

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 130—ASSEMBLYMAN SPRINKLE

PREFILED FEBRUARY 10, 2017

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises various provisions relating to guardianships. (BDR 13-524)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to guardianships; authorizing a court to require a proposed guardian to file a proposed preliminary care plan and budget; establishing the process by which a person may obtain the approval of the court for the payment of attorney’s fees and costs from the assets of a ward; establishing the State Guardianship Compliance Office; replacing the term “incompetent” with the term “incapacitated” for purposes of guardianships and revising the definition thereof; revising various provisions relating to notice given to certain persons; revising provisions concerning the sale of real and personal property of a ward; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law defines the term “incompetent” for purposes of the provisions of  
2 law governing guardianships. (NRS 159.019) **Section 7** of this bill replaces the  
3 term “incompetent” with the term “incapacitated” and revises the definition thereof.  
4 **Sections 5, 6, 11, 12-17, 20, 22, 35 and 36-43** of this bill make conforming  
5 changes.

6 Existing law generally requires a petitioner in a guardianship proceeding to  
7 give notice of the time and place of the hearing on any petition filed in the  
8 guardianship proceeding to certain persons, including any minor ward who is 14  
9 years of age or older. (NRS 159.034) **Section 8** of this bill revises this requirement  
10 and requires that notice be given to any ward who is 14 years of age or older,  
11 regardless of whether the ward is considered to have the capacity to understand or  
12 appreciate the contents of the petition.

13 Existing law provides that after the filing of a petition in a guardianship  
14 proceeding, the clerk is required to issue a citation setting forth a time and place for



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15 the hearing and directing certain persons to appear and show cause why a guardian  
16 should not be appointed for the proposed ward. (NRS 159.047) **Section 9** of this  
17 bill requires a copy of the petition to be served together with the citation on certain  
18 persons, including a proposed ward who is 14 years of age or older, regardless of  
19 whether the ward is considered to have the capacity to understand or appreciate the  
20 contents of the petition, and **section 10** of this bill requires that the proposed ward  
21 be served by personal service. **Section 9** also requires a person who serves notice  
22 upon the proposed ward to file with the court an affidavit stating that notice was  
23 served.

24 Existing law requires a guardian of the person to file with the court a written  
25 report on the condition of the ward and the exercise of authority and performance  
26 of duties by the guardian at certain specified times. (NRS 159.081) **Section 18** of  
27 this bill requires that such a report be served on the ward.

28 **Section 21** of this bill requires the guardian of the estate and the guardian of the  
29 person to be notified if the ward is a party to any criminal action. **Section 23** of this  
30 bill requires that notice be given to a ward upon the filing of certain petitions or any  
31 account.

32 Existing law establishes various provisions concerning transactions involving  
33 real and personal property of a ward, including the sale of such property. (NRS  
34 159.127-159.175) **Sections 24-31** of this bill revise certain provisions concerning  
35 the sale of real property of a ward, and **section 44** of this bill repeals provisions of  
36 law relating to a public auction for the sale of real property. **Sections 32-34** of this  
37 bill revise provisions concerning the sale of personal property of a ward. **Section 32**  
38 of this bill authorizes a guardian to: (1) sell or dispose of personal property of a  
39 ward that has a total value of less than \$10,000 if certain notice is given and no  
40 objection to the sale or disposal is received; and (2) authorize the immediate  
41 destruction of personal property of a ward without notice in certain circumstances.  
42 **Section 33** of this bill requires that notice of a sale of the personal property of a  
43 ward be given to a ward who is 14 years of age or older and certain other persons  
44 and, if the gross value of the estate of the ward is \$10,000 or more, published in a  
45 newspaper before a guardian may sell the personal property of a ward.

46 **Section 2** of this bill specifies that upon the filing of a petition for the  
47 appointment of a guardian, the court may require a proposed guardian to file a  
48 proposed preliminary care plan and budget, the format of which and the timing of  
49 the filing thereof must be specified by a court rule approved by the Supreme Court.

50 **Section 3** of this bill provides that any person who retains an attorney for the  
51 purposes of representing a party in a guardianship proceeding is personally liable  
52 for any attorney's fees and costs incurred, but authorizes such a person to petition  
53 the court for an order authorizing the payment of such attorney's fees and costs  
54 from the estate of the ward. **Section 3** prohibits such attorney's fees and costs from  
55 being paid from the estate of the ward without court approval and establishes the  
56 process by which a person is able to obtain the approval of the court. **Section 3** also  
57 authorizes an attorney who is appointed by the court to seek compensation for his  
58 or her services from the guardianship estate in accordance with the established  
59 process. **Section 3** additionally provides that if two or more parties in a  
60 guardianship proceeding file competing petitions for the appointment of a guardian  
61 or otherwise litigate any contested issue in the guardianship proceeding, only the  
62 prevailing party may petition the court for the payment of attorney's fees and costs.  
63 If the court determines that there is no prevailing party, the court may authorize a  
64 portion of each party's attorney's fees and costs to be paid.

65 **Section 4** of this bill establishes the State Guardianship Compliance Office.  
66 **Section 4** provides that the State Guardianship Compliance Officer is appointed by  
67 the Supreme Court and serves at the pleasure of the Court. **Section 4** also  
68 authorizes the State Guardianship Compliance Officer to hire two accountants and



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69 two investigators to provide auditing and investigative services to the district courts  
70 during the administration of guardian proceedings.

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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     **Section 1.** Chapter 159 of NRS is hereby amended by adding  
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

3     **Sec. 2.** *Upon the filing of a petition for the appointment of a*  
4 *guardian, the court may require a proposed guardian to file a*  
5 *proposed preliminary care plan and budget. The format of such*  
6 *a proposed preliminary care plan and budget and the timing of the*  
7 *filing thereof must be specified by a rule approved by the Supreme*  
8 *Court.*

9     **Sec. 3. 1.** *Any person, including, without limitation, a*  
10 *guardian or proposed guardian, who retains an attorney for the*  
11 *purposes of representing a party in a guardianship proceeding is*  
12 *personally liable for any attorney's fees and costs incurred as a*  
13 *result of such representation.*

14     **2.** *Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 and except*  
15 *as otherwise provided in subsection 5 of NRS 159.183, a person*  
16 *who is personally liable for attorney's fees and costs may petition*  
17 *the court for an order authorizing such attorney's fees and costs to*  
18 *be paid from the estate of the ward in accordance with this section.*  
19 *Any such attorney's fees and costs must not be paid from the*  
20 *guardianship estate unless and until the court authorizes the*  
21 *payment pursuant to this section.*

22     **3.** *When a person who intends to petition the court for*  
23 *payment of attorney's fees and costs from the guardianship estate*  
24 *first appears in the guardianship proceeding, the person must file*  
25 *written notice of his or her intent to seek payment of attorney's*  
26 *fees and costs from the guardianship estate. The written notice:*

27     **(a)** *Must provide a general explanation of the compensation*  
28 *arrangement and how compensation will be computed;*

29     **(b)** *Must include the hourly billing rates of all timekeepers,*  
30 *including, without limitation, attorneys, law clerks and paralegals;*

31     **(c)** *Must provide a general explanation of the reasons why the*  
32 *services of the attorney are necessary to further the best interests*  
33 *of the ward;*

34     **(d)** *Must be served by the person on all persons entitled to*  
35 *notice pursuant to NRS 159.034 and 159.047; and*

36     **(e)** *Is subject to approval by the court after a hearing.*

37     **4.** *If written notice was filed and approved by the court*  
38 *pursuant to subsection 3, a person may file with the court a*  
39 *petition requesting payment of attorney's fees and costs from the*



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1 *guardianship estate. Such a petition must include the following*  
2 *information:*

3 *(a) A detailed statement as to the nature and extent of the*  
4 *services performed by the attorney;*

5 *(b) An itemization of each task performed by the attorney, with*  
6 *reference to the time spent on each task in an increment to the*  
7 *nearest one-tenth of an hour and with no minimum billing unit in*  
8 *excess of one-tenth of an hour;*

9 *(c) An indication of whether any time billed, including,*  
10 *without limitation, any time spent traveling or waiting, benefited*  
11 *any clients of the attorney other than the ward and, if so, how*  
12 *many other clients benefited from such time; and*

13 *(d) Any other information considered relevant to a*  
14 *determination of whether attorney's fees are just, reasonable and*  
15 *necessary.*

16 *↳ Absent approval from all parties who have appeared in the*  
17 *proceeding, any supplemental requests for the payment of*  
18 *attorney's fees and costs cannot be augmented in open court and*  
19 *must be properly noticed in the same manner as the underlying*  
20 *petition requesting payment.*

21 *5. In determining whether attorney's fees are just, reasonable*  
22 *and necessary, the court may consider all the following factors:*

23 *(a) The written notice approved by the court pursuant to*  
24 *subsection 3.*

25 *(b) Whether the services conferred any actual benefit upon the*  
26 *ward or attempted to advance the best interests of the ward.*

27 *(c) The qualities of the attorney, including, without limitation,*  
28 *his or her ability, training, education, experience, professional*  
29 *standing and skill.*

30 *(d) The character of the work performed, including, without*  
31 *limitation, the difficulty, intricacy and importance of the work, the*  
32 *time and skill required to complete the work, the responsibility*  
33 *imposed and the nature of the proceedings.*

34 *(e) The work actually performed by the attorney, including,*  
35 *without limitation, the skill, time and attention given to the work.*

36 *(f) The result of the work, including, without limitation,*  
37 *whether the attorney was successful and any benefits that were*  
38 *derived.*

39 *(g) The usual and customary fees charged in the relevant*  
40 *professional communities for each task performed, regardless of*  
41 *who actually performed the task. The court may only award:*

42 *(1) Compensation at an attorney rate for time spent*  
43 *performing services that require an attorney;*

44 *(2) Compensation at a paralegal rate for time spent*  
45 *performing paralegal services;*



1           (3) *Compensation at a fiduciary rate for time spent*  
2 *performing fiduciary services; and*

3           (4) *No compensation for time spent performing secretarial*  
4 *or clerical services.*

5           (h) *The appropriate apportionment among multiple clients of*  
6 *any billed time that benefited multiple clients of the attorney.*

7           (i) *The extent to which the services were provided in a*  
8 *reasonable, efficient and cost-effective manner, including, without*  
9 *limitation, whether there was appropriate and prudent delegation*  
10 *of services to others.*

11           (j) *The ability of the estate of the ward to pay, including,*  
12 *without limitation:*

13               (1) *The value of the estate;*

14               (2) *The nature, extent and liquidity of the assets of the*  
15 *estate;*

16               (3) *The disposable net income of the estate;*

17               (4) *The anticipated future needs of the ward; and*

18               (5) *Any other foreseeable expenses.*

19           (k) *The efforts made by the person and attorney to reduce and*  
20 *minimize any issues.*

21           (l) *Any actions by the person or attorney that unnecessarily*  
22 *expanded issues or delayed or hindered the efficient*  
23 *administration of the estate.*

24           (m) *Whether any actions taken by the person or attorney were*  
25 *taken for the purpose of advancing or protecting the interests of*  
26 *the person as opposed to the interests of the ward.*

27           (n) *Any other factor that is relevant in determining whether*  
28 *attorney's fees are just, reasonable and necessary, including,*  
29 *without limitation, any other factor that is relevant in determining*  
30 *whether the person was acting in good faith and was actually*  
31 *pursuing the best interests of the ward.*

32           6. *The court shall not approve compensation for an attorney*  
33 *for:*

34               (a) *Time spent on internal business activities of the attorney,*  
35 *including, without limitation, clerical or secretarial support; or*

36               (b) *Time reported as a total amount of time spent on multiple*  
37 *tasks, rather than an itemization of the time spent on each task.*

38           7. *Any fees paid by a third party, including, without*  
39 *limitation, a trust of which the estate is a beneficiary, must be*  
40 *disclosed to and approved by the court.*

41           8. *In addition to any payment provided to a person pursuant*  
42 *to this section for the services of an attorney, a person may receive*  
43 *payment for ordinary costs and expenses incurred in the scope of*  
44 *the attorney's representation.*



1       9. *If two or more parties in a guardianship proceeding file*  
2 *competing petitions for the appointment of a guardian or*  
3 *otherwise litigate any contested issue in the guardianship*  
4 *proceeding, only the prevailing party may petition the court for*  
5 *payment of attorney's fees and costs from the guardianship estate*  
6 *pursuant to this section. If the court determines that there is no*  
7 *prevailing party, the court may authorize a portion of each party's*  
8 *attorney's fees and costs to be paid from the guardianship estate if*  
9 *the court determines that such fees and costs are just, reasonable*  
10 *and necessary given the nature of any issues in dispute.*

11       10. *If an attorney is appointed by the court in a guardianship*  
12 *proceeding, he or she may petition the court for compensation for*  
13 *his or her services from the guardianship estate in accordance*  
14 *with the procedure set forth in this section.*

15       **Sec. 4. 1. The State Guardianship Compliance Office is**  
16 **hereby created.**

17       2. *The State Guardianship Compliance Officer is:*

18       (a) *Appointed by the Supreme Court and serves at the pleasure*  
19 *of the Court; and*

20       (b) *Entitled to receive an annual salary set by the Supreme*  
21 *Court within the limits of legislative appropriations.*

22       3. *The State Guardianship Compliance Officer may hire two*  
23 *accountants and two investigators to provide auditing and*  
24 *investigative services to the district courts during the*  
25 *administration of guardianship proceedings.*

26       4. *The State Guardianship Compliance Officer shall not act*  
27 *as a guardian for any ward.*

28       **Sec. 5.** NRS 159.014 is hereby amended to read as follows:

29       159.014 "Care provider" includes any public or private  
30 institution located within or outside this state which provides  
31 facilities for the care or maintenance of ~~incompetents,~~ **persons**  
32 **who are incapacitated**, persons of limited capacity or minors.

33       **Sec. 6.** NRS 159.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

34       159.015 "Court" means any court or judge having jurisdiction  
35 of the persons and estates of minors, ~~incompetent~~ **persons** ~~who~~ **who**  
36 **are incapacitated** or persons of limited capacity.

37       **Sec. 7.** NRS 159.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38       159.019 ~~["Incompetent" means an adult] A person~~ **who, by**  
39 **reason of mental illness, mental deficiency, disease, weakness of**  
40 **mind or any other cause,** ~~is~~ **"incapacitated" if he or she, for**  
41 **reasons other than being a minor,** is unable ~~to, without assistance,~~  
42 **properly to manage and take care of himself or herself or his or her**  
43 **property, or both. The term includes a person who is mentally**  
44 **incapacitated,** ~~to receive and evaluate information or make or~~  
45 **communicate decisions to such an extent that the person lacks the**



1 *ability to meet essential requirements for physical health, safety or*  
2 *self-care without appropriate assistance.*

3 **Sec. 8.** NRS 159.034 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 159.034 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, by  
5 specific statute or as ordered by the court, a petitioner in a  
6 guardianship proceeding shall give notice of the time and place of  
7 the hearing on any petition filed in the guardianship proceeding to:

8 (a) Any ~~minor~~ ward who is 14 years of age or older ~~H~~ ,  
9 *regardless of whether the ward is considered to have the capacity*  
10 *to understand or appreciate the contents of the petition.*

11 (b) The parent or legal guardian of any minor ward who is less  
12 than 14 years of age.

13 (c) The spouse of the ward and all other known relatives of the  
14 ward who are within the second degree of consanguinity.

15 (d) Any other interested person or the person's attorney who has  
16 filed a request for notice in the guardianship proceedings and has  
17 served a copy of the request upon the guardian. The request for  
18 notice must state the interest of the person filing the request and the  
19 person's name and address, or that of his or her attorney.

20 (e) The guardian, if the petitioner is not the guardian.

21 (f) Any person or care provider who is providing care for the  
22 ward, except that if the person or care provider is not related to the  
23 ward, such person or care provider must not receive copies of any  
24 inventory or accounting.

25 (g) Any office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in this  
26 State if the ward is receiving any payments or benefits through the  
27 Department of Veterans Affairs.

28 (h) The Director of the Department of Health and Human  
29 Services if the ward has received or is receiving benefits from  
30 Medicaid.

31 (i) Those persons entitled to notice if a proceeding were brought  
32 in the ward's home state.

33 2. The petitioner shall give notice not later than 10 days before  
34 the date set for the hearing:

35 (a) By mailing a copy of the notice by certified, registered or  
36 ordinary first-class mail to the residence, office or post office  
37 address of each person required to be notified pursuant to this  
38 section;

39 (b) By personal service; or

40 (c) In any other manner ordered by the court, upon a showing of  
41 good cause.

42 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if none of  
43 the persons entitled to notice of a hearing on a petition pursuant to  
44 this section can, after due diligence, be served by certified mail or  
45 personal service and this fact is proven by affidavit to the



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1 satisfaction of the court, service of the notice must be made by  
2 publication in the manner provided by N.R.C.P. 4(e). In all such  
3 cases, the notice must be published not later than 10 days before the  
4 date set for the hearing. If, after the appointment of a guardian, a  
5 search for relatives of the ward listed in paragraph (c) of subsection  
6 1 fails to find any such relative, the court may waive the notice by  
7 publication required by this subsection.

8 4. For good cause shown, the court may waive the requirement  
9 of giving notice.

10 5. A person entitled to notice pursuant to this section may  
11 waive such notice. Such a waiver must be in writing and filed with  
12 the court.

13 6. On or before the date set for the hearing, the petitioner shall  
14 file with the court proof of giving notice to each person entitled to  
15 notice pursuant to this section.

16 **Sec. 9.** NRS 159.047 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 159.047 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 159.0475  
18 and 159.049 to 159.0525, inclusive, upon the filing of a petition  
19 under NRS 159.044, the clerk shall issue a citation setting forth a  
20 time and place for the hearing and directing the persons or care  
21 provider referred to in subsection 2 to appear and show cause why a  
22 guardian should not be appointed for the proposed ward.

23 2. A citation issued under subsection 1 , *together with a copy*  
24 *of the petition filed under NRS 159.044*, must be served upon:

25 (a) A proposed ward who is 14 years of age or older **H** ,  
26 *regardless of whether the proposed ward is considered to have the*  
27 *capacity to understand or appreciate the contents of the citation*  
28 *and petition;*

29 (b) The spouse of the proposed ward and all other known  
30 relatives of the proposed ward who are:

31 (1) Fourteen years of age or older; and

32 (2) Within the second degree of consanguinity;

33 (c) The parents and custodian of the proposed ward;

34 (d) Any person or officer of a care provider having the care,  
35 custody or control of the proposed ward;

36 (e) The proposed guardian, if the petitioner is not the proposed  
37 guardian;

38 (f) Any office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in this  
39 State if the proposed ward is receiving any payments or benefits  
40 through the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

41 (g) The Director of the Department of Health and Human  
42 Services if the proposed ward has received or is receiving any  
43 benefits from Medicaid.

44 *3. A person who serves notice upon a proposed ward*  
45 *pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 shall file with the court*





1 *an affidavit stating that he or she served notice upon the proposed*  
2 *ward in accordance with the provisions of NRS 159.0475.*

3 **Sec. 10.** NRS 159.0475 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 159.0475 1. A copy of the citation issued pursuant to NRS  
5 159.047 , *together with a copy of the petition filed under NRS*  
6 *159.044*, must be served : ~~by:~~

7 (a) *Except as otherwise ordered by the court, on a proposed*  
8 *ward who is 14 years of age or older by personal service in the*  
9 *manner provided pursuant to N.R.C.P. 4(d) at least 10 days before*  
10 *the date set for the hearing; and*

11 (b) *On each person required to be served pursuant to NRS*  
12 *159.047 other than a proposed ward by:*

13 (1) Certified mail, with a return receipt requested, ~~on each~~  
14 ~~person required to be served pursuant to NRS 159.047~~ at least 20  
15 days before the hearing; or

16 ~~(b)~~ (2) Personal service in the manner provided pursuant to  
17 N.R.C.P. 4(d) at least 10 days before the date set for the hearing .  
18 ~~on each person required to be served pursuant to NRS 159.047.~~

19 2. If none of the persons on whom the citation *and petition* is  
20 to be served can, after due diligence, be served by certified mail or  
21 personal service , *as applicable*, and this fact is proven ~~by~~ by  
22 affidavit ~~to~~ to the satisfaction of the court, service of the citation  
23 *and petition* must be made by publication in the manner provided  
24 by N.R.C.P. 4(e). In all such cases, the citation *and petition* must be  
25 published at least 20 days before the date set for the hearing.

26 3. A citation *and petition* need not be served on a person or an  
27 officer of the care provider who has signed the petition or a written  
28 waiver of service of *the* citation *and petition* or who makes a  
29 general appearance.

30 4. The court may find that notice is sufficient if:

31 (a) *The citation and petition have been served by personal*  
32 *service on the proposed ward and an affidavit of such service has*  
33 *been filed with the court pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 159.047;*

34 (b) The citation ~~has~~ *and petition have* been served by certified  
35 mail, with a return receipt requested, or by personal service on the  
36 ~~proposed ward,~~ care provider or public guardian required to be  
37 served pursuant to NRS 159.047; and

38 ~~(b)~~ (c) At least one relative of the proposed ward who is  
39 required to be served pursuant to NRS 159.047 has been served, as  
40 evidenced by the return receipt or the certificate of service. If the  
41 court finds that at least one relative of the proposed ward has not  
42 received notice that is sufficient, the court will require the citation  
43 *and petition* to be published pursuant to subsection 2.



1       **Sec. 11.** NRS 159.048 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       159.048 The citation issued pursuant to NRS 159.047 must  
3 state that the:

4       1. Proposed ward may be adjudged to be ~~incompetent~~  
5 *incapacitated* or of limited capacity and a guardian may be  
6 appointed for the proposed ward;

7       2. Proposed ward's rights may be affected as specified in the  
8 petition;

9       3. Proposed ward has the right to appear at the hearing and to  
10 oppose the petition; and

11       4. Proposed ward has the right to be represented by an  
12 attorney, who may be appointed for the proposed ward by the court  
13 if the proposed ward is unable to retain one.

14       **Sec. 11.5.** NRS 159.0485 is hereby amended to read as  
15 follows:

16       159.0485 1. At the first hearing for the appointment of a  
17 guardian for a proposed adult ward, the court shall advise the  
18 proposed adult ward who is in attendance at the hearing or who is  
19 appearing by videoconference at the hearing of his or her right to  
20 counsel and determine whether the proposed adult ward wishes to  
21 be represented by counsel in the guardianship proceeding. If the  
22 proposed adult ward is not in attendance at the hearing because the  
23 proposed adult ward has been excused pursuant to NRS 159.0535  
24 and is not appearing by videoconference at the hearing, the proposed  
25 adult ward must be advised of his or her right to counsel pursuant to  
26 subsection 2 of NRS 159.0535.

27       2. If an adult ward or proposed adult ward is unable to retain  
28 legal counsel and requests the appointment of counsel at any stage  
29 in a guardianship proceeding and whether or not the adult ward or  
30 proposed adult ward lacks or appears to lack capacity, the court  
31 shall, at or before the time of the next hearing, appoint an attorney  
32 who works for legal aid services, if available, or a private attorney  
33 to represent the adult ward or proposed adult ward. The appointed  
34 attorney shall represent the adult ward or proposed adult ward until  
35 relieved of the duty by court order.

36       3. Subject to the discretion and approval of the court, the  
37 attorney for the adult ward or proposed adult ward is entitled to  
38 reasonable compensation and expenses. Unless the court determines  
39 that the adult ward or proposed adult ward does not have the ability  
40 to pay such compensation and expenses or the court shifts the  
41 responsibility of payment to a third party, the compensation and  
42 expenses must be paid from the estate of the adult ward or proposed  
43 adult ward, unless the compensation and expenses are provided for  
44 or paid by another person or entity. If the court finds that a person  
45 has unnecessarily or unreasonably caused the appointment of an



1 attorney, the court may order the person to pay to the estate of the  
2 adult ward or proposed adult ward all or part of the expenses  
3 associated with the appointment of the attorney. *Any attorney who*  
4 *intends to seek compensation from the estate of the adult ward or*  
5 *proposed adult ward must follow the procedure established in*  
6 *section 3 of this act.*

7 **Sec. 12.** NRS 159.0487 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 159.0487 Any court of competent jurisdiction may appoint:

9 1. Guardians of the person, of the estate, or of the person and  
10 estate for ~~incompetents~~ *persons who are incapacitated* or minors  
11 whose home state is this State.

12 2. Guardians of the person or of the person and estate for  
13 ~~incompetents~~ *persons who are incapacitated* or minors who,  
14 although not residents of this State, are physically present in this  
15 State and whose welfare requires such an appointment.

16 3. Guardians of the estate for nonresident ~~incompetents~~  
17 *persons who are incapacitated* or nonresident minors who have  
18 property within this State.

19 4. Special guardians.

20 5. Guardians ad litem.

21 **Sec. 13.** NRS 159.054 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 159.054 1. If the court finds *that* the proposed ward  
23 ~~competent~~ *is not incapacitated* and *is* not in need of a guardian,  
24 the court shall dismiss the petition.

25 2. If the court finds *that* the proposed ward ~~to be~~ *is* of limited  
26 capacity and *is* in need of a special guardian, the court shall enter an  
27 order accordingly and specify the powers and duties of the special  
28 guardian.

29 3. If the court finds that appointment of a general guardian is  
30 required, the court shall appoint a general guardian of the ward's  
31 person, estate, or person and estate.

32 **Sec. 14.** NRS 159.0593 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 159.0593 1. If the court orders a general guardian appointed  
34 for a proposed ward, the court shall determine, by clear and  
35 convincing evidence, whether the proposed ward is a person with a  
36 mental defect who is prohibited from possessing a firearm pursuant  
37 to 18 U.S.C. § 922(d)(4) or (g)(4). If a court makes a finding  
38 pursuant to this section that the proposed ward is a person with a  
39 mental defect, the court shall include the finding in the order  
40 appointing the guardian and cause, within 5 business days after  
41 issuing the order, a record of the order to be transmitted to the  
42 Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History, along  
43 with a statement indicating that the record is being transmitted for  
44 inclusion in each appropriate database of the National Instant  
45 Criminal Background Check System.



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2. As used in this section:

(a) "National Instant Criminal Background Check System" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 179A.062.

(b) "Person with a mental defect" means a person who, as a result of marked subnormal intelligence, mental illness, ~~incompetence,~~ *incapacitation*, condition or disease, is:

(1) A danger to himself or herself or others; or

(2) Lacks the capacity to contract or manage his or her own affairs.

**Sec. 15.** NRS 159.0613 is hereby amended to read as follows:

159.0613 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, in a proceeding to appoint a guardian for an adult, the court shall give preference to a nominated person or relative, in that order of preference:

(a) Whether or not the nominated person or relative is a resident of this State; and

(b) If the court determines that the nominated person or relative is qualified and suitable to be appointed as guardian for the adult.

2. In determining whether any nominated person, relative or other person listed in subsection 4 is qualified and suitable to be appointed as guardian for an adult, the court shall consider, if applicable and without limitation:

(a) The ability of the nominated person, relative or other person to provide for the basic needs of the adult, including, without limitation, food, shelter, clothing and medical care;

(b) Whether the nominated person, relative or other person has engaged in the habitual use of alcohol or any controlled substance during the previous 6 months, except the use of marijuana in accordance with the provisions of chapter 453A of NRS;

(c) Whether the nominated person, relative or other person has been judicially determined to have committed abuse, neglect, exploitation, isolation or abandonment of a child, his or her spouse, his or her parent or any other adult, unless the court finds that it is in the best interests of the ward to appoint the person as guardian for the adult;

(d) Whether the nominated person, relative or other person is ~~incompetent~~ *incapacitated* or has a disability; and

(e) Whether the nominated person, relative or other person has been convicted in this State or any other jurisdiction of a felony, unless the court determines that any such conviction should not disqualify the person from serving as guardian for the adult.

3. If the court finds that two or more nominated persons are qualified and suitable to be appointed as guardian for an adult, the court may appoint two or more nominated persons as co-guardians



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1 or shall give preference among them in the following order of  
2 preference:

3 (a) A person whom the adult nominated for the appointment as  
4 guardian for the adult in a will, trust or other written instrument that  
5 is part of the adult's established estate plan and was executed by the  
6 adult while ~~competent.~~ *he or she was not incapacitated.*

7 (b) A person whom the adult requested for the appointment as  
8 guardian for the adult in a written instrument that is not part of the  
9 adult's established estate plan and was executed by the adult while  
10 ~~competent.~~ *he or she was not incapacitated.*

11 4. Subject to the preferences set forth in subsections 1 and 3,  
12 the court shall appoint as guardian the qualified person who is most  
13 suitable and is willing to serve. In determining which qualified  
14 person is most suitable, the court shall, in addition to considering  
15 any applicable factors set forth in subsection 2, give consideration,  
16 among other factors, to:

17 (a) Any nomination or request for the appointment as guardian  
18 by the adult.

19 (b) Any nomination or request for the appointment as guardian  
20 by a relative.

21 (c) The relationship by blood, adoption, marriage or domestic  
22 partnership of the proposed guardian to the adult. In considering  
23 preferences of appointment, the court may consider relatives of the  
24 half blood equally with those of the whole blood. The court may  
25 consider any relative in the following order of preference:

26 (1) A spouse or domestic partner.

27 (2) A child.

28 (3) A parent.

29 (4) Any relative with whom the adult has resided for more  
30 than 6 months before the filing of the petition or any relative who  
31 has a power of attorney executed by the adult while ~~competent.~~ *he*  
32 *or she was not incapacitated.*

33 (5) Any relative currently acting as agent.

34 (6) A sibling.

35 (7) A grandparent or grandchild.

36 (8) An uncle, aunt, niece, nephew or cousin.

37 (9) Any other person recognized to be in a familial  
38 relationship with the adult.

39 (d) Any recommendation made by a master of the court or  
40 special master pursuant to NRS 159.0615.

41 (e) Any request for the appointment of any other interested  
42 person that the court deems appropriate, including, without  
43 limitation, a person who is not a relative and who has a power of  
44 attorney executed by the adult while ~~competent.~~ *he or she was not*  
45 *incapacitated.*



1 5. The court may appoint as guardian any nominated person,  
2 relative or other person listed in subsection 4 who is not a resident  
3 of this State. The court shall not give preference to a resident of this  
4 State over a nonresident if the court determines that:

5 (a) The nonresident is more qualified and suitable to serve as  
6 guardian; and

7 (b) The distance from the proposed guardian's place of  
8 residence and the adult's place of residence will not affect the  
9 quality of the guardianship or the ability of the proposed guardian to  
10 make decisions and respond quickly to the needs of the adult  
11 because:

12 (1) A person or care provider in this State is providing  
13 continuing care and supervision for the adult;

14 (2) The adult is in a secured residential long-term care  
15 facility in this State; or

16 (3) Within 30 days after the appointment of the proposed  
17 guardian, the proposed guardian will move to this State or the adult  
18 will move to the proposed guardian's state of residence.

19 6. If the court appoints a nonresident as guardian for the adult:

20 (a) The jurisdictional requirements of NRS 159.1991 to  
21 159.2029, inclusive, must be met;

22 (b) The court shall order the guardian to designate a registered  
23 agent in this State in the same manner as a represented entity  
24 pursuant to chapter 77 of NRS; and

25 (c) The court may require the guardian to complete any  
26 available training concerning guardianships pursuant to NRS  
27 159.0592, in this State or in the state of residence of the guardian,  
28 regarding:

29 (1) The legal duties and responsibilities of the guardian  
30 pursuant to this chapter;

31 (2) The preparation of records and the filing of annual  
32 reports regarding the finances and well-being of the adult required  
33 pursuant to NRS 159.073;

34 (3) The rights of the adult;

35 (4) The availability of local resources to aid the adult; and

36 (5) Any other matter the court deems necessary or prudent.

37 7. If the court finds that there is not any suitable nominated  
38 person, relative or other person listed in subsection 4 to appoint as  
39 guardian, the court may appoint as guardian:

40 (a) The public guardian of the county where the adult resides if:

41 (1) There is a public guardian in the county where the adult  
42 resides; and

43 (2) The adult qualifies for a public guardian pursuant to  
44 chapter 253 of NRS;



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1 (b) A private fiduciary who may obtain a bond in this State and  
2 who is a resident of this State, if the court finds that the interests of  
3 the adult will be served appropriately by the appointment of a  
4 private fiduciary; or

5 (c) A private professional guardian who meets the requirements  
6 of NRS 159.0595.

7 8. A person is not qualified to be appointed as guardian for an  
8 adult if the person has been suspended for misconduct or disbarred  
9 from any of the professions listed in this subsection, but the  
10 disqualification applies only during the period of the suspension or  
11 disbarment. This subsection applies to:

12 (a) The practice of law;

13 (b) The practice of accounting; or

14 (c) Any other profession that:

15 (1) Involves or may involve the management or sale of  
16 money, investments, securities or real property; and

17 (2) Requires licensure in this State or any other state in  
18 which the person practices his or her profession.

19 9. As used in this section:

20 (a) "Adult" means a person who is a ward or a proposed ward  
21 and who is not a minor.

22 (b) "Domestic partner" means a person in a domestic  
23 partnership.

24 (c) "Domestic partnership" means:

25 (1) A domestic partnership as defined in NRS 122A.040; or

26 (2) A domestic partnership which was validly formed in  
27 another jurisdiction and which is substantially equivalent to a  
28 domestic partnership as defined in NRS 122A.040, regardless of  
29 whether it bears the name of a domestic partnership or is registered  
30 in this State.

31 (d) "Nominated person" means a person, whether or not a  
32 relative, whom an adult:

33 (1) Nominates for the appointment as guardian for the adult  
34 in a will, trust or other written instrument that is part of the adult's  
35 established estate plan and was executed by the adult while  
36 ~~competent.~~ *he or she was not incapacitated.*

37 (2) Requests for the appointment as guardian for the adult in  
38 a written instrument that is not part of the adult's established estate  
39 plan and was executed by the adult while ~~competent.~~ *he or she*  
40 *was not incapacitated.*

41 (e) "Relative" means a person who is 18 years of age or older  
42 and who is related to the adult by blood, adoption, marriage or  
43 domestic partnership within the third degree of consanguinity or  
44 affinity.



1       **Sec. 16.** NRS 159.062 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       159.062 A parent or spouse of ~~an incompetent,~~ a minor ,  
3 *person who is incapacitated* or person of limited capacity may by  
4 will nominate a guardian. The person nominated must file a petition  
5 and obtain an appointment from the court before exercising the  
6 powers of a guardian.

7       **Sec. 17.** NRS 159.078 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8       159.078 1. Before taking any of the following actions, the  
9 guardian shall petition the court for an order authorizing the  
10 guardian to:

11       (a) Make or change the last will and testament of the ward.

12       (b) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, make or  
13 change the designation of a beneficiary in a will, trust, insurance  
14 policy, bank account or any other type of asset of the ward which  
15 includes the designation of a beneficiary. The guardian is not  
16 required to petition the court for an order authorizing the guardian to  
17 utilize an asset which has a designated beneficiary, including the  
18 closure or discontinuance of the asset, for the benefit of a ward if:

19           (1) The asset is the only liquid asset available with which to  
20 pay for the proper care, maintenance, education and support of the  
21 ward;

22           (2) The asset, or the aggregate amount of all the assets if  
23 there is more than one type of asset, has a value that does not exceed  
24 \$5,000; or

25           (3) The asset is a bank account, investment fund or insurance  
26 policy and is required to be closed or discontinued in order for the  
27 ward to qualify for a federal program of public assistance.

28       (c) Create for the benefit of the ward or others a revocable or  
29 irrevocable trust of the property of the estate.

30       (d) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, exercise the  
31 right of the ward to revoke or modify a revocable trust or to  
32 surrender the right to revoke or modify a revocable trust. The court  
33 shall not authorize or require the guardian to exercise the right to  
34 revoke or modify a revocable trust if the instrument governing the  
35 trust:

36           (1) Evidences an intent of the ward to reserve the right of  
37 revocation or modification exclusively to the ward;

38           (2) Provides expressly that a guardian may not revoke or  
39 modify the trust; or

40           (3) Otherwise evidences an intent that would be inconsistent  
41 with authorizing or requiring the guardian to exercise the right to  
42 revoke or modify the trust.

43       2. Any other interested person may also petition the court for  
44 an order authorizing or directing the guardian to take any action  
45 described in subsection 1.





1 3. The court may authorize the guardian to take any action  
2 described in subsection 1 if, after notice to any person who is  
3 adversely affected by the proposed action and an opportunity for a  
4 hearing, the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that:

5 (a) A reasonably prudent person or the ward, if ~~competent,~~ **not**  
6 **incapacitated**, would take the proposed action and that a person has  
7 committed or is about to commit any act, practice or course of  
8 conduct which operates or would operate as a fraud or act of  
9 exploitation upon the ward or estate of the ward and that person:

10 (1) Is designated as a beneficiary in or otherwise stands to  
11 gain from an instrument which was executed by or on behalf of the  
12 ward; or

13 (2) Will benefit from the lack of such an instrument; or

14 (b) The proposed action is otherwise in the best interests of the  
15 ward for any other reason not listed in this section.

16 4. The petition must contain, to the extent known by the  
17 petitioner:

18 (a) The name, date of birth and current address of the ward;

19 (b) A concise statement as to the condition of the ward's estate;  
20 and

21 (c) A concise statement as to the necessity for the proposed  
22 action.

23 5. As used in this section:

24 (a) "Exploitation" means any act taken by a person who has the  
25 trust and confidence of a ward or any use of the power of attorney of  
26 a ward to:

27 (1) Obtain control, through deception, intimidation or undue  
28 influence, over the money, assets or property of the ward with the  
29 intention of permanently depriving the ward of the ownership, use,  
30 benefit or possession of the ward's money, assets or property.

31 (2) Convert money, assets or property of the ward with the  
32 intention of permanently depriving the ward of the ownership, use,  
33 benefit or possession of the ward's money, assets or property.

34 ➤ As used in this paragraph, "undue influence" does not include the  
35 normal influence that one member of a family has over another.

36 (b) "Fraud" means an intentional misrepresentation, deception  
37 or concealment of a material fact known to the person with the  
38 intent to deprive the ward of the ward's rights or property or to  
39 otherwise injure the ward.

40 (c) "Interested person" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS  
41 132.185 and also includes a named beneficiary under a trust or other  
42 instrument if the validity of the trust or other instrument may be in  
43 question.



1       **Sec. 18.** NRS 159.081 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       159.081 1. A guardian of the person shall make and file in  
3 the guardianship proceeding for review of the court a written report  
4 on the condition of the ward and the exercise of authority and  
5 performance of duties by the guardian:

6       (a) Annually, not later than 60 days after the anniversary date of  
7 the appointment of the guardian;

8       (b) Within 10 days of moving a ward to a secured residential  
9 long-term care facility; and

10       (c) At such other times as the court may order.

11       2. A report filed pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1  
12 must:

13       (a) Include a copy of the written recommendation upon which  
14 the transfer was made; and

15       (b) Be served, without limitation, on the *ward and any* attorney  
16 for the ward. ~~[- if any -]~~

17       3. The court may prescribe the form and contents for filing a  
18 report described in subsection 1.

19       4. The guardian of the person shall give to the guardian of the  
20 estate, if any, a copy of each report not later than 30 days after the  
21 date the report is filed with the court.

22       5. The court is not required to hold a hearing or enter an order  
23 regarding the report.

24       **Sec. 19.** NRS 159.085 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25       159.085 1. Not later than 60 days after the date of the  
26 appointment of a general or special guardian of the estate or, if  
27 necessary, such further time as the court may allow, the guardian  
28 shall make and file in the guardianship proceeding a verified  
29 inventory of all of the property of the ward which comes to the  
30 possession or knowledge of the guardian.

31       2. A temporary guardian of the estate who is not appointed as  
32 the general or special guardian shall file an inventory with the court  
33 by not later than the date on which the temporary guardian files a  
34 final accounting as required pursuant to NRS 159.177.

35       3. The guardian shall take and subscribe an oath, which must  
36 be endorsed or attached to the inventory, before any person  
37 authorized to administer oaths, that the inventory contains a true  
38 statement of:

39       (a) All of the estate of the ward which has come into the  
40 possession of the guardian;

41       (b) All of the money that belongs to the ward; and

42       (c) All of the just claims of the ward against the guardian.

43       4. *A copy of the inventory filed with the court and a notice of*  
44 *the filing must be served on the ward, his or her attorney and any*  
45 *guardian ad litem representing the ward.*



1       5. Whenever any property of the ward not mentioned in the  
2 inventory comes to the possession or knowledge of a guardian of the  
3 estate, the guardian shall:

4       (a) Make and file in the proceeding a verified supplemental  
5 inventory not later than 30 days after the date the property comes to  
6 the possession or knowledge of the guardian; or

7       (b) Include the property in the next accounting.

8       ~~15.1~~ 6. The court may order which of the two methods  
9 described in subsection ~~14.1~~ 5 the guardian shall follow.

10       ~~16.1~~ 7. The court may order all or any part of the property of  
11 the ward appraised as provided in NRS 159.0865 and 159.305.

12       ~~17.1~~ 8. If the guardian neglects or refuses to file the inventory  
13 within the time required pursuant to subsection 1, the court may, for  
14 good cause shown and upon such notice as the court deems  
15 appropriate:

16       (a) Revoke the letters of guardianship and the guardian shall be  
17 liable on the bond for any loss or injury to the estate caused by the  
18 neglect of the guardian; or

19       (b) Enter a judgment for any loss or injury to the estate caused  
20 by the neglect of the guardian.

21       **Sec. 20.** NRS 159.0893 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22       159.0893 1. A guardian shall present a copy of the court  
23 order appointing the guardian and letters of guardianship to a bank  
24 or other financial institution that holds any account or other assets of  
25 the ward before the guardian may access the account or other assets.

26       2. The bank or other financial institution shall accept the copy  
27 of the court order appointing the guardian and letters of  
28 guardianship as proof of guardianship and allow the guardian access  
29 to the account or other assets of the ward, subject to any limitations  
30 set forth in the court order.

31       3. Unless the bank or other financial institution is a party to the  
32 guardianship proceeding, the bank or other financial institution is  
33 not entitled to a copy of any:

34       (a) ~~Competency~~ *Capacity* evaluation of the ward or any other  
35 confidential information concerning the medical condition or the  
36 placement of the ward; or

37       (b) Inventory or accounting of the estate of the ward.

38       **Sec. 21.** NRS 159.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39       159.095 1. A guardian of the estate shall appear for and  
40 represent the ward in all actions, suits or proceedings to which the  
41 ward is a party, unless the court finds that the interests of the  
42 guardian conflict with the interests of the ward or it is otherwise  
43 appropriate to appoint a guardian ad litem in the action, suit or  
44 proceeding.



1 2. Upon final resolution of the action, suit or proceeding, the  
2 guardian of the estate or the guardian ad litem shall notify the court  
3 of the outcome of the action, suit or proceeding.

4 3. If the person of the ward would be affected by the outcome  
5 of any action, suit or proceeding, the guardian of the person, if any,  
6 should be joined to represent the ward in the action, suit or  
7 proceeding.

8 ***4. If the ward is a party to any criminal action, the guardian***  
9 ***of the estate and the guardian of the person must be notified of the***  
10 ***action.***

11 **Sec. 22.** NRS 159.097 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 159.097 Any contract, except to the extent of the reasonable  
13 value of necessities, and any transaction with respect to the property  
14 of a ward made by the ward are voidable by the guardian of the  
15 estate if such contract or transaction was made at any time by the  
16 ward while ~~an incompetent~~ ***he or she was incapacitated*** or a  
17 minor.

18 **Sec. 22.5.** NRS 159.105 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 159.105 1. ~~Other than claims for attorney's fees that are~~  
20 ~~subject to the provisions of subsection 3, a)~~ ***A*** guardian of the estate  
21 may pay from the guardianship estate the following claims without  
22 complying with the provisions of this section and NRS 159.107  
23 and 159.109:

24 (a) The guardian's claims against the ward or the estate; and

25 (b) Any claims accruing after the appointment of the guardian  
26 which arise from contracts entered into by the guardian on behalf of  
27 the ward.

28 2. The guardian shall report all claims and the payment of  
29 claims made pursuant to subsection 1 in the account that the  
30 guardian makes and files in the guardianship proceeding following  
31 each payment.

32 ~~3. Claims for attorney's fees which are associated with the~~  
33 ~~commencement and administration of the guardianship of the estate:~~  
34 ~~—(a) May be made at the time of the appointment of the guardian~~  
35 ~~of the estate or any time thereafter; and~~  
36 ~~—(b) May not be paid from the guardianship estate unless the~~  
37 ~~payment is made in compliance with the provisions of this section~~  
38 ~~and NRS 159.107 and 159.109.]~~

39 **Sec. 23.** NRS 159.115 is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 159.115 1. ~~Upon~~ ***Except as otherwise ordered by the court,***  
41 ***upon*** the filing of any petition under NRS 159.078 or 159.113, or  
42 any account, notice must be given ***to the ward and the persons***  
43 ***specified in NRS 159.034*** in the manner prescribed by ~~NRS~~  
44 ~~159.034.] that section.~~

45 2. The notice must:



- 1 (a) Give the name of the ward.
- 2 (b) Give the name of the petitioner.
- 3 (c) Give the date, time and place of the hearing.
- 4 (d) State the nature of the petition.
- 5 (e) Refer to the petition for further particulars, and notify all
- 6 persons interested to appear at the time and place mentioned in the
- 7 notice and show cause why the court order should not be made.

8 **Sec. 24.** NRS 159.134 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 159.134 1. All sales of real property of a ward must be ~~f~~

10 ~~—(a) Reported to the court; and~~

11 ~~—(b) Confirmed~~ *confirmed* by the court *pursuant to NRS*  
12 *159.146* before *escrow closes for* the *sale and* title to the real  
13 property passes to the purchaser.

14 2. ~~The report and a~~ *A* petition for confirmation of the sale  
15 must be filed with the court not later than 30 days after the date of  
16 ~~each~~ *the sale* ~~f~~, *which is the date on which the contract for the*  
17 *sale was signed.*

18 3. The court shall set the date of the hearing *for confirmation*  
19 *of the sale* and give notice of the hearing in the manner required  
20 pursuant to NRS 159.115 or as the court may order.

21 4. An interested person may file written objections to the  
22 confirmation of the *sale before the hearing for confirmation of the*  
23 sale. If such objections are filed, the court shall conduct a hearing  
24 regarding those objections during which the interested person may  
25 offer witnesses in support of the objections. *The court may, in its*  
26 *discretion, allow oral objections to the confirmation of the sale on*  
27 *the date of the hearing for confirmation of the sale.*

28 5. Before the court confirms a sale, the court must find that  
29 notice of the sale was given in the manner required pursuant to NRS  
30 159.1425 ~~f~~, ~~159.1435~~ and 159.144, unless the sale was exempt  
31 from notice pursuant to NRS 159.123.

32 **Sec. 25.** NRS 159.1385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 159.1385 1. ~~f~~ *After the court has granted authority to sell*  
34 *real property of a ward, a* guardian may enter into a written contract  
35 with any bona fide agent, broker or multiple agents or brokers to  
36 secure a purchaser for ~~any real~~ *such* property. ~~of the estate.~~ Such  
37 a contract may grant an exclusive right to sell the property to the  
38 agent, broker or multiple agents or brokers.

39 2. The guardian shall provide for the payment of a commission  
40 upon the sale of the real property which:

41 (a) Must be paid from the proceeds of the sale;

42 (b) Must be fixed in an amount not to exceed:

43 (1) Ten percent for unimproved real property; or

44 (2) Seven percent for ~~improved~~ *real property* ~~f~~ *with any*  
45 *type of improvement;* and



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1 (c) Must be authorized by the court by confirmation of the sale.

2 3. Upon confirmation of the sale by the court, the contract for  
3 the sale becomes binding and enforceable against the estate.

4 4. A guardian may not be held personally liable and the estate  
5 is not liable for the payment of any commission set forth in a  
6 contract entered into with an agent or broker pursuant to this section  
7 until the sale is confirmed by the court, and then is liable only for  
8 the amount set forth in the contract.

9 **Sec. 26.** NRS 159.1415 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 159.1415 1. ~~When an offer~~ *Except as otherwise provided*  
11 *in subsection 10 of NRS 159.146, if a contract of sale* to purchase  
12 real property of a guardianship estate is presented to the court for  
13 confirmation:

14 (a) Other persons may submit higher bids ~~to the~~ *in open* court;  
15 and

16 (b) The court may confirm the highest bid.

17 2. Upon confirmation of a sale of real property by the court, the  
18 commission for the sale must be divided between the listing agent or  
19 broker and the agent or broker who secured the purchaser to whom  
20 the sale was confirmed, if any, in accordance with the contract with  
21 the listing agent or broker.

22 **Sec. 27.** NRS 159.142 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 159.142 1. If a ward owns real property jointly with one or  
24 more other persons, *after the court grants authority to sell the*  
25 *property*, the interest owned by the ward may be sold to one or more  
26 joint owners of the property only if:

27 (a) *All joint owners of the property have been given notice that*  
28 *the court has granted the authority to sell the property;*

29 (b) The guardian files a petition with the court to confirm the  
30 sale pursuant to NRS 159.134; and

31 ~~(b)~~ (c) The court confirms the sale.

32 2. The court shall confirm the sale only if:

33 (a) The net amount of the proceeds from the sale to the estate of  
34 the ward is not less than 90 percent of the fair market value of the  
35 portion of the property to be sold; and

36 (b) Upon confirmation, the estate of the ward will be released  
37 from all liability for any mortgage or lien on the property.

38 **Sec. 28.** NRS 159.1425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 159.1425 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and  
40 except for a sale pursuant to NRS 159.123 or 159.142, a guardian  
41 may sell the real property of a ward only after *the court grants*  
42 *authority for the sale pursuant to NRS 159.113 and* notice of the  
43 sale is published : ~~in~~

44 (a) ~~A~~ *In a* newspaper that is published in the county in which  
45 the property, or some portion of the property, is located; ~~or~~



1 (b) If a newspaper is not published in ~~that~~ *the* county ~~in~~ *in*  
2 *which the property, or some portion of the property, is located:*

- 3 (1) In a newspaper of general circulation in the county; or  
4 (2) In such other newspaper as the court orders ~~in~~; *or*

5 *(c) On a public property listing service for a period of not less*  
6 *than 30 days.*

7 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for a  
8 sale of real property pursuant to NRS 159.123 or 159.142 ~~in~~:

9 ~~—(a) The notice of a public auction for the sale of real property~~  
10 ~~must be published not less than three times before the date of the~~  
11 ~~sale, over a period of 14 days and 7 days apart.~~

12 ~~—(b) The~~, *the* notice of a ~~private~~ sale must be published  
13 *pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 1* not less than three  
14 times before the date on which ~~offers will~~ *the sale may* be  
15 ~~accepted~~ *made*, over a period of 14 days and 7 days apart.

16 3. For good cause shown, the court may order fewer  
17 publications and shorten the time of notice, but must not shorten the  
18 time of notice to less than 8 days.

19 4. The court may waive the requirement of publication  
20 pursuant to this section if:

21 (a) The guardian is the sole devisee or heir of the estate; or

22 (b) All devisees or heirs of the estate consent to the waiver in  
23 writing.

24 5. Publication for the sale of real property is not required  
25 pursuant to this section if the property to be sold is reasonably  
26 believed to have a *net* value of \$10,000 or less. In lieu of  
27 publication, the guardian shall post notice of the sale in three of the  
28 most public places in the county in which the property, or some  
29 portion of the property, is located for at least 14 days before ~~in~~:

30 ~~—(a) The date of the sale at public auction; or~~

31 ~~—(b) The~~ *the* date on *or after* which ~~offers~~ *an offer* will be  
32 accepted for a ~~private~~ sale.

33 6. Any notice published or posted pursuant to this section must  
34 include, without limitation:

35 (a) ~~For a public auction:~~

36 ~~—(1) A description of the real property which reasonably~~  
37 ~~identifies the property to be sold; and~~

38 ~~—(2) The date, time and location of the auction.~~

39 ~~—(b) For a private sale:~~

40 ~~—(1)~~ A description of the real property which reasonably  
41 identifies the property to be sold; and

42 ~~(2)~~ *(b)* The date, time and location ~~that offers~~ *on or after*  
43 *which an offer* will be accepted.





1       **Sec. 29.** NRS 159.144 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2       159.144 1. Except for the sale of real property pursuant to  
3 NRS 159.123 or 159.142, a sale of real property of a guardianship  
4 estate : ~~{at a private sale.}~~

5       (a) Must not occur before the date stated in the notice.

6       (b) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, must not  
7 occur sooner than 14 days after the date of the first publication or  
8 posting of the notice. For good cause shown, the court may shorten  
9 the time in which the sale may occur to not sooner than 8 days after  
10 the date of the first publication or posting of the notice. If the court  
11 so orders, the notice of the sale and the sale may be made to  
12 correspond with the court order.

13       (c) Must occur not later than 1 year after the date stated in the  
14 notice.

15       2. The offers made in a ~~{private}~~ sale:

16       (a) Must be in writing; and

17       (b) May be delivered to the place designated in the notice or to  
18 the guardian at any time ~~{~~

19 ~~— (1) After} after~~ the date of the first publication or posting of  
20 the notice . ~~{; and~~

21 ~~— (2) Before the date on which the sale is to occur.}~~

22       **Sec. 30.** NRS 159.1455 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23       159.1455 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,  
24 the court shall not confirm a sale of real property of a guardianship  
25 estate ~~{at a private sale}~~ unless:

26       (a) The court is satisfied that the amount offered represents the  
27 fair market value of the property to be sold; and

28       (b) Except for a sale of real property pursuant to NRS 159.123,  
29 the real property has been appraised within 1 year before the date of  
30 the sale. If the real property has not been appraised within this  
31 period, a new appraisal must be conducted pursuant to NRS 159.086  
32 and 159.0865 at any time before the sale or confirmation by the  
33 court of the sale.

34       2. The court may waive the requirement of an appraisal ~~{and~~  
35 ~~allow the guardian to rely on the assessed value of the real property~~  
36 ~~for purposes of taxation in obtaining confirmation by the court of~~  
37 ~~the sale.}~~ *upon a showing to and specific findings by the court on*  
38 *the record that:*

39       *(a) An additional appraisal will unduly delay the sale; and*

40       *(b) The delay will impair the estate of the ward.*

41       **Sec. 31.** NRS 159.146 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42       159.146 1. At the hearing to confirm the sale of real property,  
43 the court shall:

44       (a) Consider whether the sale is necessary or in the best interest  
45 of the estate of the ward; and





- 1 (b) Examine the return on the investment and the evidence  
2 submitted in relation to the sale.
- 3 2. The court shall confirm the sale and order conveyances to be  
4 executed if it appears to the court that:
- 5 (a) Good reason existed for the sale;  
6 (b) The sale was conducted in a legal and fair manner;  
7 (c) The amount of the offer ~~{or bid}~~ is not disproportionate to the  
8 value of the property; and  
9 (d) It is unlikely that ~~{an offer or}~~ a bid would be made which  
10 exceeds the original offer : ~~{or bid:}~~
- 11 (1) By at least 5 percent if the offer ~~{or bid}~~ is less than  
12 \$100,000; or  
13 (2) By at least \$5,000 if the offer ~~{or bid}~~ is \$100,000 or  
14 more.
- 15 3. The court shall not confirm the sale if the conditions in this  
16 section are not satisfied.
- 17 4. If the court does not confirm the sale, the court:
- 18 (a) May order a new sale; *or*  
19 (b) May conduct a public auction in open court. ~~{; or~~  
20 ~~—(c) May accept a written offer or bid from a responsible person~~  
21 ~~and confirm the sale to the person if the written offer complies with~~  
22 ~~the laws of this state and exceeds the original bid:~~  
23 ~~—(1) By at least 5 percent if the bid is less than \$100,000; or~~  
24 ~~—(2) By at least \$5,000 if the bid is \$100,000 or more.}~~
- 25 5. If the court ~~{does not confirm the sale and}~~ orders a new  
26 sale:
- 27 (a) Notice must be given in the manner set forth in NRS  
28 159.1425; and  
29 (b) The sale must be conducted in all other respects as though no  
30 previous sale has taken place.
- 31 6. If a higher offer ~~{or bid}~~ is received by the court during the  
32 hearing to confirm the sale, the court may continue the hearing  
33 ~~{rather than accept the offer or bid as set forth in paragraph (c) of~~  
34 ~~subsection 4}~~ if the court determines that the person who made the  
35 ~~{original}~~ offer ~~{or bid}~~ *being confirmed* was not notified of the  
36 hearing and ~~{that the person who made the original offer or bid}~~ may  
37 wish to increase *the price of* his or her ~~{bid:}~~ offer. This subsection  
38 does not grant a right to a person to have a continuance granted and  
39 may not be used as a ground to set aside an order confirming a sale.
- 40 7. Except as otherwise provided in this ~~{subsection, if a higher~~  
41 ~~offer or bid is received by the court during the hearing to confirm~~  
42 ~~the sale and the court does not accept that offer or bid, each~~  
43 ~~successive bid must be for not less than:~~  
44 ~~—(a) An additional \$5,000, if the original offer is for \$100,000 or~~  
45 ~~more; or~~



~~(b) An additional \$250 if the original offer is less than \$100,000. Upon the request of the guardian during the hearing to confirm the sale, the court may set other incremental bid amounts.~~ section, only the name of the buyer and the price of the sale may be changed at a public auction in open court. An order confirming the sale is sufficient as an addendum to the original contract to allow escrow to close.

8. The title company may be changed at a public auction in open court if the estate and the buyer have mutually agreed to the change in writing.

9. The date of the close of escrow must be at least 10 judicial days after the date that the notice of the entry of order confirming the sale is filed with the clerk of the court unless the contract specifies a later date. The parties to the sale may extend the date of the close of escrow by mutual agreement in writing.

10. If the estate owes more than the value of the property and the estate has made an agreement with all lienholders to accept the sale price and waive any deficiency between the sale price and the amount owed to all lienholders, the sale must be confirmed without the potential for bidding in court. All other portions of the confirmation of sale must be adhered to. The valuation by the bank shall be deemed to meet the appraisal requirement for the sale, and the date of the sale is the date on which the bank approves the sale.

Sec. 32. NRS 159.1515 is hereby amended to read as follows:

159.1515 1. ~~[A]~~ Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a guardian may sell ~~[perishable property and other]~~ or dispose of personal property of the ward ~~[without]~~ that has a total value of less than \$10,000 if:

(a) A notice ~~[, and title to]~~ of intent to sell or dispose of the property ~~[passes without confirmation by the court if the property:~~

~~(a) Will depreciate in value if not disposed of promptly; or~~

~~(b) Will incur loss or expense by being kept.~~

~~2. The~~ is mailed by certified mail or delivered personally to the ward, his or her attorney and the persons specified in NRS 159.034; and

(b) No objection to the sale or disposal is made within 15 days after such notice is received.

2. A guardian ~~[is responsible for the actual value]~~ may authorize the immediate destruction of the personal property ~~[unless the guardian obtains confirmation by the court of the sale.]~~ of a ward without notice if:

(a) The guardian determines that the property has been contaminated by vermin or biological or chemical agents;



1 (b) *The expenses related to the decontamination of the*  
2 *property cause salvage to be impractical;*

3 (c) *The property constitutes an immediate threat to public*  
4 *health or safety;*

5 (d) *The handling, transfer or storage of the property might*  
6 *endanger public health or safety or exacerbate contamination;*  
7 *and*

8 (e) *The value of the property is less than \$100 or, if the value*  
9 *of the property is \$100 or more, a state or local health officer has*  
10 *endorsed the destruction of the property.*

11 **Sec. 33.** NRS 159.1535 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 159.1535 1. Except as otherwise provided in *this section and*  
13 *NRS 159.1515 and 159.152, a guardian may sell the personal*  
14 *property of the ward only after notice of the sale is ~~published~~ :*

15 (a) *Given to the:*

16 (1) *Ward if he or she is 14 years of age or older;*

17 (2) *Parent or legal guardian of the ward, if the ward is a*  
18 *minor who is less than 14 years of age; and*

19 (3) *Spouse of the ward and all other known relatives of the*  
20 *ward who are within the second degree of consanguinity; and*

21 (b) *Published in:*

22 ~~(a)~~ (1) *A newspaper that is published in the county in which*  
23 *the property, or some portion of the property, is located; or*

24 ~~(b)~~ (2) *If a newspaper is not published in ~~that~~ the county ~~in~~*  
25 *in which the property, or some portion of the property, is located:*

26 ~~(1)~~ (I) *In a newspaper of general circulation in the county;*  
27 *or*

28 ~~(2)~~ (II) *In such other newspaper as the court orders.*

29 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section ~~is~~:

30 ~~—(a) The notice of a public sale must be published not less than~~  
31 ~~three times before the date of the sale, over a period of 14 days and~~  
32 ~~7 days apart.~~

33 ~~—(b) The~~, *the* notice of a ~~private~~ sale must be published not  
34 less than three times before the date on which offers will be  
35 accepted, over a period of 14 days and 7 days apart.

36 3. For good cause shown, the court may order fewer  
37 publications and shorten the time of notice, but must not shorten the  
38 time of notice to less than 8 days.

39 4. The notice must include, without limitation:

40 (a) ~~For a public sale:~~

41 ~~—(1) A description of the personal property to be sold; and~~

42 ~~—(2) The date, time and location of the sale.~~

43 ~~(b)~~ For a ~~private~~ sale ~~in~~ *other than a sale described in*  
44 *paragraph (b):*

45 (1) *A description of the personal property to be sold; and*



1 (2) The date, time and location that offers will be ~~accepted.~~  
2 ~~(e) received.~~

3 (b) For a sale on an appropriate auction website on the Internet:

4 (1) A description of the personal property to be sold;

5 (2) The date the personal property will be listed; and

6 (3) The Internet address of the website on which the sale will  
7 be posted.

8 *5. Notice of a sale is not required to be published pursuant to*  
9 *this section if the gross value of the estate of the ward is less than*  
10 *\$10,000.*

11 **Sec. 34.** NRS 159.154 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 159.154 1. The guardian may sell the personal property of a  
13 ward ~~by public sale~~ at:

14 (a) The residence of the ward; or

15 (b) Any other location designated by the guardian.

16 2. The guardian may sell the personal property ~~by public sale~~  
17 only if the property is made available for inspection at the time of  
18 the sale or photographs of the personal property are posted on an  
19 appropriate auction website on the Internet.

20 3. Personal property may be sold ~~at a public or private sale~~  
21 for cash or upon credit.

22 *4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 159.1515, a sale or*  
23 *disposition of any personal property of the ward must not be*  
24 *commenced until 30 days after an inventory of the property is filed*  
25 *with the court and a copy thereof is sent by regular mail to the*  
26 *persons specified in NRS 159.034. An affidavit of mailing must be*  
27 *filed with the court.*

28 *5. The guardian is responsible for the actual value of the*  
29 *personal property unless the guardian makes a report to the court,*  
30 *not later than 90 days after the conclusion of the sale, showing*  
31 *that good cause existed for the sale and that the property was sold*  
32 *for a price that was not disproportionate to the value of the*  
33 *property.*

34 *6. The family members of the ward and any interested*  
35 *persons must be offered the first right of refusal to acquire the*  
36 *personal property of the ward at fair market value.*

37 **Sec. 35.** NRS 159.173 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 159.173 If a guardian of the estate sells or transfers any real or  
39 personal property that is specifically devised or bequeathed by the  
40 ward or which is held by the ward as a joint tenancy, designated as  
41 being held by the ward in trust for another person or held by the  
42 ward as a revocable trust and the ward ~~was competent~~ *had the*  
43 *capacity* to make a will or create the interest at the time the will or  
44 interest was created, but ~~was not competent~~ *did not have the*  
45 *capacity* to make a will or create the interest at the time of the sale



1 or transfer and never executed a valid later will or changed the  
2 manner in which the ward held the interest, the devisee, beneficiary  
3 or legatee may elect to take the proceeds of the sale or other transfer  
4 of the interest, specific devise or bequest.

5 **Sec. 35.5.** NRS 159.183 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 159.183 1. Subject to the discretion and approval of the court  
7 and except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~4~~ 5, a guardian  
8 must be allowed:

9 (a) Reasonable compensation for the guardian's services;

10 (b) Necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in exercising  
11 the authority and performing the duties of a guardian; and

12 (c) Reasonable expenses incurred in retaining accountants,  
13 attorneys, appraisers or other professional services.

14 2. Reasonable compensation and services must be based upon  
15 similar services performed for persons who are not under a legal  
16 disability. In determining whether compensation is reasonable, the  
17 court may consider:

18 (a) The nature of the guardianship;

19 (b) The type, duration and complexity of the services required;  
20 and

21 (c) Any other relevant factors.

22 3. In the absence of an order of the court pursuant to this  
23 chapter shifting the responsibility of the payment of compensation  
24 and expenses, the payment of compensation and expenses must be  
25 paid from the estate of the ward. In evaluating the ability of a ward  
26 to pay such compensation and expenses, the court may consider:

27 (a) The nature, extent and liquidity of the ward's assets;

28 (b) The disposable net income of the ward;

29 (c) Any foreseeable expenses; and

30 (d) Any other factors that are relevant to the duties of the  
31 guardian pursuant to NRS 159.079 or 159.083.

32 4. *Any compensation or expenses, including, without*  
33 *limitation, attorney's fees, must not be paid from the estate of the*  
34 *ward unless and until the payment of such fees is approved by the*  
35 *court pursuant to this section or section 3 of this act, as applicable.*

36 5. A ~~private professional~~ guardian is not allowed  
37 compensation or expenses , *including, without limitation,*  
38 *attorney's fees,* for services incurred by the ~~private professional~~  
39 guardian as a result of a petition to have him or her removed as  
40 guardian if the court removes the ~~private professional~~ guardian .  
41 ~~pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b), (d), (e), (f) or (h) of~~  
42 ~~subsection 1 of NRS 159.185.]~~

43 **Sec. 36.** NRS 159.185 is hereby amended to read as follows:

44 159.185 1. The court may remove a guardian if the court  
45 determines that:



- 1 (a) The guardian has become mentally ~~incompetent,~~  
2 *incapacitated*, unsuitable or otherwise incapable of exercising the  
3 authority and performing the duties of a guardian as provided by  
4 law;
- 5 (b) The guardian is no longer qualified to act as a guardian  
6 pursuant to NRS 159.0613 if the ward is an adult or NRS 159.061 if  
7 the ward is a minor;
- 8 (c) The guardian has filed for bankruptcy within the previous 5  
9 years;
- 10 (d) The guardian of the estate has mismanaged the estate of the  
11 ward;
- 12 (e) The guardian has negligently failed to perform any duty as  
13 provided by law or by any order of the court and:
- 14 (1) The negligence resulted in injury to the ward or the estate  
15 of the ward; or
- 16 (2) There was a substantial likelihood that the negligence  
17 would result in injury to the ward or the estate of the ward;
- 18 (f) The guardian has intentionally failed to perform any duty as  
19 provided by law or by any lawful order of the court, regardless of  
20 injury;
- 21 (g) The best interests of the ward will be served by the  
22 appointment of another person as guardian; or
- 23 (h) The guardian is a private professional guardian who is no  
24 longer qualified as a private professional guardian pursuant to  
25 NRS 159.0595.
- 26 2. A guardian may not be removed if the sole reason for  
27 removal is the lack of money to pay the compensation and expenses  
28 of the guardian.
- 29 **Sec. 37.** NRS 159.1995 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
30 159.1995 1. In a guardianship proceeding in this State, a  
31 court of this State may request the appropriate court of another state  
32 to do any of the following:
- 33 (a) Hold an evidentiary hearing;
- 34 (b) Order a person in that state to produce evidence or give  
35 testimony pursuant to the procedures of that state;
- 36 (c) Order that an evaluation or assessment be made of the ward;
- 37 (d) Order any appropriate investigation of a person involved in a  
38 proceeding;
- 39 (e) Forward to the court of this State a certified copy of the  
40 transcript or other record of a hearing under paragraph (a) or any  
41 other proceeding, any evidence otherwise produced under paragraph  
42 (b), and any evaluation or assessment prepared in compliance with  
43 an order under paragraph (c) or (d);
- 44 (f) Issue any order necessary to ensure the appearance in the  
45 proceeding of a person whose presence is necessary for the court to



1 make a determination, including the proposed ward, the ward or the  
2 ~~incompetent;~~ *person who is incapacitated*; and

3 (g) Issue an order authorizing the release of medical, financial,  
4 criminal or other relevant information in that state relating to the  
5 ward or proposed ward, including protected health information as  
6 defined in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.

7 2. If a court of another state in which a guardianship or  
8 conservatorship proceeding is pending requests assistance of the  
9 kind provided in subsection 1, a court of this State has jurisdiction  
10 for the limited purpose of granting the request or making reasonable  
11 efforts to comply with the request.

12 **Sec. 38.** NRS 159.215 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 159.215 1. A member of the Armed Forces of the United  
14 States, a reserve component thereof or the National Guard may, by  
15 written instrument and without the approval of a court, appoint any  
16 ~~competent~~ adult residing in this State *who is not incapacitated* as  
17 the guardian of the person of a minor child who is a dependent of  
18 that member. The instrument must be:

19 (a) Executed by both parents if living, not divorced and having  
20 legal custody of the child, otherwise by the parent having legal  
21 custody; and

22 (b) Acknowledged in the same manner as a deed.

23 ↪ If both parents do not execute the instrument, the executing  
24 parent shall send by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the  
25 other parent at his or her last known address, a copy of the  
26 instrument and a notice of the provisions of subsection 3.

27 2. The instrument must contain a provision setting forth the:

28 (a) Branch of the Armed Forces;

29 (b) Unit of current assignment;

30 (c) Current rank or grade; and

31 (d) Social security number or service number,

32 ↪ of the parent who is the member.

33 3. The appointment of a guardian pursuant to this section:

34 (a) May be terminated by a written instrument signed by either  
35 parent of the child if that parent has not been deprived of his or her  
36 parental rights to the child; and

37 (b) Is terminated by any order of a court.

38 **Sec. 39.** NRS 449.6922 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 449.6922 ~~incompetent~~ *“Incapacitated”* has the meaning  
40 ascribed to it in NRS 159.019.

41 **Sec. 40.** NRS 449.6942 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 449.6942 1. A physician shall take the actions described in  
43 subsection 2:

44 (a) If the physician diagnoses a patient with a terminal  
45 condition;





1 (b) If the physician determines, for any reason, that a patient has  
2 a life expectancy of less than 5 years; or

3 (c) At the request of a patient.

4 2. Upon the occurrence of any of the events specified in  
5 subsection 1, the physician shall explain to the patient:

6 (a) The existence and availability of the Physician Order for  
7 Life-Sustaining Treatment form;

8 (b) The features of and procedures offered by way of the POLST  
9 form; and

10 (c) The differences between a POLST form and the other types  
11 of advance directives.

12 3. Upon the request of the patient, the physician shall complete  
13 the POLST form based on the preferences and medical indications  
14 of the patient.

15 4. A POLST form is valid upon execution by a physician and:

16 (a) If the patient is 18 years of age or older and of sound mind,  
17 the patient;

18 (b) If the patient is 18 years of age or older and ~~incompetent,~~  
19 *incapacitated*, the representative of the patient; or

20 (c) If the patient is less than 18 years of age, the patient and a  
21 parent or legal guardian of the patient.

22 5. As used in this section, “terminal condition” has the  
23 meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.590.

24 **Sec. 41.** NRS 449.6944 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 449.6944 1. A Physician Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment  
26 form may be revoked at any time and in any manner by:

27 (a) The patient who executed it, if ~~incompetent,~~ *not*  
28 *incapacitated*, without regard to his or her age or physical condition;

29 (b) If the patient is ~~incompetent,~~ *incapacitated*, the  
30 representative of the patient; or

31 (c) If the patient is less than 18 years of age, a parent or legal  
32 guardian of the patient.

33 2. The revocation of a POLST form is effective upon the  
34 communication to a provider of health care, by the patient or a  
35 witness to the revocation, of the desire to revoke the form. The  
36 provider of health care to whom the revocation is communicated  
37 shall:

38 (a) Make the revocation a part of the medical record of the  
39 patient; or

40 (b) Cause the revocation to be made a part of the medical record  
41 of the patient.

42 **Sec. 42.** NRS 449.695 is hereby amended to read as follows:

43 449.695 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section and  
44 NRS 449.6946, a provider of health care shall comply with a valid  
45 Physician Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment form, regardless of





1 whether the provider of health care is employed by a health care  
2 facility or other entity affiliated with the physician who executed the  
3 POLST form.

4 2. A physician may medically evaluate the patient and, based  
5 upon the evaluation, may recommend new orders consistent with the  
6 most current information available about the patient's health status  
7 and goals of care. Before making a modification to a valid POLST  
8 form, the physician shall consult the patient or, if the patient is  
9 ~~incompetent,~~ *incapacitated*, shall make a reasonable attempt to  
10 consult the representative of the patient and the patient's attending  
11 physician.

12 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a provider of  
13 health care who is unwilling or unable to comply with a valid  
14 POLST form shall take all reasonable measures to transfer the  
15 patient to a physician or health care facility so that the POLST form  
16 will be followed.

17 4. Life-sustaining treatment must not be withheld or withdrawn  
18 pursuant to a POLST form of a patient known to the attending  
19 physician to be pregnant, so long as it is probable that the fetus will  
20 develop to the point of live birth with the continued application of  
21 life-sustaining treatment.

22 5. Nothing in this section requires a provider of health care to  
23 comply with a valid POLST form if the provider of health care does  
24 not have actual knowledge of the existence of the form.

25 **Sec. 43.** NRS 616C.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 616C.505 If an injury by accident arising out of and in the  
27 course of employment causes the death of an employee in the  
28 employ of an employer, within the provisions of chapters 616A to  
29 616D, inclusive, of NRS, the compensation is known as a death  
30 benefit and is payable as follows:

31 1. In addition to any other compensation payable pursuant to  
32 chapters 616A to 616D, inclusive, of NRS, burial expenses are  
33 payable in an amount not to exceed \$10,000, plus the cost of  
34 transporting the remains of the deceased employee. When the  
35 remains of the deceased employee and the person accompanying the  
36 remains are to be transported to a mortuary or mortuaries, the charge  
37 of transportation must be borne by the insurer.

38 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, to the  
39 surviving spouse of the deceased employee, 66 2/3 percent of the  
40 average monthly wage is payable until the death of the surviving  
41 spouse.

42 3. If there is a surviving spouse and any surviving children of  
43 the deceased employee who are not the children of the surviving  
44 spouse, the compensation otherwise payable pursuant to subsection  
45 2 must be paid as follows until the entitlement of all children of the



1 deceased employee to receive compensation pursuant to this  
2 subsection ceases:

3 (a) To the surviving spouse, 50 percent of the death benefit is  
4 payable until the death of the surviving spouse; and

5 (b) To each child of the deceased employee, regardless of  
6 whether the child is the child of the surviving spouse, the child's  
7 proportionate share of 50 percent of the death benefit and, except as  
8 otherwise provided in subsection 11, if the child has a guardian, the  
9 compensation the child is entitled to receive may be paid to the  
10 guardian.

11 4. In the event of the subsequent death of the surviving spouse:

12 (a) Each surviving child of the deceased employee, in addition  
13 to any amount the child may be entitled to pursuant to subsection 3,  
14 must share equally the compensation theretofore paid to the  
15 surviving spouse but not in excess thereof, and it is payable until the  
16 youngest child reaches the age of 18 years.

17 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 11, if the  
18 children have a guardian, the compensation they are entitled to  
19 receive may be paid to the guardian.

20 5. If there are any surviving children of the deceased employee  
21 under the age of 18 years, but no surviving spouse, then each such  
22 child is entitled to his or her proportionate share of  $66 \frac{2}{3}$  percent of  
23 the average monthly wage for the support of the child.

24 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, if there is no  
25 surviving spouse or child under the age of 18 years, there must be  
26 paid:

27 (a) To a parent, if wholly dependent for support upon the  
28 deceased employee at the time of the injury causing the death of the  
29 deceased employee,  $33 \frac{1}{3}$  percent of the average monthly wage.

30 (b) To both parents, if wholly dependent for support upon the  
31 deceased employee at the time of the injury causing the death of the  
32 deceased employee,  $66 \frac{2}{3}$  percent of the average monthly wage.

33 (c) To each brother or sister until he or she reaches the age of 18  
34 years, if wholly dependent for support upon the deceased employee  
35 at the time of the injury causing the death of the deceased employee,  
36 his or her proportionate share of  $66 \frac{2}{3}$  percent of the average  
37 monthly wage.

38 7. The aggregate compensation payable pursuant to subsection  
39 6 must not exceed  $66 \frac{2}{3}$  percent of the average monthly wage.

40 8. In all other cases involving a question of total or partial  
41 dependency:

42 (a) The extent of the dependency must be determined in  
43 accordance with the facts existing at the time of the injury.

44 (b) If the deceased employee leaves dependents only partially  
45 dependent upon the earnings of the deceased employee for support



1 at the time of the injury causing his or her death, the monthly  
2 compensation to be paid must be equal to the same proportion of the  
3 monthly payments for the benefit of persons totally dependent as the  
4 amount contributed by the deceased employee to the partial  
5 dependents bears to the average monthly wage of the deceased  
6 employee at the time of the injury resulting in his or her death.

7 (c) The duration of compensation to partial dependents must be  
8 fixed in accordance with the facts shown, but may not exceed  
9 compensation for 100 months.

10 9. Compensation payable to a surviving spouse is for the use  
11 and benefit of the surviving spouse and the dependent children, and  
12 the insurer may, from time to time, apportion such compensation  
13 between them in such a way as it deems best for the interest of all  
14 dependents.

15 10. In the event of the death of any dependent specified in this  
16 section before the expiration of the time during which compensation  
17 is payable to the dependent, funeral expenses are payable in an  
18 amount not to exceed \$10,000.

19 11. If a dependent is entitled to receive a death benefit pursuant  
20 to this section and is less than 18 years of age or ~~incompetent,~~  
21 *incapacitated*, the legal representative of the dependent shall  
22 petition for a guardian to be appointed for that dependent pursuant  
23 to NRS 159.044. An insurer shall not pay any compensation in  
24 excess of \$3,000, other than burial expenses, to the dependent until  
25 a guardian is appointed and legally qualified. Upon receipt of a  
26 certified letter of guardianship, the insurer shall make all payments  
27 required by this section to the guardian of the dependent until the  
28 dependent is emancipated, the guardianship terminates or the  
29 dependent reaches the age of 18 years, whichever occurs first,  
30 unless paragraph (a) of subsection 12 is applicable. The fees and  
31 costs related to the guardianship must be paid from the estate of the  
32 dependent. A guardianship established pursuant to this subsection  
33 must be administered in accordance with chapter 159 of NRS,  
34 except that after the first annual review required pursuant to NRS  
35 159.176, a court may elect not to review the guardianship annually.  
36 The court shall review the guardianship at least once every 3 years.  
37 As used in this subsection, ~~“incompetent”~~ *“incapacitated”* has the  
38 meaning ascribed to it in NRS 159.019.

39 12. Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (a) and (b), the  
40 entitlement of any child to receive his or her proportionate share of  
41 compensation pursuant to this section ceases when the child dies,  
42 marries or reaches the age of 18 years. A child is entitled to continue  
43 to receive compensation pursuant to this section if the child is:



- 1 (a) Over 18 years of age and incapable of supporting himself or  
2 herself, until such time as the child becomes capable of supporting  
3 himself or herself; or  
4 (b) Over 18 years of age and enrolled as a full-time student in an  
5 accredited vocational or educational institution, until the child  
6 reaches the age of 22 years.  
7 13. As used in this section, "surviving spouse" means a  
8 surviving husband or wife who was married to the employee at the  
9 time of the employee's death.  
10 **Sec. 44.** NRS 159.1435 is hereby repealed.  
11 **Sec. 45.** This act becomes effective on January 1, 2018.

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**TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION**

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**159.1435 Public auction for sale of real property: Where held; postponement.**

1. Except for a sale pursuant to NRS 159.123 or 159.142, a public auction for the sale of real property must be held:
- (a) In the county in which the property is located or, if the real property is located in two or more counties, in either county;
  - (b) Between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.; and
  - (c) On the date specified in the notice, unless the sale is postponed.
2. If, on or before the date and time set for the public auction, the guardian determines that the auction should be postponed:
- (a) The auction may be postponed for not more than 3 months after the date first set for the auction; and
  - (b) Notice of the postponement must be given by a public declaration at the place first set for the sale on the date and time that was set for the sale.

