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD COULD AFFECT THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
23 THE TRUST ASSETS.

24 **SECTION 18.** 15-14-310 (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
25 amended to read:

26 **15-14-310. Who may be guardian - priorities - prohibition of**  
27 **dual roles.** (1) Subject to subsection (4) of this section, the court in

1 appointing a guardian shall consider persons otherwise qualified in the  
2 following order of priority:

3 (b) A person nominated as guardian by the respondent, including  
4 the respondent's specific nomination of a guardian made in a durable  
5 power of attorney or GIVEN PRIORITY TO BE A GUARDIAN in a designated  
6 beneficiary agreement made pursuant to article 22 of this title;

7 **SECTION 19.** 15-14-413 (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended to read:

9 **15-14-413. Who may be conservator - priorities - prohibition**  
10 **of dual roles.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this  
11 section, the court, in appointing a conservator, shall consider persons  
12 otherwise qualified in the following order of priority:

13 (b) A person nominated as conservator by the respondent,  
14 including the respondent's specific nomination of a conservator made in  
15 a durable power of attorney or GIVEN PRIORITY TO BE A CONSERVATOR in  
16 a designated beneficiary agreement MADE pursuant to article 22 of this  
17 title, if the respondent has attained twelve years of age;

18 **SECTION 20.** 15-18.5-103 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
19 amended to read:

20 **15-18.5-103. Proxy decision-makers for medical treatment**  
21 **authorized.** (1) A health care provider or health care facility may rely,  
22 in good faith, upon the medical treatment decision of a proxy  
23 decision-maker selected in accordance with subsection (4) of this section  
24 if an adult patient's attending physician determines that such patient lacks  
25 the decisional capacity to provide informed consent to or refusal of  
26 medical treatment and no guardian with medical decision-making  
27 authority, agent appointed in a medical durable power of attorney, person

1 ~~designated as a designated beneficiary~~ with the right to act as a proxy  
2 decision-maker IN A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT MADE  
3 pursuant to article 22 of this title, or other known person has the legal  
4 authority to provide such consent or refusal on the patient's behalf.

5 **SECTION 21.** 15-18.5-104 (1), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended to read:

7 **15-18.5-104. Surrogate decision-makers for health care**  
8 **benefits.** (1) A proxy decision-maker for medical treatment selected in  
9 accordance with section 15-18.5-103 or a person ~~designated as a~~  
10 ~~designated beneficiary~~ with the right to act as a surrogate decision-maker  
11 IN A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT MADE pursuant to article 22  
12 of this title shall have authority to make health care benefit decisions on  
13 behalf of an adult patient and may be known additionally as a surrogate  
14 decision-maker for health care benefits.

15 **SECTION 22.** 15-19-106 (1) (c.5), Colorado Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended to read:

17 **15-19-106. Right to dispose of remains.** (1) Subject to section  
18 15-19-105 (2), the right to control disposition of the last remains or  
19 ceremonial arrangements of a decedent vests in and devolves upon the  
20 following persons, at the time of the decedent's death, in the following  
21 order:

22 (c.5) A ~~designated beneficiary who was designated in a designated~~  
23 ~~beneficiary agreement pursuant to article 22 of this title as having~~ PERSON  
24 WITH the right to direct the disposition of the decedent's last remains IN A  
25 DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT MADE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 22  
26 OF THIS TITLE;

27 **SECTION 23.** 15-22-106, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended

1 to read:

2 **15-22-106. Statutory form of a designated beneficiary**  
3 **agreement.** (1) The following statutory form shall be the standard form  
4 for a designated beneficiary agreement:

5 **DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT**

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6

7 **DISCLAIMER**

8 **Warning: While this document may indicate your wishes, certain**  
9 **additional documents may be needed to protect these rights.**

10 **This designated beneficiary agreement is operative in the absence of**  
11 **other estate planning documents and will be superseded and set aside**  
12 **to the extent it conflicts with valid instruments such as a will, power**  
13 **of attorney, or beneficiary designation on an insurance policy or**  
14 **pension plan. This designated beneficiary agreement is superseded**  
15 **by such other documents and does not cause any changes to be made**  
16 **to those documents or designations. The parties understand that**  
17 **executing and signing this agreement is not sufficient to designate the**  
18 **other party for purposes of any insurance policy, pension plan,**  
19 **payable upon death designation or manner in which title to property**  
20 **is held and that additional action will be required to make or change**  
21 **such designations. The parties understand that this designated**  
22 **beneficiary agreement may be one component of estate planning**  
23 **instructions and that they are encouraged to consult an attorney to**  
24 **ensure their estate planning wishes are accomplished.**

25

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26 We, \_\_\_\_\_, (insert full name and address) referred to as party  
27 A, and \_\_\_\_\_, (insert full name and address) referred to as

1 party B, hereby designate each other as the other's designated beneficiary  
2 with the following rights and protections, granted or withheld as indicated  
3 by our initials:

4 TO GRANT ONE OR MORE OF THE RIGHTS OR PROTECTIONS  
5 SPECIFIED IN THIS FORM, INITIAL THE LINE TO THE LEFT OF  
6 EACH RIGHT OR PROTECTION YOU ARE GRANTING. TO  
7 WITHHOLD A RIGHT OR PROTECTION, INITIAL THE LINE TO  
8 THE RIGHT OF EACH RIGHT OR PROTECTION YOU ARE  
9 WITHHOLDING.

10 A DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT SHALL BE  
11 PRESUMED TO GRANT ALL OF THE RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS  
12 LISTED IN THIS FORM UNLESS THE PARTIES WITHHOLD A  
13 RIGHT OR PROTECTION IN THE MANNER SET FORTH  
14 IMMEDIATELY ABOVE.

15 TO GRANT A RIGHT	TO WITHHOLD A RIGHT
16 OR PROTECTION	OR PROTECTION
17 INITIAL	INITIAL

18 Party A	Party B	Party A	Party B
------------	---------	---------	---------

19 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to acquire, hold title to, own \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
20 jointly, or transfer inter vivos or at death real or personal property as a  
21 joint tenant with me with right of survivorship or as a tenant in common  
22 with me;

23 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to be designated by me as a \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
24 beneficiary, payee, or owner as a trustee named in an inter vivos or  
25 testamentary trust for the purposes of a nonprobate transfer on death;

26 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to be designated by me as a \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
27 beneficiary and recognized as a dependent in an insurance policy for life



1 insurance;

2 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to be designated by me as a \_\_\_ \_\_\_

3 beneficiary and recognized as a dependent in a health insurance policy if

4 my employer elects to provide health insurance coverage for designated

5 beneficiaries;

6 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to be designated by me as a \_\_\_ \_\_\_

7 beneficiary in a retirement or pension plan;

8 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to petition for and have \_\_\_ \_\_\_

9 priority for appointment as a conservator, guardian, or personal

10 representative for me;

11 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to visit me in a hospital, \_\_\_ \_\_\_

12 nursing home, hospice, or similar health care facility in which a party to

13 a designated beneficiary agreement resides or is receiving care;

14 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to initiate a formal \_\_\_ \_\_\_

15 complaint regarding alleged violations of my rights as a nursing home

16 patient as provided in section 25-1-120, Colorado Revised Statutes;

17 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to act as a proxy \_\_\_ \_\_\_

18 decision-maker or surrogate decision-maker to make medical care

19 decisions for me pursuant to section 15-18.5-103 or 15-18.5-104,

20 Colorado Revised Statutes;

21 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to notice of the withholding \_\_\_ \_\_\_

22 or withdrawal of life-sustaining procedures for me pursuant to section

23 15-18-107, Colorado Revised Statutes;

24 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to challenge the validity of \_\_\_ \_\_\_

25 a declaration as to medical or surgical treatment of me pursuant to section

26 ~~15-18-107~~ 15-18-108, Colorado Revised Statutes;

27 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to act as my agent to make, \_\_\_ \_\_\_

1 revoke, or object to anatomical gifts involving my person pursuant to the  
2 "Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act", part 1 of article 34 of title 12,  
3 Colorado Revised Statutes;

4 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to inherit real or personal \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
5 property from me through intestate succession;

6 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to have standing to receive \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
7 benefits pursuant to the "Workers' Compensation Act of Colorado",  
8 article 40 of title 8, Colorado Revised Statutes, in the event of my death  
9 on the job;

10 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to have standing to sue for \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
11 wrongful death in the event of my death; and

12 \_\_\_ \_\_\_ The right to direct the disposition of \_\_\_ \_\_\_  
13 my last remains pursuant to article 19 of title 15, Colorado Revised  
14 Statutes.

15 THIS DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT IS EFFECTIVE  
16 WHEN RECEIVED FOR RECORDING BY THE COUNTY CLERK  
17 AND RECORDER OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH ONE OF THE  
18 DESIGNATED BENEFICIARIES RESIDES. THIS DESIGNATED  
19 BENEFICIARY AGREEMENT WILL CONTINUE IN EFFECT UNTIL  
20 ONE OF THE DESIGNATED BENEFICIARIES REVOKES THIS  
21 AGREEMENT BY RECORDING A REVOCATION OF DESIGNATED  
22 BENEFICIARY FORM WITH THE COUNTY CLERK AND  
23 RECORDER OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH THIS AGREEMENT  
24 WAS RECORDED OR UNTIL THIS AGREEMENT IS SUPERSEDED  
25 IN PART OR IN WHOLE BY A SUPERSEDING LEGAL  
26 DOCUMENT.

27 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Signature of designated beneficiary Signature of designated beneficiary

2 STATE OF COLORADO

3 County of \_\_\_\_\_

4 This document was ~~subscribed, sworn to, and~~ acknowledged before me

5 on \_\_\_\_\_ date

6 by

7 \_\_\_\_\_

8 My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

9 [Seal]

10 \_\_\_\_\_

11 Notary Public

12 (2) The instructions to each party regarding how to grant or  
13 withhold a right or protection by initialing and the words "Party A" and  
14 "Party B" shall appear at the top of each page of the statutory form above  
15 the columns for the initials of the designated beneficiaries.

16 (3) A designated beneficiary agreement shall be presumed to  
17 extend all of the rights and protections listed in the statutory form unless  
18 the parties to the agreement explicitly exclude a right or protection.

19 (4) A party to a designated beneficiary agreement may limit the  
20 scope of a designated beneficiary agreement by the terms of the  
21 agreement or by executing a superseding legal document that controls and  
22 supersedes part or all of the designated beneficiary agreement.

23 **SECTION 24.** Section 17 of chapter 310, Session Laws of  
24 Colorado 2009, is amended to read:

25 Section 17. **Effective date - applicability.** (1) This act takes  
26 effect on July 1, 2010.

27 (2) This act applies on or after July 1, 2010, to:

1 (a) Governing instruments executed by decedents dying on or after  
2 July 1, 2010; AND

3 (b) Any proceedings in court then pending or thereafter  
4 commenced regardless of the time of death of the decedent except to the  
5 extent that, in the opinion of the court, the former ~~procedure~~ STATUTE  
6 should be made applicable in a particular case in the interest of justice or  
7 because of infeasibility of application of ~~the procedure of the "Colorado~~  
8 ~~Probate Code"~~, articles 10 to 17 of title 15, Colorado Revised Statutes A  
9 PROVISION OF THIS ACT.

10 (c) ~~An act done before the effective date of this act in any~~  
11 ~~proceeding and any accrued right is not impaired by this act. If a right is~~  
12 ~~acquired, extinguished, or barred upon the expiration of a prescribed~~  
13 ~~period of time which has commenced to run by the provisions of any~~  
14 ~~statute before the effective date of this act, the provisions shall remain in~~  
15 ~~force with respect to that right; and~~

16 (d) ~~Any rule of construction or presumption provided in this act~~  
17 ~~applies to governing instruments executed before the effective date of this~~  
18 ~~act unless there is a clear indication of a contrary intent.~~

19 (3) THIS ACT SHALL NOT APPLY TO:

20 (a) AN ACTION PERFORMED BEFORE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
21 ACT IN ANY PROCEEDING;

22 (b) AN ACCRUED RIGHT;

23 (c) A RIGHT THAT IS ACQUIRED, EXTINGUISHED, OR BARRED UPON  
24 THE EXPIRATION OF A PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF TIME THAT HAS COMMENCED  
25 TO RUN BY THE PROVISIONS OF ANY STATUTE BEFORE JULY 1, 2010; OR

26 (d) A PROVISION OF A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT THAT WAS  
27 EXECUTED BEFORE JULY 1, 2010, AND INCLUDES A CLEAR INDICATION OF

1 A CONTRARY INTENT.

2 **SECTION 25. Specified effective date - applicability.** (1) This  
3 act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

4 (2) This act shall apply to:

5 (a) Governing instruments executed by decedents who die on or  
6 after July 1, 2010; and

7 (b) Any proceeding in court then pending or thereafter  
8 commenced regardless of the time of death of the decedent except to the  
9 extent that, in the opinion of the court, the former statute should be made  
10 applicable in a particular case in the interest of justice or because of  
11 infeasibility of application of a provision of this act.

12 (3) This act shall not apply to:

13 (a) An action performed before the effective date of this act in any  
14 proceeding;

15 (b) An accrued right;

16 (c) A right that is acquired, extinguished, or barred upon the  
17 expiration of a prescribed period of time that has commenced to run by  
18 the provisions of any statute before July 1, 2010; or

19 (d) A provision of a governing instrument that was executed  
20 before July 1, 2010, and includes a clear indication of a contrary intent.

21 **SECTION 26. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
22 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
23 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.