



General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Joint State Government Commission
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Report Summary

Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries: Proposed Amendments to Titles 15 & 20 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes *Report of the Advisory Committee on Decedents' Estates Laws*

The Advisory Committee on Decedents' Estates Laws is a standing group of attorneys and judges from across the Commonwealth who assist the General Assembly by recommending improvements to Pennsylvania's Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries Code and related statutes. Since 1945, the Advisory Committee has provided expertise and advice to formulate legislation aimed at modernizing Pennsylvania law. Over the years, the Advisory Committee has formed various subcommittees to assist in reviewing specific topics and developing statutory recommendations involving the Probate, Estates and Fiduciaries Code for consideration by the Advisory Committee and Task Force.

Following its conference in 2016, the advisory committee reported proposed legislation to the task force. The report summarizes relevant activity by the committee and the status of its legislative recommendations during the General Assembly's sessions in 2015-2016. The proposed legislation in this report would amend 20 Pa.C.S. by:

- amending § 305 (relating to right to dispose of a decedent's remains), primarily to update and clarify this section
- adding ch. 39 (relating to uniform access to fiduciary assets) to uniformly address the relatively new & increasingly common manifestation of assets held in a digital form
- amending § 5321 (relating to delay in transfer of custodial property after minor attains age 21) to authorize an additional five years of custodianship lasting until the minor heir attains a specified age up to 30, which would increase it from the current limit of age 25

Proposed legislation in this report would also amend Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988 (15 Pa.C.S. Pt. II, Subpt. C.) and several provisions in 20 Pa.C.S. to modernize Pennsylvania's law relating to prudent management of institutional funds and make it more uniform with other states.

The full report is available on our website, <http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us/>