CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1053

62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 21, 2011 Yeas 57 Nays 40	CERTIFICATE I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby		
Speaker of the House of Representatives Passed by the Senate April 21, 2011 Yeas 46 Nays 0	certify that the attached is SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1053 as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate or the dates hereon set forth.		
	Chief Clerk		
Approved	FILED		
Governor of the State of Washington	Secretary of State State of Washington		

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1053

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2011 Regular Session

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By House Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller, Kenney, Ladenburg, Appleton, Roberts, Darneille, and Upthegrove; by request of Washington State Bar Association)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/11.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the implementation of recommendations from the 2 Washington state bar association elder law section's executive committee report of the quardianship task force; amending RCW 3 4 11.88.020, 11.88.030, 11.92.043, 11.88.095, 11.88.125, 5 11.92.053, 11.92.040, 11.92.050, and 36.18.016; and adding a new
- 6 section to chapter 11.88 RCW.

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- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON: 7
- **Sec. 1.** RCW 11.88.020 and 1997 c 312 s 1 are each amended to read 8 9 as follows:
 - (1) Any suitable person over the age of eighteen years, or any parent under the age of eighteen years or, if the petition is for appointment of a professional guardian, any individual or guardianship service that meets any certification requirements established by the administrator for the courts, may, if not otherwise disqualified, be appointed quardian or limited quardian of the person and/or the estate of an incapacitated person. A financial institution subject to the jurisdiction of the department of financial institutions and authorized exercise trust powers, and a federally chartered financial institution when authorized to do so, may act as a guardian of the

- estate of an incapacitated person without having to meet the certification requirements established by the administrator for the courts. No person is qualified to serve as a guardian who is
 - (a) under eighteen years of age except as otherwise provided herein;
 - (b) of unsound mind;

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- 7 (c) convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving moral 8 turpitude;
 - (d) a nonresident of this state who has not appointed a resident agent to accept service of process in all actions or proceedings with respect to the estate and caused such appointment to be filed with the court;
- 13 (e) a corporation not authorized to act as a fiduciary, guardian, 14 or limited guardian in the state;
 - (f) a person whom the court finds unsuitable.
 - (2) The professional guardian certification requirements required under this section shall not apply to a testamentary guardian appointed under RCW 11.88.080.
 - (3) If a guardian or limited guardian is not a certified professional guardian or financial institution authorized under this section, the guardian or limited guardian shall complete any standardized training video or web cast for lay guardians made available by the administrative office of the courts and the superior court where the petition is filed unless granted a waiver by the court under RCW 11.92.043 or 11.92.040. The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to the guardian or limited guardian.
 - (a) If a petitioner requests the appointment of a specific individual to act as a guardian or limited guardian, the petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall include evidence of the successful completion of the required training video or web cast by the proposed guardian or limited guardian. The superior court may defer the completion of the training requirement to a date no later than ninety days after appointment if the petitioner requests expedited appointment due to emergent circumstances.
- 35 (b) If no person is identified to be appointed guardian or limited 36 guardian at the time the petition is filed, then the court shall 37 require the completion of the required training video or web cast by a 38 date no later than ninety days after the appointment.

Sec. 2. RCW 11.88.030 and 2009 c 521 s 36 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

- (1) Any person or entity may petition for the appointment of a qualified person, ((trust company, national bank, or nonprofit corporation)) certified professional guardian, or financial institution authorized in RCW 11.88.020 as the guardian or limited guardian of an incapacitated person. No liability for filing a petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall attach to a petitioner acting in good faith and upon reasonable basis. A petition for guardianship or limited guardianship shall state:
- 11 (a) The name, age, residence, and post office address of the 12 alleged incapacitated person;
- 13 (b) The nature of the alleged incapacity in accordance with RCW 14 11.88.010;
 - (c) The approximate value and description of property, including any compensation, pension, insurance, or allowance, to which the alleged incapacitated person may be entitled;
 - (d) Whether there is, in any state, a guardian or limited guardian, or pending guardianship action for the person or estate of the alleged incapacitated person;
 - (e) The residence and post office address of the person whom petitioner asks to be appointed guardian or limited guardian;
 - (f) The names and addresses, and nature of the relationship, so far as known or can be reasonably ascertained, of the persons most closely related by blood, marriage, or state registered domestic partnership to the alleged incapacitated person;
 - (g) The name and address of the person or facility having the care and custody of the alleged incapacitated person;
 - (h) The reason why the appointment of a guardian or limited guardian is sought and the interest of the petitioner in the appointment, and whether the appointment is sought as guardian or limited guardian of the person, the estate, or both;
 - (i) A description of any alternate arrangements previously made by the alleged incapacitated person, such as trusts or powers of attorney, including identifying any guardianship nominations contained in a power of attorney, and why a guardianship is nevertheless necessary;
- 37 (j) The nature and degree of the alleged incapacity and the

specific areas of protection and assistance requested and the limitation of rights requested to be included in the court's order of appointment;

- (k) The requested term of the limited guardianship to be included in the court's order of appointment; and
- (1) Whether the petitioner is proposing a specific individual to act as guardian ad litem and, if so, the individual's knowledge of or relationship to any of the parties, and why the individual is proposed.
- (2) The petition shall include evidence of successful completion of any training required under RCW 11.88.020 by the proposed guardian or limited guardian unless the petitioner requests expedited appointment due to emergent circumstances.
- $((\frac{(2)}{2}))$ $\underline{(3)}$ (a) The attorney general may petition for the appointment of a guardian or limited guardian in any case in which there is cause to believe that a guardianship is necessary and no private party is able and willing to petition.
- (b) Prepayment of a filing fee shall not be required in any guardianship or limited guardianship brought by the attorney general. Payment of the filing fee shall be ordered from the estate of the incapacitated person at the hearing on the merits of the petition, unless in the judgment of the court, such payment would impose a hardship upon the incapacitated person, in which case the filing shall be waived.
- ((+3)) (4) No filing fee shall be charged by the court for filing either a petition for guardianship or a petition for limited guardianship if the petition alleges that the alleged incapacitated person has total assets of a value of less than three thousand dollars.
- ((4))) <u>(5)</u>(a) Notice that a guardianship proceeding has been commenced shall be personally served upon the alleged incapacitated person and the guardian ad litem along with a copy of the petition for appointment of a guardian. Such notice shall be served not more than five court days after the petition has been filed.
- (b) Notice under this subsection shall include a clear and easily readable statement of the legal rights of the alleged incapacitated person that could be restricted or transferred to a guardian by a guardianship order as well as the right to counsel of choice and to a jury trial on the issue of incapacity. Such notice shall be in

- 1 substantially the following form and shall be in capital letters,
- 2 double-spaced, and in a type size not smaller than ten-point type:
- 3 IMPORTANT NOTICE PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
- 4 A PETITION TO HAVE A GUARDIAN APPOINTED FOR YOU HAS BEEN FILED IN THE
- 5 COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT BY IF A GUARDIAN IS
- 6 APPOINTED, YOU COULD LOSE ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:
- 7 (1) TO MARRY, DIVORCE, OR ENTER INTO OR END A STATE REGISTERED 8 DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP;
- 9 (2) TO VOTE OR HOLD AN ELECTED OFFICE;
- 10 (3) TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR MAKE OR REVOKE A WILL;
- 11 (4) TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO ACT ON YOUR BEHALF;
- 12 (5) TO SUE AND BE SUED OTHER THAN THROUGH A GUARDIAN;
- 13 (6) TO POSSESS A LICENSE TO DRIVE;
- 14 (7) TO BUY, SELL, OWN, MORTGAGE, OR LEASE PROPERTY;
- 15 (8) TO CONSENT TO OR REFUSE MEDICAL TREATMENT;
- 16 (9) TO DECIDE WHO SHALL PROVIDE CARE AND ASSISTANCE;
- 17 (10) TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING SOCIAL ASPECTS OF YOUR LIFE.
- 18 UNDER THE LAW, YOU HAVE CERTAIN RIGHTS.
- 19 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY A LAWYER OF YOUR OWN CHOOSING.
- 20 THE COURT WILL APPOINT A LAWYER TO REPRESENT YOU IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO
- 21 PAY OR PAYMENT WOULD RESULT IN A SUBSTANTIAL HARDSHIP TO YOU.
- 22 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASK FOR A JURY TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED
- 23 A GUARDIAN TO HELP YOU.
- 24 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE PRESENT IN COURT AND TESTIFY WHEN THE HEARING
- 25 IS HELD TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT YOU NEED A GUARDIAN. IF A GUARDIAN AD
- 26 LITEM IS APPOINTED, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE COURT TO REPLACE
- 27 THAT PERSON.
- 28 (((+5))) (6) All petitions filed under the provisions of this
- 29 section shall be heard within sixty days unless an extension of time is
- 30 requested by a party or the guardian ad litem within such sixty day
- 31 period and granted for good cause shown. If an extension is granted,
- 32 the court shall set a new hearing date.
- 33 **Sec. 3.** RCW 11.92.043 and 1991 c 289 s 11 are each amended to read
- 34 as follows:

- 1 It shall be the duty of the guardian or limited guardian of the 2 person:
 - (1) To file within three months after appointment a personal care plan for the incapacitated person which shall include (a) an assessment of the incapacitated person's physical, mental, and emotional needs and of such person's ability to perform or assist in activities of daily living, and (b) the guardian's specific plan for meeting the identified and emerging personal care needs of the incapacitated person.
- 9 (2) To file annually or, where a guardian of the estate has been 10 appointed, at the time an account is required to be filed under RCW 11 11.92.040, a report on the status of the incapacitated person, which 12 shall include:
- 13 (a) The address and name of the incapacitated person and all residential changes during the period;
- 15 (b) The services or programs which the incapacitated person 16 receives;
 - (c) The medical status of the incapacitated person;
 - (d) The mental status of the incapacitated person;
- 19 (e) Changes in the functional abilities of the incapacitated 20 person;
 - (f) Activities of the guardian for the period;
- 22 (g) Any recommended changes in the scope of the authority of the 23 quardian;
 - (h) The identity of any professionals who have assisted the incapacitated person during the period:
 - (i)(i) Evidence of the guardian or limited guardian's successful completion of any standardized training video or web cast for guardians or limited guardians made available by the administrative office of the courts and the superior court when the guardian or limited guardian:

 (A) Was appointed prior to the effective date of this section; (B) is not a certified professional guardian or financial institution authorized under RCW 11.88.020; and (C) has not previously completed the requirements of RCW 11.88.020(3). The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to the guardian or limited guardian.
- (ii) The superior court may, upon (A) petition by the guardian or limited guardian; or (B) any other method as provided by local court rule:

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(I) For good cause, waive this requirement for guardians appointed prior to the effective date of this section. Good cause shall require evidence that the guardian already possesses the requisite knowledge to serve as a guardian without completing the training. When determining whether there is good cause to waive the training requirement, the court shall consider, among other facts, the length of time the guardian has been serving the incapacitated person; whether the guardian has timely filed all required reports with the court; whether the guardian is monitored by other state or local agencies; and whether there have been any allegations of abuse, neglect, or a breach of fiduciary duty against the guardian; or

- (II) Extend the time period for completion of the training requirement for ninety days; and
- (j) Evidence of the guardian or limited guardian's successful completion of any additional or updated training video or web cast offered by the administrative office of the courts and the superior court as is required at the discretion of the superior court unless the guardian or limited guardian is a certified professional guardian or financial institution authorized under RCW 11.88.020. The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to the guardian or limited guardian.
- (3) To report to the court within thirty days any substantial change in the incapacitated person's condition, or any changes in residence of the incapacitated person.
- (4) Consistent with the powers granted by the court, to care for and maintain the incapacitated person in the setting least restrictive to the incapacitated person's freedom and appropriate to the incapacitated person's personal care needs, assert the incapacitated person's rights and best interests, and if the incapacitated person is a minor or where otherwise appropriate, to see that the incapacitated person receives appropriate training and education and that the incapacitated person has the opportunity to learn a trade, occupation, or profession.
- (5) Consistent with RCW 7.70.065, to provide timely, informed consent for health care of the incapacitated person, except in the case of a limited guardian where such power is not expressly provided for in the order of appointment or subsequent modifying order as provided in RCW 11.88.125 as now or hereafter amended, the standby guardian or

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- 1 standby limited guardian may provide timely, informed consent to
- 2 necessary medical procedures if the guardian or limited guardian cannot
- 3 be located within four hours after the need for such consent arises.
- 4 No guardian, limited guardian, or standby guardian may involuntarily
- 5 commit for mental health treatment, observation, or evaluation an
- 6 alleged incapacitated person who is unable or unwilling to give
- 7 informed consent to such commitment unless the procedures for
- 8 involuntary commitment set forth in chapter 71.05 or 72.23 RCW are
- 9 followed. Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow a
- 10 guardian, limited guardian, or standby guardian to consent to:
- 11 (a) Therapy or other procedure which induces convulsion;
- 12 (b) Surgery solely for the purpose of psychosurgery;
- 13 (c) Other psychiatric or mental health procedures that restrict 14 physical freedom of movement, or the rights set forth in RCW
- 15 ((71.05.370)) 71.05.217.
- 16 A guardian, limited guardian, or standby guardian who believes
- 17 these procedures are necessary for the proper care and maintenance of
- 18 the incapacitated person shall petition the court for an order unless
- 19 the court has previously approved the procedure within the past thirty
- 20 days. The court may order the procedure only after an attorney is
- 21 appointed in accordance with RCW 11.88.045 if no attorney has
- 22 previously appeared, notice is given, and a hearing is held in
- accordance with RCW 11.88.040.
- 24 Sec. 4. RCW 11.88.095 and 1995 c 297 s 5 are each amended to read
- 25 as follows:
- 26 (1) In determining the disposition of a petition for guardianship,
- 27 the court's order shall be based upon findings as to the capacities,
- 28 condition, and needs of the alleged incapacitated person, and shall not
- 29 be based solely upon agreements made by the parties.
- 30 (2) Every order appointing a full or limited guardian of the person
- 31 or estate shall include:
- 32 (a) Findings as to the capacities, condition, and needs of the
- 33 alleged incapacitated person;
- 34 (b) The amount of the bond, if any, or a bond review period;
- 35 (c) ((When the next report of the quardian is due;
- $\frac{d}{d}$) The date the account or report shall be filed. The date of

filing an account or report shall be within ninety days after the 1 2 anniversary date of the appointment; (d) A date for the court to review the account or report and enter 3 its order. The court shall conduct the review within one hundred 4 twenty days after the anniversary date of the appointment and follow 5 the provisions of RCW 11.92.050. The court may review and approve an 6 account or report without conducting a hearing; 7 (e) A directive to the clerk of court to issue letters of 8 guardianship as specified in section 6 of this act; 9 10 (f) Whether the guardian ad litem shall continue acting as guardian ad litem; 11 12 $((\frac{(e)}{e}))$ (g) Whether a review hearing shall be required upon the 13 filing of the inventory; $((\frac{f}{f}))$ (h) Whether a review hearing is required upon filing the 14 initial personal care plan; 15 (i) The authority of the guardian, if any, for investment and 16 expenditure of the ward's estate; ((and 17 (g))) (j) Names and addresses of those persons described in RCW 18 19 11.88.090(5)(d), if any, whom the court believes should receive copies of further pleadings filed by the guardian with respect to the 20 21 guardianship. The guardian, within ninety days from the date of the appointment, shall, in writing, notify the persons identified by the 22 court of their right to request special notice of proceedings as 23 24 described in RCW 11.92.150; and (k) A guardianship summary placed directly below the case caption 25 26 or on a separate cover page in the following form, or a substantially 27 similar form, containing the following information:

28 GUARDIANSHIP SUMMARY

29	Date Guardian Appointed:	<u></u>
30	Due Date for Report and	
31	Accounting:	<u></u>
32	Date of Next Review:	<u></u>
33	<u>Letters Expire On:</u>	<u></u>
34	Bond Amount:	<u>\$</u>
35	Restricted Account	
36	Agreements Required:	

1	Due Date for Invento	<u></u>	
2	Due Date for Care Pla	<u>an:</u>	
3	Incapacitated Person	n Guard	ian of: [] Estate []
4	<u>(IP)</u>		<u>Person</u>
5	Name:	Name:	
6	Address:	Address:	
7	Phone:	Phone:	
8	Facsimile:	<u>Facsimile</u> :	<u>.</u>
9	<u>Interested Parties</u>	Address	Relation to IP
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- (3) If the court determines that a limited guardian should be appointed, the order shall specifically set forth the limits by either stating exceptions to the otherwise full authority of the guardian or by stating the specific authority of the guardian.
- (4) In determining the disposition of a petition for appointment of a guardian or limited guardian of the estate only, the court shall consider whether the alleged incapacitated person is capable of giving informed medical consent or of making other personal decisions and, if not, whether a guardian or limited guardian of the person of the alleged incapacitated person should be appointed for that purpose.
- (5) Unless otherwise ordered, any powers of attorney or durable powers of attorney shall be revoked upon appointment of a guardian or limited quardian of the estate.

If there is an existing medical power of attorney, the court must make a specific finding of fact regarding the continued validity of that medical power of attorney before appointing a guardian or limited guardian for the person.

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- Sec. 5. RCW 11.88.125 and 2008 c 6 s 805 are each amended to read as follows:
- 7 (1) The person appointed by the court as either quardian or limited guardian of the person and/or estate of an incapacitated person((-)) 8 shall file in writing with the court, within ninety days from the date 9 10 of appointment, a notice designating a standby limited guardian or 11 quardian to serve as limited guardian or quardian at the death or legal 12 incapacity of the court-appointed guardian or limited guardian. 13 notice shall state the name, address, zip code, and telephone number of 14 the designated standby or limited guardian. Notice of the guardian's designation of the standby guardian shall be given to the standby 15 16 guardian, the incapacitated person and his or her spouse or domestic 17 partner and adult children, any facility in which the incapacitated 18 person resides, and any person entitled to special notice under RCW 11.92.150 or any person entitled to receive pleadings pursuant to RCW 19 20 $11.88.095(2)((\frac{g}{g}))$ (j). Such standby guardian or limited guardian 21 shall have all the powers, duties, and obligations of the regularly 22 appointed guardian or limited guardian and in addition shall, within a period of thirty days from the death or adjudication of incapacity of 23 24 the regularly appointed guardian or limited guardian, file with the 25 superior court in the county in which the guardianship or limited 26 guardianship is then being administered, a petition for appointment of 27 substitute guardian or limited guardian. Upon the court's appointment of a new, substitute guardian or limited guardian, the 28 29 standby quardian or limited quardian shall make an accounting and report to be approved by the court, and upon approval of the court, the 30 31 standby quardian or limited quardian shall be released from all duties 32 and obligations arising from or out of the guardianship or limited 33 guardianship.
 - (2) Letters of guardianship shall be issued to the standby guardian or limited guardian upon filing an oath and posting a bond as required by RCW 11.88.100 as now or hereafter amended. The oath may be filed prior to the appointed guardian or limited guardian's death. Notice of

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such appointment shall be provided to the standby guardian, the incapacitated person, and any facility in which the incapacitated person resides. The provisions of RCW 11.88.100 through 11.88.110 as now or hereafter amended shall apply to standby guardians and limited guardians.

(3) In addition to the powers of a standby limited guardian or guardian as noted in subsection (1) of this section, the standby limited guardian or guardian shall have the authority to provide timely, informed consent to necessary medical procedures, as authorized in RCW 11.92.040 as now or hereafter amended, if the guardian or limited guardian cannot be located within four hours after the need for such consent arises.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 11.88 RCW to read as follows:

(1) A guardian or limited guardian may not act on behalf of the incapacitated person without valid letters of guardianship. Upon appointment and fulfilling all legal requirements to serve, as set forth in the court's order, the clerk shall issue letters of guardianship to a guardian or limited guardian appointed by the court. All letters of guardianship must be in the following form, or a substantially similar form:

22	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE		
23	STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE		
24	COUNTY OF		
25	IN THE MATTER OF Guardianship Cause No.		
26	THE		
27	GUARDIANSHIP OF		
28			
29	Incapacitated Person LETTERS OF		
30	GUARDIANSHIP OR LIMITED		
31	GUARDIANSHIP		
32			
33	Date letters expire		

34 THESE LETTERS OF GUARDIANSHIP PROVIDE OFFICIAL VERIFICATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

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2	On the day of , 20 the Court appointed to serve as:
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4	\Box Guardian of the Person \Box Full \Box Limited
5	\Box Guardian of the Estate \Box Full \Box Limited
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7	for, the incapacitated person, in the above referenced matter.
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9	The Guardian has fulfilled all legal requirements to serve, including, but not limited to: Taking and filing the oath;
10	filing any bond consistent with the court's order; filing any blocked account agreement consistent with the court's order;
11	and appointing a resident agent for a nonresident guardian.
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13	The Court, having found the Guardian duly qualified, now makes it known is authorized as the Guardian
14	for designated in the Court's order as referenced above.
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16	The next filing and reporting deadline in this matter is on theday of
17	THESE LETTERS ARE NO LONGER VALID ON
18	These letters can only be renewed by a new court order. If the court grants an extension, new letters will be issued.
19	This matter is before the Honorable of Superior Court, the seal of the Court being affixed
20	thisof
21	
22	State of Washington)
23) ss.
24	County of)
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26	I,, Clerk of the Superior Court of said County and State, certify that this document represents true and
27	correct Letters of Guardianship in the above entitled case, entered upon the record on this day of ,
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29	These Letters remain in full force and effect until the date of expiration set forth above.
30	The seal of Superior Court has been affixed and witnessed by my hand this day of
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33	, Clerk of Superior Court
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35	By, Deputy
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1 (Signature of Deputy)

(2) The court shall order the clerk to issue letters of guardianship that are valid for a period of up to five years from the anniversary date of the appointment. When determining the time period for which the letters will be valid, the court must consider: The length of time the guardian has been serving the incapacitated person; whether the guardian has timely filed all required reports with the court; whether the guardian is monitored by other state or local agencies; and whether there have been any allegations of abuse, neglect, or a breach of fiduciary duty against the guardian.

- **Sec. 7.** RCW 11.88.140 and 1991 c 289 s 9 are each amended to read 12 as follows:
 - (1) TERMINATION WITHOUT COURT ORDER. A guardianship or limited quardianship is terminated:
 - (a) Upon the attainment of full and legal age, as defined in RCW 26.28.010 as now or hereafter amended, of any person defined as an incapacitated person pursuant to RCW 11.88.010 as now or hereafter amended solely by reason of youth, RCW 26.28.020 to the contrary notwithstanding, subject to subsection (2) of this section;
- 20 (b) By an adjudication of capacity or an adjudication of 21 termination of incapacity;
 - (c) By the death of the incapacitated person;
 - (d) By expiration of the term of limited guardianship specified in the order appointing the limited guardian, unless prior to such expiration a petition has been filed and served, as provided in RCW 11.88.040 as now or hereafter amended, seeking an extension of such term.
 - (2) TERMINATION OF GUARDIANSHIP FOR A MINOR BY DECLARATION OF COMPLETION. A guardianship for the benefit of a minor may be terminated upon the minor's attainment of legal age, as defined in RCW 26.28.010 as now or hereafter amended, by the guardian filing a declaration that states:
 - (a) The date the minor attained legal age;
- 34 (b) That the guardian has paid all of the minor's funds in the 35 guardian's possession to the minor, who has signed a receipt for the 36 funds, and that the receipt has been filed with the court;

- (c) That the guardian has completed the administration of the minor's estate and the guardianship is ready to be closed; and
- (d) The amount of fees paid or to be paid to each of the following: (i) The guardian, (ii) lawyer or lawyers, (iii) accountant accountants; and that the guardian believes the fees are reasonable and does not intend to obtain court approval of the amount of the fees or to submit a guardianship accounting to the court for approval. Subject to the requirement of notice as provided in this section, unless the minor petitions the court either for an order requiring the guardian to obtain court approval of the amount of fees paid or to be paid to the guardian, lawyers, or accountants, or for an order requiring an accounting, or both, within thirty days from the filing of the declaration of completion of guardianship, the guardian shall be automatically discharged without further order of the court. The guardian's powers will cease thirty days after filing the declaration of completion of guardianship. The declaration of completion of guardianship shall, at the time, be the equivalent of an entry of a decree terminating the guardianship, distributing the assets, and discharging the guardian for all legal intents and purposes.

Within five days of the date of filing the declaration of completion of guardianship, the guardian or the guardian's lawyer shall mail a copy of the declaration of completion to the minor together with a notice that shall be substantially as follows:

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25	CAPTION OF CASE	NOTICE OF FILING A
26		DECLARATION OF
27		COMPLETION OF
28		GUARDIANSHIP

1	NOTICE IS GIVEN that the attached Declaration of
2	Completion of Guardianship was filed by the undersigned
3	in the above-entitled court on the day of,
4	19; unless you file a petition in the above-entitled court
5	requesting the court to review the reasonableness of the
6	fees, or for an accounting, or both, and serve a copy of the
7	petition on the guardian or the guardian's lawyer, within
8	thirty days after the filing date, the amount of fees paid or
9	to be paid will be deemed reasonable, the acts of the
10	guardian will be deemed approved, the guardian will be
11	automatically discharged without further order of the court
12	and the Declaration of Completion of Guardianship will be
13	final and deemed the equivalent of an order terminating the
14	guardianship, discharging the guardian and decreeing the
15	distribution of the guardianship assets.
16	If you file and serve a petition within the period
17	specified, the undersigned will request the court to fix a
18	time and place for the hearing of your petition, and you will
19	be notified of the time and place of the hearing, by mail, or
20	by personal service, not less than ten days before the
21	hearing on the petition.
22	DATED this day of, 19
23	

24 Guardian

> If the minor, after reaching legal age, waives in writing the notice required by this section, the guardian will be automatically discharged without further order of the court and the declaration of completion of guardianship will be effective as an order terminating the quardianship without an accounting upon filing the declaration. the quardian has been required to furnish a bond, and a declaration of completion of guardianship is filed according to this section, any bond furnished by the guardian shall be automatically discharged upon the discharge of the guardian.

> TERMINATION ON COURT ORDER. A guardianship or limited guardianship may be terminated by court order after such notice as the

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court may require if the guardianship or limited guardianship is no longer necessary.

The guardian or limited guardian shall, within ((thirty)) ninety days of the date of termination of the guardianship, unless the court orders a different deadline for good cause, prepare and file with the court a final verified account of administration. The final verified account of administration shall contain the same information as required for (a) an intermediate verified account of administration of the estate under RCW 11.92.040(2) and (b) an intermediate personal care status report under RCW 11.92.043(2).

(4) EFFECT OF TERMINATION. When a guardianship or limited guardianship terminates other than by the death of the incapacitated person, the powers of the guardian or limited guardian cease, except that a guardian or limited guardian of the estate may make disbursements for claims that are or may be allowed by the court, for liabilities already properly incurred for the estate or for the incapacitated person, and for expenses of administration. When a guardianship or limited guardianship terminates by death of the incapacitated person, the guardian or limited guardian of the estate may proceed under RCW 11.88.150 as now or hereafter amended, but the rights of all creditors against the incapacitated person's estate shall be determined by the law of decedents' estates.

Sec. 8. RCW 11.92.053 and 1995 c 297 s 7 are each amended to read 24 as follows:

Within ninety days, unless the court orders a different deadline for good cause, after the termination of a guardianship for any reason, the guardian or limited guardian of the estate shall petition the court for an order settling his or her account as filed in accordance with RCW 11.92.040(2) with regard to any receipts, expenditures, and investments made and acts done by the guardian to the date of the termination. Upon the filing of the petition, the court shall set a date for the hearing of the petition after notice has been given in accordance with RCW 11.88.040. Any person interested may file objections to the petition or may appear at the time and place fixed for the hearing thereof and present his or her objections thereto. The court may take such testimony as it deems proper or necessary to

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determine whether an order settling the account should be issued and the transactions of the guardian be approved, and the court may appoint a guardian ad litem to review the report.

At the hearing on the petition of the guardian or limited guardian, if the court is satisfied that the actions of the guardian or limited guardian have been proper, and that the guardian has in all respects discharged his or her trust with relation to the receipts, expenditures, investments, and acts, then, in such event, the court shall enter an order approving the account, and the order shall be final and binding upon the incapacitated person, subject only to the right of appeal as upon a final order. However, within one year after the incompetent attains his or her majority any such account may be challenged by the incapacitated person on the ground of fraud.

Sec. 9. RCW 11.92.040 and 1991 c 289 s 10 are each amended to read 15 as follows:

It shall be the duty of the guardian or limited guardian of an estate:

- (1) To file within three months after the guardian's appointment a verified inventory of all the property of the incapacitated person which comes into the guardian's possession or knowledge, including a statement of all encumbrances, liens, and other secured charges on any item;
- (2) To file annually, within ninety days after the anniversary date of the guardian's or limited guardian's appointment, and also within ((thirty)) ninety days after termination of the appointment, unless the court for good cause orders a different deadline to file following termination, a written verified account of the administration for court approval, which account shall contain at least the following information:
- 30 (a) Identification of property of the guardianship estate as of the 31 date of the last account or, in the case of the initial account, as of 32 the date of inventory;
- 33 (b) Identification of all additional property received into the 34 guardianship, including income by source;
- 35 (c) Identification of all expenditures made during the account 36 period by major categories;

(d) Any adjustments to the guardianship estate required to establish its present fair market value, including gains or losses on sale or other disposition and any mortgages, deeds of trust or other encumbrances against the guardianship estate; and

- (e) Identification of all property held in the guardianship estate as of the date of account, the assessed value of any real property and the guardian's estimate of the present fair market values of other property (including the basis on which such estimate is made), and the total net fair market value of the guardianship estate. In addition, immediately following such statement of present fair market value, the account shall set forth a statement of current amount of the guardian's bond and any other court-ordered protection for the security of the guardianship assets;
- (3) The court in its discretion may allow reports at intervals of up to thirty-six months for estates with assets (exclusive of real property) having a value of not more than twice the homestead exemption. Notwithstanding contrary provisions of this section, the guardian or limited guardian of an estate need not file an annual report with the court if the funds of the guardianship are held for the benefit of a minor in a blocked account unless the guardian requests a withdrawal from such account, in which case the guardian shall provide a written verified account of the administration of the guardianship estate along with the guardian's petition for the withdrawal. The guardian or limited guardian shall report any substantial change in income or assets of the guardianship estate within thirty days of the occurrence of the change. A hearing shall be scheduled for court review and determination of provision for increased bond or other provision in accordance with RCW 11.88.100;
- (4) All court orders approving accounts or reports filed by a quardian or limited quardian must contain a quardianship summary placed directly below the case caption or on a separate cover page in the following form, or a substantially similar form, containing the following information:

GUARDIANSHIP SUMMARY

35	Date Guardian Appointed:	<u></u>

1	Due Date for Report and		
2	Accounting:	<u></u>	
3	Date of Next Review:	<u></u>	
4	Letters Expire On:	<u></u>	
5	Bond Amount:	<u>\$</u>	
6	Restricted Account:		
7	Agreements Required	<u></u>	······
8	Incapacitated Person	Guardian of	E [] Estate [] Person
9	<u>(IP)</u>		
10	Name:	Name:	
11	Address:	Address:	
12	Phone:	Phone:	
13	Facsimile:	Facsimile:	
14	Standby Guardian	Address	Relation to IP
15			
16	Interested Parties	Address	Relation to IP
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(5) To protect and preserve the guardianship estate, to apply it as provided in this chapter, to account for it faithfully, to perform all of the duties required by law, and at the termination of the guardianship or limited guardianship, to deliver the assets of the incapacitated person to the persons entitled thereto. Except as provided to the contrary herein, the court may authorize a guardian or limited guardian to do anything that a trustee can do under the

provisions of RCW 11.98.070 for a period not exceeding one year from the date of the order or for a period corresponding to the interval in which the guardian's or limited guardian's report is required to be filed by the court pursuant to subsection (2) of this section, whichever period is longer;

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- (((5))) <u>(6)</u> To invest and reinvest the property of the incapacitated person in accordance with the rules applicable to investment of trust estates by trustees as provided in chapter 11.100 RCW, except that:
- (a) No investments shall be made without prior order of the court in any property other than unconditional interest bearing obligations of this state or of the United States and in obligations the interest and principal of which are unconditionally guaranteed by the United States, and in share accounts or deposits which are insured by an agency of the United States government. Such prior order of the court may authorize specific investments, or, in the discretion of the court, may authorize the guardian or limited guardian to invest and reinvest as provided in chapter 11.100 RCW without further order of the court;
- (b) If it is for the best interests of the incapacitated person that a specific property be used by the incapacitated person rather than sold and the proceeds invested, the court may so order;
- (((6))) (7) To apply to the court no later than the filing of the inventory for an order authorizing disbursements on behalf of the incapacitated person((* PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That)). However, the guardian or limited guardian of the estate, or the person, department, bureau, agency, or charitable organization having the care and custody of an incapacitated person, may apply to the court for an order directing the guardian or limited guardian of the estate to pay to the person, department, bureau, agency, or charitable organization having the care and custody of an incapacitated person, or if the guardian or limited guardian of the estate has the care and custody of the incapacitated person, directing the guardian or limited guardian of the estate to apply an amount weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, as the court may direct, to be expended in the care, maintenance, and education of the incapacitated person and of his or In proper cases, the court may order payment of her dependents. amounts directly to the incapacitated person for his or her maintenance or incidental expenses. The amounts authorized under this section may

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be decreased or increased from time to time by direction of the court. If payments are made to another under an order of the court, the guardian or limited guardian of the estate is not bound to see to the application thereof;

(8) To provide evidence of the quardian or limited quardian's successful completion of any standardized training video or web cast for quardians or limited quardians made available by the administrative office of the courts and the superior court when the guardian or limited guardian: (a) Was appointed prior to the effective date of this section; (b) is not a certified professional guardian or financial institution authorized under RCW 11.88.020; and (c) has not previously completed the requirements of RCW 11.88.020(3). The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to the guardian or limited guardian. The superior court may, upon (i) petition by the guardian or limited guardian; or (ii) any other method as provided by local court rule: (A) For good cause, waive this requirement for guardians appointed prior to the effective date of this section. Good cause shall require evidence that the quardian already possesses the requisite knowledge to serve as a quardian without completing the training. When determining whether there is good cause to waive the training requirement, the court shall consider, among other facts, the length of time the quardian has been serving the incapacitated person; whether the guardian has timely filed all required reports with the court; whether the guardian is monitored by other state or local agencies; and whether there have been any allegations of abuse, neglect, or a breach of fiduciary duty against the quardian; or (B) extend the time period for completion of the training requirement for ninety days; and

(9) To provide evidence of the quardian or limited quardian's successful completion of any additional or updated training video or web cast offered by the administrative office of the courts and the superior court as is required at the discretion of the superior court unless the quardian or limited quardian is a certified professional quardian or financial institution authorized under RCW 11.88.020. The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to the guardian or limited quardian.

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Sec. 10. RCW 11.92.050 and 1995 c 297 s 6 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

- (1) Upon the filing of any intermediate guardianship or limited guardianship account <u>or report</u> required by statute, or of any intermediate account <u>or report</u> required by court rule or order, the ((guardian or limited guardian may petition the court for)) court shall enter an order settling ((his or her)) the guardianship account or report with regard to any receipts, expenditures, and investments made and acts done by the guardian or limited guardian to the date of the interim report.
- (2) Upon such ((petition)) account or report being filed, the court may, in its discretion, ((where the size or condition of the estate warrants it,)) set a date for the hearing ((of the petition)) and require the service of the ((petition)) guardian's report or account and a notice of the hearing as provided in RCW 11.88.040 as now or hereafter amended or as specified by the court; and, in the event a hearing is ordered, the court may also appoint a guardian ad litem, whose duty it shall be to investigate the account or report of the guardian or limited guardian of the estate and to advise the court thereon at the hearing, in writing.
- (3) At the hearing on <u>or upon the court's review of</u> the <u>account or</u> report of the guardian or limited guardian, if the court is satisfied that the actions of the guardian or limited guardian have been proper, and that the guardian or limited guardian has in all respects discharged his or her trust with relation to the receipts, expenditures, investments, and acts, then, in such event, the court shall enter an order approving such account or report.
- (4) If a guardian or limited guardian fails to file the account or report or fails to appear at the hearing, the court shall enter an order for one or more of the following actions:
- (a) Entering an order to show cause and requiring the guardian to appear at a show cause hearing. At the hearing the court may take action to protect the incapacitated person, including, but not limited to, removing the guardian or limited guardian pursuant to RCW 11.88.120 and appointing a successor;
- 36 <u>(b) Directing the clerk to extend the letters, for good cause</u> 37 <u>shown, for no more than ninety days, to permit the guardian to file his</u> 38 <u>or her account or report;</u>

- 1 (c) Requiring the completion of any approved guardianship training 2 made available to the guardian by the court;
 - (d) Appointing a guardian ad litem subject to the requirements in RCW 11.88.090;
- 5 <u>(e) Providing other and further relief the court deems just and</u> 6 <u>equitable.</u>
 - (5) If the court has appointed a guardian ad litem, the order shall be final and binding upon the incapacitated person, subject only to the right of appeal as upon a final order; provided that at the time of final account of said guardian or limited guardian or within one year after the incapacitated person attains his or her majority any such interim account may be challenged by the incapacitated person on the ground of fraud.
 - $((\frac{2}{2}))$ (6) The procedure established in $(\frac{\text{subsection}}{1})$ this section for financial accounts by guardians or limited guardians of the estate shall apply to personal care reports filed by guardians or limited guardians of the person under RCW 11.92.043.
- **Sec. 11.** RCW 36.18.016 and 2009 c 417 s 2 are each amended to read 19 as follows:
- 20 (1) Revenue collected under this section is not subject to division 21 under RCW 36.18.025 or 27.24.070.
 - (2)(a) For the filing of a petition for modification of a decree of dissolution or paternity, within the same case as the original action, and any party filing a counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim in any such action, a fee of thirty-six dollars must be paid.
 - (b) The party filing the first or initial petition for dissolution, legal separation, or declaration concerning the validity of marriage shall pay, at the time and in addition to the filing fee required under RCW 36.18.020, a fee of thirty dollars. The clerk of the superior court shall transmit monthly twenty-four dollars of the thirty-dollar fee collected under this subsection to the state treasury for deposit in the domestic violence prevention account. The remaining six dollars shall be retained by the county for the purpose of supporting community-based services within the county for victims of domestic violence, except for five percent of the six dollars, which may be retained by the court for administrative purposes.

(3)(a) The party making a demand for a jury of six in a civil action shall pay, at the time, a fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars; if the demand is for a jury of twelve, a fee of two hundred fifty dollars. If, after the party demands a jury of six and pays the required fee, any other party to the action requests a jury of twelve, an additional one hundred twenty-five dollar fee will be required of the party demanding the increased number of jurors.

- (b) Upon conviction in criminal cases a jury demand charge of one hundred twenty-five dollars for a jury of six, or two hundred fifty dollars for a jury of twelve may be imposed as costs under RCW 10.46.190.
- (4) For preparing a certified copy of an instrument on file or of record in the clerk's office, for the first page or portion of the first page, a fee of five dollars, and for each additional page or portion of a page, a fee of one dollar must be charged. For authenticating or exemplifying an instrument, a fee of two dollars for each additional seal affixed must be charged. For preparing a copy of an instrument on file or of record in the clerk's office without a seal, a fee of fifty cents per page must be charged. When copying a document without a seal or file that is in an electronic format, a fee of twenty-five cents per page must be charged. For copies made on a compact disc, an additional fee of twenty dollars for each compact disc must be charged.
- (5) For executing a certificate, with or without a seal, a fee of two dollars must be charged.
- (6) For a garnishee defendant named in an affidavit for garnishment and for a writ of attachment, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- (7) For filing a supplemental proceeding, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- (8) For approving a bond, including justification on the bond, in other than civil actions and probate proceedings, a fee of two dollars must be charged.
 - (9) For the issuance of a certificate of qualification and a certified copy of letters of administration, letters testamentary, or letters of guardianship, there must be a fee of five dollars.
- 36 (10) For the preparation of a passport application, the clerk may 37 collect an execution fee as authorized by the federal government.

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- 1 (11) For clerk's services such as performing historical searches, 2 compiling statistical reports, and conducting exceptional record 3 searches, the clerk may collect a fee not to exceed thirty dollars per 4 hour.
- 5 (12) For processing ex parte orders, the clerk may collect a fee of thirty dollars.
 - (13) For duplicated recordings of court's proceedings there must be a fee of ten dollars for each audio tape and twenty-five dollars for each video tape or other electronic storage medium.
- 10 (14) For registration of land titles, Torrens Act, under RCW 11 65.12.780, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- 12 (15) For the issuance of extension of judgment under RCW 6.17.020 13 and chapter 9.94A RCW, a fee of two hundred dollars must be charged. 14 When the extension of judgment is at the request of the clerk, the two 15 hundred dollar charge may be imposed as court costs under RCW 16 10.46.190.
- 17 (16) A facilitator surcharge of up to twenty dollars must be charged as authorized under RCW 26.12.240.
- 19 (17) For filing a water rights statement under RCW 90.03.180, a fee 20 of twenty-five dollars must be charged.
- 21 (18) For filing a claim of frivolous lien under RCW 60.04.081, a 22 fee of thirty-five dollars must be charged.
- (19) For preparation of a change of venue, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged by the originating court in addition to the per page charges in subsection (4) of this section.
- (20) A service fee of five dollars for the first page and one dollar for each additional page must be charged for receiving faxed documents, pursuant to Washington state rules of court, general rule 17.
- 30 (21) For preparation of clerk's papers under RAP 9.7, a fee of 31 fifty cents per page must be charged.
- 32 (22) For copies and reports produced at the local level as 33 permitted by RCW 2.68.020 and supreme court policy, a variable fee must 34 be charged.
- 35 (23) Investment service charge and earnings under RCW 36.48.090 36 must be charged.
- 37 (24) Costs for nonstatutory services rendered by clerk by authority 38 of local ordinance or policy must be charged.

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(25) For filing a request for mandatory arbitration, a filing fee may be assessed against the party filing a statement of arbitrability not to exceed two hundred twenty dollars as established by authority of local ordinance. This charge shall be used solely to offset the cost of the mandatory arbitration program.

- (26) For filing a request for trial de novo of an arbitration award, a fee not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars as established by authority of local ordinance must be charged.
- (27) A public agency may not charge a fee to a law enforcement agency, for preparation, copying, or mailing of certified copies of the judgment and sentence, information, affidavit of probable cause, and/or the notice of requirement to register, of a sex offender convicted in a Washington court, when such records are necessary for risk assessment, preparation of a case for failure to register, or maintenance of a sex offender's registration file.
- (28) For the filing of a will or codicil under the provisions of chapter 11.12 RCW, a fee of twenty dollars must be charged.
- 18 (29) For the collection of unpaid legal financial obligations, the 19 clerk may impose an annual fee of up to one hundred dollars, pursuant 20 to RCW 9.94A.780.
 - (30) A surcharge of up to twenty dollars may be charged in dissolution and legal separation actions as authorized by RCW 26.12.260.
- (31) For the filing of accounts required under RCW 11.92.040(2), a fee must be charged to the estate of the incapacitated person. The amount of the fee is determined by the total net fair market value of the guardianship estate identified pursuant to RCW 11.92.040(2)(e). If the total fair market value of the guardianship estate is less than or equal to one hundred thousand dollars, a filing fee is not required. If the superior court finds that payment of the filing fee would result in substantial hardship upon the incapacitated person, the superior court may waive or reduce the filing fee. The amount of the fee is as follows:
 - (a) Seventy-five dollars for guardianship estates with a total net fair market value greater than one hundred thousand dollars but not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars;
 - (b) One hundred fifty dollars for quardianship estates with a total

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1 net fair market value greater than five hundred thousand dollars but
2 not exceeding one million dollars; or

- (c) Two hundred fifty dollars for guardianship estates with a total net fair market value greater than one million dollars.
- (32) The revenue to counties from the fees established in this section shall be deemed to be complete reimbursement from the state for the state's share of benefits paid to the superior court judges of the state prior to July 24, 2005, and no claim shall lie against the state for such benefits.

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