1	AN ACT
2	RELATING TO PROPERTY; ENACTING THE UNIFORM POWERS OF
3	APPOINTMENT ACT; MAKING TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES TO
4	THE UNIFORM PROBATE CODE AND THE UNIFORM TRUST CODE; AMENDING
5	PROVISIONS OF THE UNIFORM PROBATE CODE PERTAINING TO NOTICE,
6	TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS, PENALTY CLAUSES AND CLOSING
7	AN ESTATE.
8	
9	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:
10	Article l
11	GENERAL PROVISIONS
12	SECTION 101. SHORT TITLESections 101 through 603 of
13	this act may be cited as the "Uniform Powers of Appointment
14	Act".
15	SECTION 102. DEFINITIONSAs used in the Uniform
16	Powers of Appointment Act:
17	A. "appointee" means a person to which a
18	powerholder makes an appointment of appointive property;
19	B. "appointive property" means the property or
20	property interest subject to a power of appointment;
21	C. "blanket-exercise clause" means a clause in an
22	instrument that exercises a power of appointment and is not a
23	specific-exercise clause. "Blanket-exercise clause" includes
24	a clause that:
25	(1) expressly uses the words "any power" in

SB 155 Page 1

1	exercising any power of appointment the powerholder has;	
2	(2) expressly uses the words "any property"	
3	in appointing any property over which the powerholder has a	
4	power of appointment; or	
5	(3) disposes of all property subject to	
6	disposition by the powerholder;	
7	D. "donor" means a person that creates a power of	
8	appointment;	
9	E. "exclusionary power of appointment" means a	
10	power of appointment exercisable in favor of any one or more	
11	of the permissible appointees to the exclusion of the other	
12	permissible appointees;	
13	F. "general power of appointment" means a power of	
14	appointment exercisable in favor of the powerholder, the	
15	powerholder's estate, a creditor of the powerholder or a	
16	creditor of the powerholder's estate;	
17	G. "gift-in-default clause" means a clause	
18	identifying a taker in default of appointment;	
19	H. "impermissible appointee" means a person that	
20	is not a permissible appointee;	
21	I. "instrument" means a record;	
22	J. "nongeneral power of appointment" means a power	
23	of appointment that is not a general power of appointment;	
24	K. "permissible appointee" means a person in whose	
25	favor a powerholder may exercise a power of appointment;	SB 155 Page 2

1	L. "person" means an individual; an estate; a
2	trust; a business or nonprofit entity; a public corporation;
3	a government or governmental subdivision, agency or
4	instrumentality; or another legal entity;
5	M. "power of appointment" means a power that
6	enables a powerholder acting in a nonfiduciary capacity to
7	designate a recipient of an ownership interest in or another
8	power of appointment over the appointive property. "Power of
9	appointment" does not include a power of attorney;
10	N. "powerholder" means a person in which a donor
11	creates a power of appointment;
12	0. "presently exercisable power of appointment"
13	means a power of appointment exercisable by the powerholder
14	at the relevant time. "Presently exercisable power of
15	appointment":
16	(1) includes a power of appointment not
17	exercisable until the occurrence of a specified event, the
18	satisfaction of an ascertainable standard or the passage of a
19	specified time only after:
20	(a) the occurrence of the specified
21	event;
22	(b) the satisfaction of the
23	ascertainable standard; or
24	(c) the passage of the specified time;
25	and

SB 155 Page 3

B. the exercise, release or disclaimer of the

power, or the revocation or amendment of the exercise,

24

1	release or disclaimer of the power, is governed by the law of
2	the powerholder's domicile at the relevant time.
3	SECTION 104. COMMON LAW AND PRINCIPLES OF EQUITYThe
4	common law and principles of equity supplement the Uniform
5	Powers of Appointment Act, except to the extent modified by
6	that act or New Mexico law other than that act.
7	Article 2
8	CREATION, REVOCATION AND AMENDMENT OF POWER OF APPOINTMENT
9	SECTION 201. CREATION OF POWER OF APPOINTMENT
10	A. A power of appointment is created only if:
11	(1) the instrument creating the power:
12	(a) is valid under applicable law; and
13	(b) except as otherwise provided in
14	Subsection B of this section, transfers the appointive
15	property; and
16	(2) the terms of the instrument creating the
17	power manifest the donor's intent to create in a powerholder
18	a power of appointment over the appointive property
19	exercisable in favor of a permissible appointee.
20	B. Subparagraph (b) of Paragraph (1) of Subsection
21	A of this section does not apply to the creation of a power
22	of appointment by the exercise of a power of appointment.
23	C. A power of appointment shall not be created in
24	a deceased individual.
25	D. Subject to the provisions of Section 45-2-901 $_{ m SJ}$

1	NMSA 1978, a power of appointment may be created in an unborn
2	or unascertained powerholder.
3	SECTION 202. NONTRANSFERABILITYA powerholder shall
4	not transfer a power of appointment. If a powerholder dies
5	without exercising or releasing a power, the power lapses.
6	SECTION 203. PRESUMPTION OF UNLIMITED
7	AUTHORITYSubject to Section 205 of the Uniform Powers of
8	Appointment Act, and unless the terms of the instrument
9	creating a power of appointment manifest a contrary intent,
10	the power is:
11	A. presently exercisable;
12	B. exclusionary; and
13	C. except as otherwise provided in Section 204 of
14	the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, general.
15	SECTION 204. EXCEPTION TO PRESUMPTION OF UNLIMITED
16	AUTHORITYUnless the terms of the instrument creating a
17	power of appointment manifest a contrary intent, the power is
18	nongeneral if:
19	A. the power is exercisable only at the
20	powerholder's death; and
21	B. the permissible appointees of the power are a
22	defined and limited class that does not include the
23	powerholder's estate, the powerholder's creditors or the
24	creditors of the powerholder's estate.
25	SECTION 205. RULES OF CLASSIFICATION

1	A. As used in this section, "adverse party" means	
2	a person with a substantial beneficial interest in property	
3	that would be affected adversely by a powerholder's exercise	
4	or nonexercise of a power of appointment in favor of the	
5	powerholder, the powerholder's estate, a creditor of the	
6	powerholder or a creditor of the powerholder's estate.	
7	B. If a powerholder may exercise a power of	
8	appointment only with the consent or joinder of an adverse	
9	party, the power is nongeneral.	
10	C. If the permissible appointees of a power of	
11	appointment are not defined and limited, the power is	
12	exclusionary.	
13	SECTION 206. POWER TO REVOKE OR AMENDA donor may	
14	revoke or amend a power of appointment only to the extent	
15	that:	
16	A. the instrument creating the power is revocable	
17	by the donor; or	
18	B. the donor reserves a power of revocation or	
19	amendment in the instrument creating the power of	
20	appointment.	
21	Article 3	
22	EXERCISE OF POWER OF APPOINTMENT	
23	SECTION 301. REQUISITES FOR EXERCISE OF POWER OF	
24	APPOINTMENTA power of appointment is exercised only:	
25	A. if the instrument exercising the power is valid	SB 155 Page 7

1	under applicable law; and	
2	B. if the terms of the instrument exercising the	
3	power:	
4	(1) manifest the powerholder's intent to	
5	exercise the power; and	
6	(2) subject to Section 304 of the Uniform	
7	Powers of Appointment Act, satisfy the requirements of	
8	exercise, if any, imposed by the donor; and	
9	C. to the extent the appointment is a permissible	
10	exercise of the power.	
11	SECTION 302. INTENT TO EXERCISEDETERMINING INTENT	
12	FROM RESIDUARY CLAUSE	
13	A. As used in this section:	
14	(l) "residuary clause" does not include a	
15	residuary clause containing a blanket-exercise clause or a	
16	specific-exercise clause; and	
17	(2) "will" includes a codicil and a	
18	testamentary instrument that revises another will.	
19	B. A residuary clause in a powerholder's will, or	
20	a comparable clause in the powerholder's revocable trust,	
21	manifests the powerholder's intent to exercise a power of	
22	appointment only if:	
23	(1) the terms of the instrument containing	
24	the residuary clause do not manifest a contrary intent;	
25	(2) the power is a general power exercisable	SB 155 Page 8

1	in favor of the powerholder's estate;
2	(3) there is no gift-in-default clause or
3	the gift-in-default clause is ineffective; and
4	(4) the powerholder did not release the
5	power.
6	SECTION 303. INTENT TO EXERCISEAFTER-ACQUIRED
7	POWERUnless the terms of the instrument exercising a power
8	of appointment manifest a contrary intent:
9	A. except as otherwise provided in Subsection B of
10	this section, a blanket-exercise clause extends to a power
11	acquired by the powerholder after executing the instrument
12	containing the clause; and
13	B. if the powerholder is also the donor of the
14	power, the clause does not extend to the power unless there
15	is no gift-in-default clause or the gift-in-default clause is
16	ineffective.
17	SECTION 304. SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH DONOR-IMPOSED
18	FORMAL REQUIREMENTA powerholder's substantial compliance
19	with a formal requirement of appointment imposed by the
20	donor, including a requirement that the instrument exercising
21	the power of appointment make reference or specific reference
22	to the power, is sufficient if:
23	A. the powerholder knows of and intends to
24	exercise the power; and

B. the powerholder's manner of attempted exercise $\ensuremath{\mathsf{B}}$

SECTION 306. APPOINTMENT TO DECEASED APPOINTEE OR

the original nongeneral power.

24

A. Subject to Sections 45-2-603 and 45-2-707 NMSA 1978, an appointment to a deceased appointee is ineffective.

B. Unless the terms of the instrument creating a power of appointment manifest a contrary intent, a powerholder of a nongeneral power may exercise the power in favor of, or create a new power of appointment in, a descendant of a deceased permissible appointee whether or not the descendant is described by the donor as a permissible appointee.

SECTION 307. IMPERMISSIBLE APPOINTMENT.--

A. Except as otherwise provided in Section 306 of the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, an exercise of a power of appointment in favor of an impermissible appointee is ineffective.

B. An exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a permissible appointee is ineffective to the extent the appointment is a fraud on the power.

SECTION 308. SELECTIVE ALLOCATION DOCTRINE.--If a powerholder exercises a power of appointment in a disposition that also disposes of property the powerholder owns, the owned property and the appointive property must be allocated in the permissible manner that best carries out the powerholder's intent.

SECTION 309. CAPTURE DOCTRINE--DISPOSITION OF

the gift-in-default clause controls the

disposition of the unappointed property; or

24

1	B. if there is no gift-in-default clause or to the
2	extent the clause is ineffective:
3	(1) except as otherwise provided in
4	Paragraph (2) of this subsection, the unappointed property
5	passes to:
6	(a) the powerholder if the powerholder
7	is a permissible appointee and is living; or
8	(b) if the powerholder is an
9	impermissible appointee or deceased, the powerholder's estate
10	if the estate is a permissible appointee; or
11	(2) to the extent the powerholder released
12	the power, or if there is no taker under Paragraph (1) of
13	this subsection, the unappointed property passes under a
14	reversionary interest to the donor or the donor's transferee
15	or successor in interest.
16	SECTION 311. DISPOSITION OF UNAPPOINTED PROPERTY UNDER
17	RELEASED OR UNEXERCISED NONGENERAL POWERTo the extent a
18	powerholder releases, ineffectively exercises or fails to
19	exercise a nongeneral power of appointment:
20	A. the gift-in-default clause controls the
21	disposition of the unappointed property; or
22	B. if there is no gift-in-default clause or to the
23	extent that the clause is ineffective, the unappointed
24	property:
25	(1) passes to the permissible appointees if: SB 155
	Page 13

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

22

23

24

25

(a) the permissible appointees are defined and limited; and

(b) the terms of the instrument creating the power do not manifest a contrary intent; or

(2) if there is no taker under Paragraph (1) of this subsection, passes under a reversionary interest to the donor or the donor's transferee or successor in interest.

SECTION 312. DISPOSITION OF UNAPPOINTED PROPERTY IF
PARTIAL APPOINTMENT TO TAKER IN DEFAULT.--Unless the terms of
the instrument creating or exercising a power of appointment
manifest a contrary intent, if the powerholder makes a valid
partial appointment to a taker in default of appointment, the
taker in default of appointment may share fully in
unappointed property.

SECTION 313. APPOINTMENT TO TAKER IN DEFAULT.--If a powerholder makes an appointment to a taker in default of appointment and the appointee would have taken the property under a gift-in-default clause had the property not been appointed, the power of appointment is deemed not to have been exercised and the appointee takes under the clause.

SECTION 314. POWERHOLDER'S AUTHORITY TO REVOKE OR AMEND EXERCISE.--A powerholder may revoke or amend an exercise of a power of appointment only to the extent that:

A. the powerholder reserves a power of revocation or amendment in the instrument exercising the power of

1	appointment and, if the power is nongeneral, the terms of the
2	instrument creating the power of appointment do not prohibit
3	the reservation; or
4	B. the terms of the instrument creating the power
5	of appointment provide that the exercise is revocable or
6	amendable.
7	Article 4
8	DISCLAIMER OR RELEASE; CONTRACT TO APPOINT OR NOT TO APPOINT
9	SECTION 401. DISCLAIMERAs provided by the Uniform
10	Disclaimer of Property Interests Act:
11	A. a powerholder may disclaim all or part of a
12	power of appointment; and
13	B. a permissible appointee, appointee or taker in
14	default of appointment may disclaim all or part of an
15	interest in appointive property.
16	SECTION 402. AUTHORITY TO RELEASEA powerholder may
17	release a power of appointment, in whole or in part, except
18	to the extent that the terms of the instrument creating the
19	power prevent the release.
20	SECTION 403. METHOD OF RELEASEA powerholder of a
21	releasable power of appointment may release the power in
22	whole or in part:
23	A. by substantial compliance with a method
24	provided in the terms of the instrument creating the power;
25	or

SB 155 Page 15

has reserved the power in a revocable trust.

SB 155 Page 16

В.

SECTION 407. REMEDY FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT TO APPOINT OR NOT TO APPOINT.--The remedy for a powerholder's breach of a contract to appoint or not to appoint appointive property is limited to damages payable out of the appointive property or, if appropriate, specific performance of the contract.

Article 5

RIGHTS OF POWERHOLDER'S CREDITORS IN APPOINTIVE PROPERTY

SECTION 501. CREDITOR CLAIM--GENERAL POWER CREATED BY

POWERHOLDER.--

- A. As used in this section, "power of appointment created by the powerholder" includes a power of appointment created in a transfer by another person to the extent that the powerholder contributed value to the transfer.
- B. Appointive property subject to a general power of appointment created by the powerholder is subject to a claim of a creditor of the powerholder or of the powerholder's estate to the extent provided in the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act.
- C. Subject to Subsection B of this section, appointive property subject to a general power of appointment created by the powerholder is not subject to a claim of a creditor of the powerholder or the powerholder's estate to the extent the powerholder irrevocably appointed the property in favor of a person other than the powerholder or the powerholder's estate.

D. Subject to Subsections B and C of this section, and notwithstanding the presence of a spendthrift provision or whether the claim arose before or after the creation of the power of appointment, appointive property subject to a general power of appointment created by the powerholder is subject to a claim of a creditor of:

- (1) the powerholder, to the same extent as if the powerholder owned the appointive property, if the power is presently exercisable; and
- (2) the powerholder's estate, to the extent the estate is insufficient to satisfy the claim and subject to the right of a decedent to direct the source from which liabilities are paid, if the power is exercisable at the powerholder's death.

SECTION 502. CREDITOR CLAIM--GENERAL POWER NOT CREATED
BY POWERHOLDER.--

- A. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection B of this section, appointive property subject to a general power of appointment created by a person other than the powerholder is subject to a claim of a creditor of:
- (1) the powerholder, to the extent that the powerholder's property is insufficient, if the power is presently exercisable; and
- (2) the powerholder's estate, to the extent that the estate is insufficient, subject to the right of a

decedent to direct the source from which liabilities are paid.

B. Subject to Subsection C of Section 504 of the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, a power of appointment created by a person other than the powerholder that is subject to an ascertainable standard relating to an individual's health, education, support or maintenance within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. Section 2041(b)(1)(A), as amended, or 26 U.S.C. Section 2514(c)(1), as amended, is treated for purposes of this article as a nongeneral power.

SECTION 503. POWER TO WITHDRAW.--

- A. For purposes of this article and except as otherwise provided in Subsection B of this section, a power to withdraw property from a trust is treated, during the time the power may be exercised, as a presently exercisable general power of appointment to the extent of the property subject to the power to withdraw.
- B. On the lapse, release or waiver of a power to withdraw property from a trust, the power is treated as a presently exercisable general power of appointment only to the extent that the value of the property affected by the lapse, release or waiver exceeds the greater of the amount specified in 26 U.S.C. Section 2041(b)(2), as amended, and 26 U.S.C. Section 2514(e), as amended, or the amount specified in 26 U.S.C. Section 2503(b), as amended.

A. Except as otherwise provided in Subsections B and C of this section, appointive property subject to a nongeneral power of appointment is exempt from a claim of a creditor of the powerholder or the powerholder's estate.

- B. Appointive property subject to a nongeneral power of appointment is subject to a claim of a creditor of the powerholder or the powerholder's estate to the extent that the powerholder owned the property and, reserving the nongeneral power, transferred the property in violation of the Uniform Voidable Transactions Act.
- C. If the initial gift in default of appointment is to the powerholder or the powerholder's estate, a nongeneral power of appointment is treated for purposes of this article as a general power.

Article 6

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SECTION 601. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION.--In applying and construing the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the act with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

SECTION 602. RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN

GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT.--The Uniform Powers of

Appointment Act modifies, limits or supersedes the Electronic

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

SECTION 603. APPLICATION TO EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS. --

A. Except as otherwise provided in the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act, on and after January 1, 2017:

- (1) the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act applies to a power of appointment created before, on or after January 1, 2017;
- (2) the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act applies to a judicial proceeding concerning a power of appointment commenced on or after January 1, 2017;
- applies to a judicial proceeding concerning a power of appointment commenced before January 1, 2017 unless the court finds that application of a particular provision of the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act would interfere substantially with the effective conduct of the judicial proceeding or prejudice a right of a party, in which case the particular provision of the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act does not apply and the superseded law applies;
- (4) a rule of construction or presumption provided in the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act applies to

an instrument executed before January 1, 2017 unless there is a clear indication of a contrary intent in the terms of the instrument; and

(5) except as otherwise provided in Paragraphs (1) through (4) of this subsection, an action done before January 1, 2017 is not affected by the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act.

B. If a right is acquired, extinguished or barred on the expiration of a prescribed period that commenced under New Mexico law other than the Uniform Powers of Appointment Act before January 1, 2017, the law continues to apply to the right.

SECTION 701. Section 45-1-108 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 1-108) is amended to read:

"45-1-108. ACTS BY HOLDER OF GENERAL POWER.-- For the purpose of granting consent or approval with regard to the acts or accounts of a personal representative or trustee, including relief from liability or penalty for failure to post bond, or to perform other duties, and for purposes of consenting to modification or termination of a trust or deviation from its terms, the sole holder or all co-holders of a presently exercisable general power of appointment, including one in the form of a power of amendment or revocation, are deemed to act for beneficiaries to the extent their interests, as objects, takers in default or otherwise,

are subject to the power."

SECTION 702. Section 45-1-401 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 1-401) is amended to read:

"45-1-401. NOTICE--METHOD AND TIME OF GIVING.--

A. If notice of a hearing on any petition is required and except for specific notice requirements as otherwise provided, the petitioner shall cause notice of the time and place of hearing of any petition to be given to any interested person or, if the interested person is represented by an attorney, to the attorney. Notice shall be given:

- (1) by mailing a copy thereof at least fourteen days before the time set for the hearing by certified, registered or ordinary first class mail addressed to the person being notified at the post office address given in the demand for notice, if any, or at the person's office or place of residence, if known;
- (2) by service of a copy thereof upon the person being notified in the manner provided by the rules of civil procedure for service of summons and complaint in civil actions; or
- (3) if the address or identity of any person is not known and cannot be ascertained with reasonable diligence, by publishing a copy thereof once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the hearing is to be held, the last

publication of which is to be at least ten days before the time set for the hearing.

- B. The court for good cause shown may provide for a different method or time of giving notice for a hearing.
- C. Proof of the giving of notice shall be made on or before the hearing and filed in the proceeding."

SECTION 703. Section 45-1-403 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 1-403, as amended) is amended to read:

"45-1-403. PLEADINGS.--In formal proceedings involving trusts, or estates of decedents, minors, protected persons or incapacitated persons, and in judicially supervised settlements, interests to be affected shall be described in pleadings that give reasonable information to owners by name or class, by reference to the instrument creating the interests or in another appropriate manner."

SECTION 704. A new section of the Uniform Probate Code, Section 45-1-403.1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"45-1-403.1. REPRESENTATION--BASIC EFFECT.--

- A. Notice to a person who may represent and bind another person pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 45 NMSA 1978 has the same effect as if notice were given directly to the other person.
- B. The consent of a person who may represent and bind another person pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 45

NMSA 1978 is binding on the person represented unless the person represented objects to the representation before the consent would otherwise have become effective.

- C. Except as otherwise provided in Sections 46A-4-411 and 46A-6-602 NMSA 1978, a person who, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 45 NMSA 1978, may represent a settlor who lacks capacity, may receive notice and give a binding consent on the settlor's behalf.
- D. A settlor shall not represent or bind a beneficiary pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 45 NMSA 1978 with respect to the termination or modification of a trust under Subsection A of Section 46A-4-411 NMSA 1978."

SECTION 705. A new section of the Uniform Probate Code, Section 45-1-403.2 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"45-1-403.2. REPRESENTATION BY HOLDER OF GENERAL
TESTAMENTARY POWER OF APPOINTMENT.--To the extent there is no
conflict of interest between the holder of a general
testamentary power of appointment and the persons represented
with respect to the particular question or dispute, the
holder may represent and bind persons whose interests, as
permissible appointees, takers in default or otherwise, are
subject to the power."

SECTION 706. A new section of the Uniform Probate Code, Section 45-1-403.3 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"45-1-403.3. REPRESENTATION BY FIDUCIARIES AND

1	PARENTSTo the extent there is no conflict of interest
2	between the representative and the person represented or
3	among those being represented with respect to a particular
4	question or dispute:
5	A. a conservator may represent and bind the estate
6	that the conservator controls;
7	B. a guardian may represent and bind the protected
8	person if a conservator of the protected person's estate has
9	not been appointed;
١0	C. an agent having authority to act with respect
۱1	to the particular question or dispute may represent and bind
l 2	the principal;
L 3	D. a trustee may represent and bind the
۱4	beneficiaries of the trust;
15	E. a personal representative of a decedent's
۱6	estate may represent and bind persons interested in the
۱7	estate; and
18	F. a parent may represent and bind the parent's
١9	minor or unborn child if a conservator or guardian for the
20	child has not been appointed."
21	SECTION 707. A new section of the Uniform Probate Code,
22	Section 45-1-403.4 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:
23	"45-1-403.4. REPRESENTATION BY PERSON HAVING
24	SUBSTANTIALLY IDENTICAL INTERESTUnless otherwise
25	represented, a minor, incapacitated or unborn person, or a

person whose identity or location is unknown and not reasonably ascertainable, may be represented by and bound by another having a substantially identical interest with respect to the particular question or dispute, but only to the extent that there is no conflict of interest between the representative and the person represented."

SECTION 708. A new section of the Uniform Probate Code, Section 45-1-403.5 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"45-1-403.5. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE.--

- A. If the court determines that an interest is not represented under Chapter 45 NMSA 1978, or that the otherwise available representation might be inadequate, the court may appoint a representative to receive notice, give consent and otherwise represent, bind and act on behalf of a minor, incapacitated or unborn person, or a person whose identity or location is unknown. A representative may be appointed to represent several persons or interests.
- B. A representative may act on behalf of the person represented with respect to any matter arising under the Uniform Probate Code, whether or not a judicial proceeding concerning the estate is pending.
- C. In making decisions, a representative may consider the general benefit accruing to the living members of the person's family."

SECTION 709. Section 45-2-506 NMSA 1978 (being Laws

1993, Chapter 174, Section 29) is amended to read:

"45-2-506. CHOICE OF LAW AS TO EXECUTION.--A written will is valid if executed in compliance with Section 45-2-502 NMSA 1978 or if its execution complies with the law at the time of execution of the place where the will is executed or of the law of the place where at the time of execution or at the time of death the testator is domiciled, has a place of abode or is a national."

SECTION 710. Section 45-2-517 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1995, Chapter 210, Section 13) is amended to read:

"45-2-517. PENALTY CLAUSE FOR CONTEST.--A provision in a governing instrument purporting to penalize an interested person for contesting the governing instrument or instituting other proceedings relating to the estate is unenforceable if probable cause exists for instituting proceedings."

SECTION 711. Section 45-2-608 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 174, Section 47) is amended to read:

"45-2-608. EXERCISE OF POWER OF APPOINTMENT.--In the absence of a requirement that a power of appointment be exercised by a reference or by an express or specific reference to the power, a general residuary clause in a will or a will making general disposition of all of the testator's property expresses an intention to exercise a power of appointment held by the testator only if:

A. the power is a general power exercisable in

1	favor of the powerholder's estate and the creating instrument
2	does not contain an effective gift if the power is not
3	exercised; or
4	B. the testator's will manifests an intention to
5	include the property subject to the power."
6	SECTION 712. Section 45-2-704 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
7	1993, Chapter 174, Section 52) is amended to read:
8	"45-2-704. POWER OF APPOINTMENTCOMPLIANCE WITH
9	SPECIFIC REFERENCE REQUIREMENTA powerholder's substantial
10	compliance with a formal requirement of appointment imposed
11	in a governing instrument by the donor, including a
12	requirement that the instrument exercising the power of
13	appointment make reference or specific reference to the
14	power, is sufficient if:
15	A. the powerholder knows of and intends to
16	exercise the power; and
17	B. the powerholder's manner of attempted exercise
18	does not impair a material purpose of the donor in imposing
19	the requirement."
20	SECTION 713. Section 45-2-904 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
21	1992, Chapter 66, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:
22	"45-2-904. EXCLUSIONSSection 45-2-901 NMSA 1978 does
23	not apply to:
24	A. a nonvested property interest or a power of

appointment arising out of a nondonative transfer, except a

SB 155 Page 29

1	nonvested property interest or a power of appointment arising
2	out of:
3	(l) a premarital or postmarital agreement;
4	(2) a separation or divorce settlement;
5	(3) a spouse's election;
6	(4) a similar arrangement arising out of a
7	prospective, existing or previous marital relationship
8	between the parties;
9	(5) a contract to make or not to revoke a
10	will or trust;
11	(6) a contract to exercise or not to
12	exercise a power of appointment;
13	(7) a transfer in satisfaction of a duty of
14	support; or
15	(8) a reciprocal transfer;
16	B. a fiduciary's power relating to the
17	administration or management of assets, including the power
18	of a fiduciary to sell, lease or mortgage property and the
19	power of a fiduciary to determine principal and income;
20	C. a power to appoint a fiduciary;
21	D. a discretionary power of a trustee to
22	distribute principal before termination of a trust to a
23	beneficiary having an indefeasibly vested interest in the
24	income and principal;
25	E. a nonvested property interest held by a

charity, government or governmental agency or subdivision if the nonvested property interest is preceded by an interest held by another charity, government or governmental agency or subdivision:

F. a nonvested property interest in or a power of appointment with respect to a trust or other property arrangement forming part of a pension, profit-sharing, stock bonus, health, disability, death benefit, income deferral or other current or deferred benefit plan for one or more employees, independent contractors or their beneficiaries or spouses, to which contributions are made for the purpose of distributing to or for the benefit of the participants or their beneficiaries or spouses the property, income or principal in the trust or other property arrangement, except a nonvested property interest or a power of appointment that is created by an election of a participant or a beneficiary or spouse; or

G. a property interest, power of appointment or arrangement that was not subject to the common-law rule against perpetuities or that is excluded by another statute of New Mexico."

SECTION 714. Section 45-3-712 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-712) is amended to read:

"45-3-712. IMPROPER EXERCISE OF POWER--BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY.--If the exercise of power concerning the

estate is improper, the personal representative is liable to interested persons for damage or loss resulting from breach of the personal representative's fiduciary duty to the same extent as a trustee of an express trust. The rights of purchasers and others dealing with a personal representative shall be determined as provided in Sections 45-3-713 and 45-3-714 NMSA 1978."

SECTION 715. Section 45-3-801 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-801, as amended) is repealed and a new Section 45-3-801 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"45-3-801. NOTICE TO CREDITORS.--

- A. A personal representative upon appointment may publish a notice to creditors once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the probate proceeding is pending, announcing the personal representative's appointment and address and notifying creditors of the estate to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of the notice or be forever barred.
- B. A personal representative may give written notice by mail or other delivery to a creditor, announcing the personal representative's appointment and address and notifying the creditor to present the creditor's claim within four months after the published notice, if given as provided in Subsection A of this section, or within sixty days after

C. The personal representative is not liable to anyone for giving or failing to give notice pursuant to this section."

SECTION 716. Section 45-3-803 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-803, as amended) is amended to read:

"45-3-803. LIMITATIONS ON PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS.--

A. All claims against a decedent's estate that arose before the death of the decedent, including claims of the state and any political subdivision of the state, whether due or to become due, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated or founded on contract, tort or other legal basis, if not barred earlier by another statute of limitations or nonclaim statute, are barred against the estate, the personal representative and the heirs, devisees and nonprobate transferees of the decedent unless presented within the earlier of the following:

- (1) one year after the decedent's death; or
- (2) the time provided by Subsection B of Section 45-3-801 NMSA 1978 for creditors who are given actual notice and the time provided in Subsection A of Section 45-3-801 NMSA 1978 for all creditors barred by publication.
 - B. A claim described in Subsection A of this

- C. All claims against a decedent's estate that arise at or after the death of the decedent, including claims of the state and any political subdivision of the state, whether due or to become due, absolute or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated or founded on contract, tort or other legal basis, are barred against the estate, the personal representative and the heirs and devisees of the decedent unless presented as follows:
- (1) a claim based on a contract with the personal representative within four months after performance by the personal representative is due; or
- (2) any other claim within the later of four months after it arises or the time specified in Paragraph (1) of this subsection.
 - D. Nothing in this section affects or prevents:
- (1) any proceeding to enforce any mortgage, pledge or other lien upon property of the estate;
- (2) to the limits of the insurance protection only, a proceeding to establish liability of the decedent or the personal representative for which the decedent or personal representative is protected by liability insurance; or

(3) collection of compensation for services rendered and reimbursement for expenses advanced by the personal representative or by the attorney or accountant for the personal representative of the estate."

SECTION 717. Section 45-3-902 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-902, as amended) is amended to read:

"45-3-902. DISTRIBUTION--ORDER IN WHICH ASSETS APPROPRIATED--ABATEMENT.--

A. Except as provided in Subsection C of this section, shares of distributees abate, without any preference or priority as between real and personal property, in the following order:

- (1) property not disposed of by the will;
- (2) residuary devises;
- (3) general devises; and
- (4) specific devises.
- B. For purposes of abatement, a general devise charged on any specific property or fund is a specific devise to the extent of the value of the property on which it is charged and, upon the failure or insufficiency of the property on which it is charged, a general devise to the extent of the failure or insufficiency. Abatement within each classification is in proportion to the amounts of property each of the beneficiaries would have received if

full distribution of the property had been made in accordance with the terms of the will.

- C. If the will expresses an order of abatement or if the testamentary plan or the express or implied purpose of the devise would be defeated by the order of abatement stated in Subsection A of this section, the shares of the distributees abate as may be found necessary to give effect to the intention of the testator.
- D. If an estate of a decedent consists partly of separate property and partly of community property, the debts and expenses of administration shall be apportioned and charged against the different kinds of property in accordance with the provisions of Subsection B of Section 45-2-807 NMSA 1978.
- E. If the subject of a preferred devise is sold or used incident to administration, abatement shall be achieved by appropriate adjustments in or contribution from other interests in the remaining assets."

SECTION 718. Section 45-3-905 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-905) is repealed and a new Section 45-3-905 NMSA 1978 is enacted to read:

"45-3-905. PENALTY CLAUSE FOR CONTEST.--A provision in a will purporting to penalize any interested person for contesting the will or instituting other proceedings relating to the estate is unenforceable if probable cause exists for

instituting proceedings."

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

SECTION 719. Section 45-3-912 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-912) is amended to read:

"45-3-912. PRIVATE AGREEMENTS AMONG SUCCESSORS TO DECEDENT BINDING ON PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. -- Subject to the rights of creditors and taxing authorities, successors or their representatives may agree among themselves to alter the interests, shares or amounts to which they are entitled under the will of the decedent or under the laws of intestacy in any way that they provide in a written contract executed by all who are affected by its provisions. The personal representative shall abide by the terms of the agreement subject to the personal representative's obligation to administer the estate for the benefit of creditors, to pay all taxes and costs of administration and to carry out the responsibilities of the personal representative's office for the benefit of any successors of the decedent who are not parties. Personal representatives of decedents' estates are not required to see to the performance of trusts if the trustee thereof is another person who is willing to accept the trust. Accordingly, trustees of a testamentary trust are successors for the purposes of this section. Nothing in this section relieves trustees of any duties owed to beneficiaries of trusts."

SECTION 720. Section 45-3-1003 NMSA 1978 (being Laws

1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-1003, as amended) is amended to read:

"45-3-1003. CLOSING ESTATES--BY SWORN STATEMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE.--

A. Unless prohibited by order of the district court and except for estates being administered in supervised administration proceedings, a personal representative may close an estate by filing with the court, no earlier than six months after the date of original appointment of a general personal representative for the estate, a verified statement stating that the personal representative or a previous personal representative has:

- (1) determined that the time limited for presentation of creditors' claims has expired;
- decedent by making payment, settlement or other disposition of all claims that were presented, expenses of administration and estate, inheritance and other death taxes, except as specified in the statement, and that the assets of the estate have been distributed to the persons entitled. If any claims remain undischarged, the statement shall state whether the personal representative has distributed the estate subject to possible liability with the agreement of the distributees or it shall state in detail other arrangements that have been made to accommodate outstanding liabilities; and

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

(3) sent a copy of the statement to all distributees of the estate and to all creditors or other claimants of whom the personal representative is aware whose claims are neither paid nor barred and has furnished a full account in writing of the personal representative's administration to the distributees whose interests are affected thereby, including guardians ad litem appointed pursuant to Section 45-1-403 NMSA 1978, conservators and guardians.

If no proceedings involving the personal representative are pending in the district court one year after the closing statement is filed, the appointment of the personal representative terminates."

SECTION 721. Section 45-3-1101 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-1101, as amended) is amended to read:

"45-3-1101. EFFECT OF APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS INVOLVING TRUSTS, INALIENABLE INTERESTS OR INTERESTS OF THIRD PERSONS.--

A. A compromise of any controversy is binding on all the parties thereto as to any lawful matter involving the estate. Matters that may be resolved by the compromise include:

admission to probate of any instrument (1) offered for formal probate as the will of a decedent;

1	(2) the construction, validity or effect of
2	any governing instrument;
3	(3) the rights or interests in the estate of
4	the decedent;
5	(4) the rights or interests of any
6	successor; and
7	(5) the administration of the estate, if
8	approved in a formal proceeding in the district court for
9	that purpose.
10	B. A court-approved compromise is binding even
11	though it may affect a trust or an inalienable interest. A
12	compromise does not impair the rights of creditors or of
13	taxing authorities that are not parties to it."
14	SECTION 722. Section 45-3-1102 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
15	1975, Chapter 257, Section 3-1102, as amended) is amended to
16	read:
17	"45-3-1102. PROCEDURE FOR SECURING COURT APPROVAL OF
18	COMPROMISEThe procedure for securing court approval of a
19	compromise is as follows:
20	A. the terms of the compromise shall be set forth
21	in an agreement in writing that shall be executed by all
22	persons or their representatives having beneficial interests
23	or having claims that will or may be affected by the
24	compromise;
25	B. any interested person, or the person's

representative, including the personal representative, if any, or a trustee, may then submit the agreement to the district court for its approval and for execution by the personal representative, the trustee of every affected testamentary trust and other fiduciaries and representatives; and

C. after notice to all interested persons or their representatives, including the personal representative of any estate and all affected trustees of trusts, the district court, if it finds that an actual contest or controversy exists and that the effect of the agreement upon the interests of persons represented by fiduciaries or other representatives is just and reasonable, shall make an order approving the agreement and directing all fiduciaries under its supervision to execute the agreement. Minor children represented only by their parents may be bound only if their parents join with other persons or their representatives in execution of the compromise. Upon the making of the order and the execution of the agreement, all further disposition of the estate shall then be made in accordance with the terms of the agreement."

SECTION 723. Section 46A-1-113 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2011, Chapter 124, Section 95) is amended to read:

"46A-1-113. INSURABLE INTEREST OF TRUSTEE.--

A. In this section, "settlor" means a person that

executes a trust instrument. "Settlor" includes a person for which a fiduciary or agent is acting.

B. A trustee of a trust has an insurable interest in the life of an individual insured under a life insurance policy that is owned by the trustee of the trust acting in a fiduciary capacity or that designates the trust itself as the owner if, on the date the policy is issued:

(1) the insured is:

- (a) a settlor of the trust; or
- (b) an individual in whom a settlor of the trust has, or would have had if living at the time the policy was issued, an insurable interest; and
- (2) the life insurance proceeds are primarily for the benefit of one or more trust beneficiaries that have:
- (a) an insurable interest in the life of the insured; or
- (b) a substantial interest engendered by love and affection in the continuation of the life of the insured and, if not already included under Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph, who are: 1) related within the third degree or closer, as measured by the civil law system of determining degrees of relation, either by blood or law, to the insured; or 2) stepchildren of the insured."

SECTION 724. REPEAL. -- Sections 45-2-608 and 45-2-704

1	NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993, Chapter 174, Sections 47 and 52)	
2	are repealed.	
3	SECTION 725. REPEALSection 45-2-907 NMSA 1978 (being	
4	Laws 1995, Chapter 210, Section 30) is repealed.	
5	SECTION 726. TEMPORARY PROVISIONINSTRUCTION TO	
6	COMPILERThe compiler shall compile Sections 101 through	
7	603 of this act in Chapter 46 NMSA 1978.	
8	SECTION 727. EFFECTIVE DATE	
9	A. The effective date of the provisions of	
10	Sections 701 through 723 and 725 of this act is July 1, 2016.	
11	B. The effective date of the provisions of	
12	Sections 101 through 603 and 724 of this act is	
13	January 1, 2017	SB 155
14		Page 43
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		