

**2SSB 5604** - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary

**ADOPTED AS AMENDED 04/12/2019**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 **"ARTICLE 1**  
4 **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited  
6 as the uniform guardianship, conservatorship, and other protective  
7 arrangements act.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** DEFINITIONS. The definitions in this  
9 section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly  
10 requires otherwise.

11 (1) "Adult" means an individual at least eighteen years of age or  
12 an emancipated individual under eighteen years of age.

13 (2) "Adult subject to conservatorship" means an adult for whom a  
14 conservator has been appointed under this chapter.

15 (3) "Adult subject to guardianship" means an adult for whom a  
16 guardian has been appointed under this chapter.

17 (4) "Claim" includes a claim against an individual or  
18 conservatorship estate, whether arising in contract, tort, or  
19 otherwise.

20 (5) "Conservator" means a person appointed by a court to make  
21 decisions with respect to the property or financial affairs of an  
22 individual subject to conservatorship. The term includes a co-  
23 conservator.

24 (6) "Conservatorship estate" means the property subject to  
25 conservatorship under this chapter.

26 (7) "Evaluation and treatment facility" has the same meaning as  
27 provided in RCW 71.05.020.

28 (8) "Full conservatorship" means a conservatorship that grants  
29 the conservator all powers available under this chapter.

1 (9) "Full guardianship" means a guardianship that grants the  
2 guardian all powers available under this chapter.

3 (10) "Guardian" means a person appointed by the court to make  
4 decisions with respect to the personal affairs of an individual. The  
5 term includes a co-guardian but does not include a guardian ad litem.

6 (11) "Guardian ad litem" means a person appointed to inform the  
7 court about, and to represent, the needs and best interests of an  
8 individual.

9 (12) "Individual subject to conservatorship" means an adult or  
10 minor for whom a conservator has been appointed under this chapter.

11 (13) "Individual subject to guardianship" means an adult or minor  
12 for whom a guardian has been appointed under this chapter.

13 (14) "Less restrictive alternative" means an approach to meeting  
14 an individual's needs which restricts fewer rights of the individual  
15 than would the appointment of a guardian or conservator. The term  
16 includes supported decision making, appropriate technological  
17 assistance, appointment of a representative payee, and appointment of  
18 an agent by the individual, including appointment under a power of  
19 attorney for health care or power of attorney for finances.

20 (15) "Letters of office" means a record issued by a court  
21 certifying a guardian's or conservator's authority to act.

22 (16) "Limited conservatorship" means a conservatorship that  
23 grants the conservator less than all powers available under this  
24 chapter, grants powers over only certain property, or otherwise  
25 restricts the powers of the conservator.

26 (17) "Limited guardianship" means a guardianship that grants the  
27 guardian less than all powers available under this chapter or  
28 otherwise restricts the powers of the guardian.

29 (18) "Long-term care facility" has the same meaning as provided  
30 in RCW 70.129.010.

31 (19) "Minor" means an unemancipated individual under eighteen  
32 years of age.

33 (20) "Minor subject to conservatorship" means a minor for whom a  
34 conservator has been appointed under this chapter.

35 (21) "Minor subject to guardianship" means a minor for whom a  
36 guardian has been appointed under this chapter.

37 (22) "Parent" does not include an individual whose parental  
38 rights have been terminated.

1 (23) "Person" means an individual, estate, business or nonprofit  
2 entity, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision,  
3 agency, or instrumentality, or other legal entity.

4 (24) "Professional guardian or conservator" means a guardian or  
5 conservator appointed under this chapter who is not a relative of the  
6 person subject to guardianship or conservatorship established under  
7 this chapter and who charges fees for carrying out the duties of  
8 court-appointed guardian or conservator for three or more persons.

9 (25) "Property" includes tangible and intangible property.

10 (26) "Protective arrangement instead of conservatorship" means a  
11 court order entered under section 503 of this act.

12 (27) "Protective arrangement instead of guardianship" means a  
13 court order entered under section 502 of this act.

14 (28) "Protective arrangement under article 5 of this chapter"  
15 means a court order entered under section 502 or 503 of this act.

16 (29) "Record," used as a noun, means information that is  
17 inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or  
18 other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

19 (30) "Relative" means any person related by blood or by law to  
20 the person subject to guardianship, conservatorship, or other  
21 protective arrangements.

22 (31) "Respondent" means an individual for whom appointment of a  
23 guardian or conservator or a protective arrangement instead of  
24 guardianship or conservatorship is sought.

25 (32) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a  
26 record:

27 (a) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

28 (b) To attach to or logically associate with the record an  
29 electronic symbol, sound, or process.

30 (33) "Special agent" means the person appointed by the court  
31 pursuant to section 404 or 512 of this act.

32 (34) "Standby guardian" means a person appointed by the court  
33 under section 208 of this act.

34 (35) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of  
35 Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any  
36 territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the  
37 United States. The term includes a federally recognized Indian tribe.

38 (36) "Supported decision making" means assistance from one or  
39 more persons of an individual's choosing in understanding the nature  
40 and consequences of potential personal and financial decisions, which

1 enables the individual to make the decisions, and in communicating a  
2 decision once made if consistent with the individual's wishes.

3 (37) "Verified receipt" is a verified receipt signed by the  
4 custodian of funds stating that a savings and loan association or  
5 bank, trust company, escrow corporation, or other corporations  
6 approved by the court hold the cash or securities of the individual  
7 subject to conservatorship subject to withdrawal only by order of the  
8 court.

9 (38) "Visitor" means the person appointed by the court pursuant  
10 to section 304(1) or 405(1) of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** SUPPLEMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND  
12 EQUITY APPLICABLE. Unless displaced by a particular provision of this  
13 chapter, the principles of law and equity supplement its provisions.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 104.** SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION. (1) Except  
15 to the extent jurisdiction is precluded by the uniform child custody  
16 jurisdiction and enforcement act (chapter 26.27 RCW), the superior  
17 court of each county has jurisdiction over a guardianship for a minor  
18 domiciled or present in this state. The court has jurisdiction over a  
19 conservatorship or protective arrangement instead of conservatorship  
20 for a minor domiciled or having property in this state.

21 (2) The superior court of each county has jurisdiction over a  
22 guardianship, conservatorship, or protective arrangement under  
23 article 5 of this chapter for an adult as provided in the uniform  
24 adult guardianship and protective proceedings jurisdiction act  
25 (chapter 11.90 RCW).

26 (3) After notice is given in a proceeding for a guardianship,  
27 conservatorship, or protective arrangement under article 5 of this  
28 chapter and until termination of the proceeding, the court in which  
29 the petition is filed has:

30 (a) Exclusive jurisdiction to determine the need for the  
31 guardianship, conservatorship, or protective arrangement;

32 (b) Exclusive jurisdiction to determine how property of the  
33 respondent must be managed, expended, or distributed to or for the  
34 use of the respondent, an individual who is dependent in fact on the  
35 respondent, or other claimant;

36 (c) Nonexclusive jurisdiction to determine the validity of a  
37 claim against the respondent or property of the respondent or a  
38 question of title concerning the property; and

1 (d) If a guardian or conservator is appointed, exclusive  
2 jurisdiction over issues related to administration of the  
3 guardianship or conservatorship.

4 (4) A court that appoints a guardian or conservator, or  
5 authorizes a protective arrangement under article 5 of this chapter,  
6 has exclusive and continuing jurisdiction over the proceeding until  
7 the court terminates the proceeding or the appointment or protective  
8 arrangement expires by its terms.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 105.** TRANSFER OF PROCEEDING. (1) This section  
10 does not apply to a guardianship or conservatorship for an adult that  
11 is subject to the transfer provisions of the uniform adult  
12 guardianship and protective proceedings jurisdiction act (chapter  
13 11.90 RCW).

14 (2) After appointment of a guardian or conservator, the court  
15 that made the appointment may transfer the proceeding to a court in  
16 another county in this state or another state if transfer is in the  
17 best interest of the individual subject to the guardianship or  
18 conservatorship.

19 (3) If a proceeding for a guardianship or conservatorship is  
20 pending in another state or a foreign country and a petition for  
21 guardianship or conservatorship for the same individual is filed in a  
22 court in this state, the court shall notify the court in the other  
23 state or foreign country and, after consultation with that court,  
24 assume or decline jurisdiction, whichever is in the best interest of  
25 the respondent.

26 (4) A guardian or conservator appointed in another state or  
27 country may petition the court for appointment as a guardian or  
28 conservator in this state for the same individual if jurisdiction in  
29 this state is or will be established. The appointment may be made on  
30 proof of appointment in the other state or foreign country and  
31 presentation of a certified copy of the part of the court record in  
32 the other state or country specified by the court in this state.

33 (5) Notice of hearing on a petition under subsection (4) of this  
34 section, together with a copy of the petition, must be given to the  
35 respondent, if the respondent is at least twelve years of age at the  
36 time of the hearing, and to the persons that would be entitled to  
37 notice if the procedures for appointment of a guardian or conservator  
38 under this chapter were applicable. The court shall make the

1 appointment unless it determines the appointment would not be in the  
2 best interest of the respondent.

3 (6) Not later than fourteen days after appointment under  
4 subsection (5) of this section, the guardian or conservator shall  
5 give a copy of the order of appointment to the individual subject to  
6 guardianship or conservatorship, if the individual is at least twelve  
7 years of age, and to all persons given notice of the hearing on the  
8 petition.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 106.** VENUE. (1) Venue for a guardianship  
10 proceeding for a minor is in:

11 (a) The county in which the minor resides or is present at the  
12 time the proceeding commences; or

13 (b) The county in which another proceeding concerning the custody  
14 or parental rights of the minor is pending.

15 (2) Venue for a guardianship proceeding or protective arrangement  
16 instead of guardianship for an adult is in:

17 (a) The county in which the respondent resides;

18 (b) If the respondent has been admitted to an institution by  
19 court order, the county in which the court is located; or

20 (c) If the proceeding is for appointment of an emergency guardian  
21 for an adult, the county in which the respondent is present.

22 (3) Venue for a conservatorship proceeding or protective  
23 arrangement instead of conservatorship is in:

24 (a) The county in which the respondent resides, whether or not a  
25 guardian has been appointed in another county or other jurisdiction;  
26 or

27 (b) If the respondent does not reside in this state, in any  
28 county in which property of the respondent is located.

29 (4) If proceedings under this chapter are brought in more than  
30 one county, the court of the county in which the first proceeding is  
31 brought has the exclusive right to proceed unless the court  
32 determines venue is properly in another court or the interest of  
33 justice otherwise requires transfer of the proceeding.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 107.** PRACTICE IN COURT. (1) Except as  
35 otherwise provided in this chapter, the rules of evidence and civil  
36 procedure, including rules concerning appellate review, govern a  
37 proceeding under this chapter.

1 (2) If proceedings for a guardianship, conservatorship, or  
2 protective arrangement under article 5 of this chapter for the same  
3 individual are commenced or pending in the same court, the  
4 proceedings may be consolidated.

5 (3) A respondent may demand a jury trial in a proceeding under  
6 this chapter on the issue whether a basis exists for appointment of a  
7 guardian or conservator.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 108.** LETTERS OF OFFICE. (1) The court shall  
9 issue letters of guardianship to a guardian on filing by the guardian  
10 of an acceptance of appointment.

11 (2) The court shall issue letters of conservatorship to a  
12 conservator on filing by the conservator of an acceptance of  
13 appointment and filing of any required bond or compliance with any  
14 other verified receipt required by the court.

15 (3) Limitations on the powers of a guardian or conservator or on  
16 the property subject to conservatorship must be stated on the letters  
17 of office.

18 (4) The court at any time may limit the powers conferred on a  
19 guardian or conservator. The court shall issue new letters of office  
20 to reflect the limitation.

21 (5) A guardian or conservator may not act on behalf of a person  
22 under guardianship or conservatorship without valid letters of  
23 office.

24 (6) The clerk of the superior court shall issue letters of  
25 guardianship or conservatorship in or substantially in the same form  
26 as set forth in section 605 of this act.

27 (7) This chapter does not affect the validity of letters of  
28 office issued under chapter 11.88 RCW prior to the effective date of  
29 this section.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 109.** EFFECT OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPOINTMENT. On  
31 acceptance of appointment, a guardian or conservator submits to  
32 personal jurisdiction of the court in this state in any proceeding  
33 relating to the guardianship or conservatorship.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 110.** CO-GUARDIAN—CO-CONSERVATOR. (1) The  
35 court at any time may appoint a co-guardian or co-conservator to  
36 serve immediately or when a designated event occurs.

1 (2) A co-guardian or co-conservator appointed to serve  
2 immediately may act when that co-guardian or co-conservator complies  
3 with section 108 of this act.

4 (3) A co-guardian or co-conservator appointed to serve when a  
5 designated event occurs may act when:

6 (a) The event occurs; and

7 (b) That co-guardian or co-conservator complies with section 108  
8 of this act.

9 (4) Unless an order of appointment under subsection (1) of this  
10 section or subsequent order states otherwise, co-guardians or co-  
11 conservators shall make decisions jointly.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 111.** JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR  
13 GUARDIAN OR SUCCESSOR CONSERVATOR. (1) The court at any time may  
14 appoint a successor guardian or successor conservator to serve  
15 immediately or when a designated event occurs.

16 (2) A person entitled under section 202 or 302 of this act to  
17 petition the court to appoint a guardian may petition the court to  
18 appoint a successor guardian. A person entitled under section 402 of  
19 this act to petition the court to appoint a conservator may petition  
20 the court to appoint a successor conservator.

21 (3) A successor guardian or successor conservator appointed to  
22 serve when a designated event occurs may act as guardian or  
23 conservator when:

24 (a) The event occurs; and

25 (b) The successor complies with section 108 of this act.

26 (4) A successor guardian or successor conservator has the  
27 predecessor's powers unless otherwise provided by the court.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 112.** EFFECT OF DEATH, REMOVAL, OR RESIGNATION  
29 OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR. (1) Appointment of a guardian or  
30 conservator terminates on the death or removal of the guardian or  
31 conservator, or when the court under subsection (2) of this section  
32 approves a resignation of the guardian or conservator.

33 (2) A guardian or conservator must petition the court to resign.  
34 The petition may include a request that the court appoint a  
35 successor. Resignation of a guardian or conservator is effective on  
36 the date the resignation is approved by the court.



1 (3) Death, removal, or resignation of a guardian or conservator  
2 does not affect liability for a previous act or the obligation to  
3 account for:

4 (a) An action taken on behalf of the individual subject to  
5 guardianship or conservatorship; or

6 (b) The individual's funds or other property.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 113.** NOTICE OF HEARING GENERALLY. (1) Except  
8 as otherwise provided in sections 203, 208, 303, 403, and 505 of this  
9 act, if notice of a hearing under this chapter is required, the  
10 movant shall give notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing  
11 to the person to be notified unless otherwise ordered by the court  
12 for good cause. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, notice  
13 must be given in compliance with the local superior court's rule of  
14 civil procedure at least fourteen days before the hearing.

15 (2) Proof of notice of a hearing under this chapter must be made  
16 before or at the hearing and filed in the proceeding.

17 (3) Notice of a hearing under this chapter must be in at least  
18 sixteen-point font, in plain language, and, to the extent feasible,  
19 in a language in which the person to be notified is proficient.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 114.** WAIVER OF NOTICE. (1) Except as  
21 otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a person may  
22 waive notice under this chapter in a record signed by the person or  
23 person's attorney and filed in the proceeding.

24 (2) A respondent, individual subject to guardianship, individual  
25 subject to conservatorship, or individual subject to a protective  
26 arrangement under article 5 of this chapter may not waive notice  
27 under this chapter.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 115.** GUARDIAN AD LITEM. The court at any time  
29 may appoint a guardian ad litem for an individual if the court  
30 determines the individual's interest otherwise would not be  
31 adequately represented. If no conflict of interest exists, a guardian  
32 ad litem may be appointed to represent multiple individuals or  
33 interests. The guardian ad litem may not be the same individual as  
34 the attorney representing the respondent. The court shall state the  
35 duties of the guardian ad litem and the reasons for the appointment.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 116.**    REQUEST FOR NOTICE. (1) A person may  
2 file with the court a request for notice under this chapter if the  
3 person is:

4        (a) Not otherwise entitled to notice; and

5        (b) Interested in the welfare of a respondent, individual subject  
6 to guardianship or conservatorship, or individual subject to a  
7 protective arrangement under article 5 of this chapter.

8        (2) A request under subsection (1) of this section must include a  
9 statement showing the interest of the person making the request and  
10 the address of the person or an attorney for the person to whom  
11 notice is to be given.

12        (3) If the court approves a request under subsection (1) of this  
13 section, the court shall give notice of the approval to the guardian  
14 or conservator, if one has been appointed, or the respondent if no  
15 guardian or conservator has been appointed.

16        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 117.**    DISCLOSURE OF BANKRUPTCY OR CRIMINAL  
17 HISTORY. (1) Before accepting appointment as a guardian or  
18 conservator, a person shall disclose to the court whether the person:

19        (a) Is or has been a debtor in a bankruptcy, insolvency, or  
20 receivership proceeding;

21        (b) Has been convicted of:

22        (i) A felony;

23        (ii) A crime involving dishonesty, neglect, violence, or use of  
24 physical force; or

25        (iii) Other crimes relevant to the functions the individual would  
26 assume as guardian or conservator; or

27        (c) Has any court finding of a breach of fiduciary duty or a  
28 violation of any state's consumer protection act, or violation of any  
29 other statute proscribing unfair or deceptive acts or practices in  
30 the conduct of any business.

31        (2) A guardian or conservator that engages or anticipates  
32 engaging an agent the guardian or conservator knows has been  
33 convicted of a felony, a crime involving dishonesty, neglect,  
34 violence, or use of physical force, or other crimes relevant to the  
35 functions the agent is being engaged to perform promptly shall  
36 disclose that knowledge to the court.

37        (3) If a conservator engages or anticipates engaging an agent to  
38 manage finances of the individual subject to conservatorship and  
39 knows the agent is or has been a debtor in a bankruptcy, insolvency,

1 or receivership proceeding, the conservator promptly shall disclose  
2 that knowledge to the court.

3 (4) If a guardian or conservator that engages or anticipates  
4 engaging an agent and knows the agent has any court finding of a  
5 breach of fiduciary duty or a violation of any state's consumer  
6 protection act, or violation of any other statute proscribing unfair  
7 or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of any business, the  
8 guardian or conservator promptly shall disclose that knowledge to the  
9 court.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 118.** QUALIFICATIONS. (1) Any suitable person  
11 over the age of twenty-one years, or any parent under the age of  
12 twenty-one years or, if the petition is for appointment of a  
13 professional guardian or conservator, any individual or guardianship  
14 or conservatorship service that meets any certification requirements  
15 established by the administrator for the courts, may, if not  
16 otherwise disqualified, be appointed guardian or conservator of a  
17 person subject to guardianship, conservatorship, or both. A financial  
18 institution subject to the jurisdiction of the department of  
19 financial institutions and authorized to exercise trust powers, and a  
20 federally chartered financial institution when authorized to do so,  
21 may be appointed to act as a guardian or conservator of a person  
22 subject to guardianship, conservatorship, or both without having to  
23 meet the certification requirements established by the administrator  
24 for the courts. No person is qualified to serve as a guardian or  
25 conservator who is:

26 (a) Under eighteen years of age except as otherwise provided  
27 herein;

28 (b) (i) Except as provided otherwise in (b) (ii) of this  
29 subsection, convicted of a crime involving dishonesty, neglect, or  
30 use of physical force or other crime relevant to the functions the  
31 individual would assume as guardian;

32 (ii) A court may, upon consideration of the facts, find that a  
33 relative convicted of a crime is qualified to serve as a guardian or  
34 conservator;

35 (c) A nonresident of this state who has not appointed a resident  
36 agent to accept service of process in all actions or proceedings with  
37 respect to the estate and caused such appointment to be filed with  
38 the court;

1 (d) A corporation not authorized to act as a fiduciary, guardian,  
2 or conservator in the state;

3 (e) A person whom the court finds unsuitable.

4 (2) If a guardian, or conservator is not a certified professional  
5 guardian, conservator, or financial institution authorized under this  
6 section, the guardian or conservator must complete any standardized  
7 training video or web cast for lay guardians or conservators made  
8 available by the administrative office of the courts and the superior  
9 court where the petition is filed unless granted a waiver by the  
10 court. The training video or web cast must be provided at no cost to  
11 the guardian, or conservator.

12 (a) If a petitioner requests the appointment of a specific  
13 individual to act as a guardian or conservator, the petition for  
14 guardianship or conservatorship must include evidence of the  
15 successful completion of the required training video or web cast by  
16 the proposed guardian or conservator. The superior court may defer  
17 the completion of the training requirement to a date no later than  
18 ninety days after appointment if the petitioner requests expedited  
19 appointment due to emergent circumstances.

20 (b) If no person is identified to be appointed guardian or  
21 conservator at the time the petition is filed, then the court must  
22 require that the petitioner identify within fourteen days from the  
23 filing of the petition a specific individual to act as guardian  
24 subject to the training requirements set forth herein.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 119.** MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS. If a respondent or  
26 other person makes more than one nomination of a guardian or  
27 conservator, the latest in time governs.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 120.** COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES—IN GENERAL.

29 (1) Unless otherwise compensated or reimbursed, an attorney for a  
30 respondent in a proceeding under this chapter is entitled to  
31 reasonable compensation for services and reimbursement of reasonable  
32 expenses from the property of the respondent.

33 (2) Unless otherwise compensated or reimbursed, an attorney or  
34 other person whose services resulted in an order beneficial to an  
35 individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship or for whom a  
36 protective arrangement under article 5 of this chapter was ordered is  
37 entitled to reasonable compensation for services and reimbursement of  
38 reasonable expenses from the property of the individual.

1 (3) The court must approve compensation and expenses payable  
2 under this section before payment. Approval is not required before a  
3 service is provided or an expense is incurred.

4 (4) If the court dismisses a petition under this act and  
5 determines the petition was filed in bad faith, the court may assess  
6 the cost of any court-ordered professional evaluation or visitor  
7 against the petitioner.

8 (5) Where the person subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
9 is a department of social and health services client, or health care  
10 authority client, and is required to contribute a portion of their  
11 income towards the cost of long-term care services or room and board,  
12 the amount of compensation or reimbursement shall not exceed the  
13 amount allowed by the department of social and health services or  
14 health care authority by rule.

15 (6) Where the person subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
16 receives guardianship, conservatorships, or other protective services  
17 from the office of public guardianship, the amount of compensation or  
18 reimbursement shall not exceed the amount allowed by the office of  
19 public guardianship.

20 (7) The court must approve compensation and expenses payable  
21 under this section before payment. Approval is not required before a  
22 service is provided or an expense is incurred.

23 (8) If the court dismisses a petition under this chapter and  
24 determines the petition was filed in bad faith, the court may assess  
25 the cost of any court-ordered professional evaluation or visitor  
26 against the petitioner.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 121.** COMPENSATION OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR.

28 (1) Subject to court approval, a guardian is entitled to reasonable  
29 compensation for services as guardian and to reimbursement for room,  
30 board, clothing, and other appropriate expenses advanced for the  
31 benefit of the individual subject to guardianship. If a conservator,  
32 other than the guardian or a person affiliated with the guardian, is  
33 appointed for the individual, reasonable compensation and  
34 reimbursement to the guardian may be approved and paid by the  
35 conservator without court approval.

36 (2) Subject to court approval, a conservator is entitled to  
37 reasonable compensation for services and reimbursement for  
38 appropriate expenses from the property of the individual subject to  
39 conservatorship.

1 (3) In determining reasonable compensation for a guardian or  
2 conservator, the court, or a conservator in determining reasonable  
3 compensation for a guardian as provided in subsection (1) of this  
4 section, shall approve compensation that shall not exceed the typical  
5 amounts paid for comparable services in the community, at a rate for  
6 which the service can be performed in the most efficient and cost-  
7 effective manner, considering:

8 (a) The necessity and quality of the services provided;

9 (b) The experience, training, professional standing, and skills  
10 of the guardian or conservator;

11 (c) The difficulty of the services performed, including the  
12 degree of skill and care required;

13 (d) The conditions and circumstances under which a service was  
14 performed, including whether the service was provided outside regular  
15 business hours or under dangerous or extraordinary conditions;

16 (e) The effect of the services on the individual subject to  
17 guardianship or conservatorship;

18 (f) The extent to which the services provided were or were not  
19 consistent with the guardian's plan under section 317 of this act or  
20 conservator's plan under section 419 of this act; and

21 (g) The fees customarily paid to a person that performs a like  
22 service in the community.

23 (4) A guardian or conservator need not use personal funds of the  
24 guardian or conservator for the expenses of the individual subject to  
25 guardianship or conservatorship.

26 (5) Where the person subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
27 is a department of social and health services client, or health care  
28 authority client, and is required to contribute a portion of their  
29 income towards the cost of long-term care services or room and board,  
30 the amount of compensation or reimbursement shall not exceed the  
31 amount allowed by the department of social and health services or  
32 health care authority by rule.

33 (6) Where the person subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
34 receives guardianship, conservatorship, or other protective services  
35 from the office of public guardianship, the amount of compensation or  
36 reimbursement shall not exceed the amount allowed by the office of  
37 public guardianship.

38 (7) If an individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
39 seeks to modify or terminate the guardianship or conservatorship or  
40 remove the guardian or conservator, the court may order compensation

1 to the guardian or conservator for time spent opposing modification,  
2 termination, or removal only to the extent the court determines the  
3 opposition was reasonably necessary to protect the interests of the  
4 individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 122.** LIABILITY OF GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR FOR  
6 ACT OF INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO GUARDIANSHIP OR CONSERVATORSHIP. A  
7 guardian or conservator is not personally liable to another person  
8 solely because of the guardianship or conservatorship for an act or  
9 omission of the individual subject to guardianship or  
10 conservatorship.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 123.** PETITION AFTER APPOINTMENT FOR  
12 INSTRUCTION OR RATIFICATION. (1) A guardian or conservator may  
13 petition the court for instruction concerning fiduciary  
14 responsibility or ratification of a particular act related to the  
15 guardianship or conservatorship.

16 (2) On reasonable notice and hearing on a petition under  
17 subsection (1) of this section, the court may give an instruction and  
18 issue an appropriate order.

19 (3) The petitioner must provide reasonable notice of the petition  
20 and hearing to the individual subject to a guardianship or  
21 conservatorship.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 124.** THIRD-PARTY ACCEPTANCE OF AUTHORITY OF  
23 GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR. (1) A person must not recognize the  
24 authority of a guardian or conservator to act on behalf of an  
25 individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship if:

26 (a) The person has actual knowledge or a reasonable belief that  
27 the letters of office of the guardian or conservator are invalid or  
28 the conservator or guardian is exceeding or improperly exercising  
29 authority granted by the court; or

30 (b) The person has actual knowledge that the individual subject  
31 to guardianship or conservatorship is subject to physical or  
32 financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment by the  
33 guardian or conservator or a person acting for or with the guardian  
34 or conservator.

35 (2) A person may refuse to recognize the authority of a guardian  
36 or conservator to act on behalf of an individual subject to  
37 guardianship or conservatorship if:

1 (a) The guardian's or conservator's proposed action would be  
2 inconsistent with this chapter; or

3 (b) The person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person  
4 has made, a report to the department of children, youth, and families  
5 or the department of social and health services stating a good-faith  
6 belief that the individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
7 is subject to physical or financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or  
8 abandonment by the guardian or conservator or a person acting for or  
9 with the guardian or conservator.

10 (3) A person that refuses to accept the authority of a guardian  
11 or conservator in accordance with subsection (2) of this section may  
12 report the refusal and the reason for refusal to the court. The court  
13 on receiving the report shall consider whether removal of the  
14 guardian or conservator or other action is appropriate.

15 (4) A guardian or conservator may petition the court to require a  
16 third party to accept a decision made by the guardian or conservator  
17 on behalf of the individual subject to guardianship or  
18 conservatorship.

19 (5) If the court determines that a third party has failed to  
20 recognize the legitimate authority of a guardian or requires a third  
21 party to accept a decision made by the guardian on behalf of the  
22 individual subject to guardianship, the court may order that third  
23 party to compensate the guardian for the time spent only to the  
24 extent the court determines the opposition was reasonably necessary  
25 to protect the interests of the individual subject to guardianship.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 125.** USE OF AGENT BY GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR.

27 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, a  
28 guardian or conservator may delegate a power to an agent which a  
29 prudent guardian or conservator of comparable skills could delegate  
30 prudently under the circumstances if the delegation is consistent  
31 with the guardian's or conservator's fiduciary duties and the  
32 guardian's plan under section 317 of this act or the conservator's  
33 plan under section 419 of this act.

34 (2) In delegating a power under subsection (1) of this section,  
35 the guardian or conservator shall exercise reasonable care, skill,  
36 and caution in:

37 (a) Selecting the agent;



1 (b) Establishing the scope and terms of the agent's work in  
2 accordance with the guardian's plan under section 317 of this act or  
3 the conservator's plan under section 419 of this act;

4 (c) Monitoring the agent's performance and compliance with the  
5 delegation;

6 (d) Redressing an act or omission of the agent which would  
7 constitute a breach of the guardian's or conservator's duties if done  
8 by the guardian or conservator; and

9 (e) Ensuring a background check is conducted on the agent, or  
10 conducted on persons employed by the agent when those persons are  
11 providing services to the individual subject to a guardianship or  
12 conservatorship.

13 (3) A guardian or conservator may not delegate all powers to an  
14 agent.

15 (4) In performing a power delegated under this section, an agent  
16 shall:

17 (a) Exercise reasonable care to comply with the terms of the  
18 delegation and use reasonable care in the performance of the power;  
19 and

20 (b) If the guardian or conservator has delegated to the agent the  
21 power to make a decision on behalf of the individual subject to  
22 guardianship or conservatorship, use the same decision-making  
23 standard the guardian or conservator would be required to use.

24 (5) By accepting a delegation of a power under subsection (1) of  
25 this section from a guardian or conservator, an agent submits to the  
26 personal jurisdiction of the courts of this state in an action  
27 involving the agent's performance as agent.

28 (6) A guardian or conservator that delegates and monitors a power  
29 in compliance with this section is not liable for the decision, act,  
30 or omission of the agent.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 126.** TEMPORARY SUBSTITUTE GUARDIAN OR  
32 CONSERVATOR. (1) The court may appoint a temporary substitute  
33 guardian for an individual subject to guardianship for a period not  
34 exceeding six months if:

35 (a) A proceeding to remove a guardian for the individual is  
36 pending; or

37 (b) The court finds a guardian is not effectively performing the  
38 guardian's duties and the welfare of the individual requires  
39 immediate action.

1 (2) The court may appoint a temporary substitute conservator for  
2 an individual subject to conservatorship for a period not exceeding  
3 six months if:

4 (a) A proceeding to remove a conservator for the individual is  
5 pending; or

6 (b) The court finds that a conservator for the individual is not  
7 effectively performing the conservator's duties and the welfare of  
8 the individual or the conservatorship estate requires immediate  
9 action.

10 (3) The court shall hold a hearing to appoint a temporary  
11 substitute guardian pursuant to subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this  
12 section, or to appoint a temporary substitute conservator pursuant to  
13 subsection (2)(a) or (b) of this section. The court shall give notice  
14 under section 113 of this act to the adult subject to guardianship or  
15 conservatorship and to any other person the court determines should  
16 receive notice. The adult subject to guardianship or conservatorship  
17 shall have the right to attend the hearing and to be represented by  
18 counsel of the adult subject to guardianship or conservatorship's  
19 choosing.

20 (4) Except as otherwise ordered by the court, a temporary  
21 substitute guardian or temporary substitute conservator appointed  
22 under this section has the powers stated in the order of appointment  
23 of the guardian or conservator. The authority of the existing  
24 guardian or conservator is suspended for as long as the temporary  
25 substitute guardian or conservator has authority.

26 (5) The court shall give notice of appointment of a temporary  
27 substitute guardian or temporary substitute conservator, not later  
28 than five days after the appointment, to:

29 (a) The individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship;

30 (b) The affected guardian or conservator; and

31 (c) In the case of a minor, each parent of the minor and any  
32 person currently having care or custody of the minor.

33 (6) The court may remove a temporary substitute guardian or  
34 temporary substitute conservator at any time. The temporary  
35 substitute guardian or temporary substitute conservator shall make  
36 any report the court requires.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 127.** REGISTRATION OF ORDER—EFFECT. (1) If a  
38 guardian has been appointed in another state for an individual, and a  
39 petition for guardianship for the individual is not pending in this

1 state, the guardian appointed in the other state, after giving notice  
2 to the appointing court, may register the guardianship order in this  
3 state by filing as a foreign judgment, in a court of an appropriate  
4 county of this state, certified copies of the order and letters of  
5 office.

6 (2) If a conservator has been appointed in another state for an  
7 individual, and a petition for conservatorship for the individual is  
8 not pending in this state, the conservator appointed for the  
9 individual in the other state, after giving notice to the appointing  
10 court, may register the conservatorship in this state by filing as a  
11 foreign judgment, in a court of a county in which property belonging  
12 to the individual subject to conservatorship is located, certified  
13 copies of the order of conservatorship, letters of office, and any  
14 bond or other verified receipt required by the court.

15 (3) On registration under this section of a guardianship or  
16 conservatorship order from another state, the guardian or conservator  
17 may exercise in this state all powers authorized in the order except  
18 as prohibited by this chapter and law of this state other than this  
19 chapter. If the guardian or conservator is not a resident of this  
20 state, the guardian or conservator may maintain an action or  
21 proceeding in this state subject to any condition imposed by this  
22 state on an action or proceeding by a nonresident party.

23 (4) The court may grant any relief available under this chapter  
24 and law of this state other than this chapter to enforce an order  
25 registered under this section.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 128.** GRIEVANCE AGAINST GUARDIAN OR  
27 CONSERVATOR. (1) An individual who is subject to guardianship or  
28 conservatorship, or person interested in the welfare of an individual  
29 subject to guardianship or conservatorship, that reasonably believes  
30 the guardian or conservator is breaching the guardian's or  
31 conservator's fiduciary duty or otherwise acting in a manner  
32 inconsistent with this chapter may file a grievance in a record with  
33 the court.

34 (2) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, after receiving a  
35 grievance under subsection (1) of this section, the court:

36 (a) Shall promptly review the grievance against a guardian and  
37 shall act to protect the autonomy, values, preferences, and  
38 independence of the individual subject to guardianship or  
39 conservatorship;

1 (b) Shall schedule a hearing if the individual subject to  
2 guardianship or conservatorship is an adult and the grievance  
3 supports a reasonable belief that:

4 (i) Removal of the guardian and appointment of a successor may be  
5 appropriate under section 319 of this act;

6 (ii) Termination or modification of the guardianship may be  
7 appropriate under section 320 of this act;

8 (iii) Removal of the conservator and appointment of a successor  
9 may be appropriate under section 430 of this act;

10 (iv) Termination or modification of the conservatorship may be  
11 appropriate under section 431 of this act; or

12 (v) A hearing is necessary to resolve the allegations set forth  
13 in the grievance; and

14 (c) May take any action supported by the evidence, including:

15 (i) Ordering the guardian or conservator to provide the court a  
16 report, accounting, inventory, updated plan, or other information;

17 (ii) Appointing a guardian ad litem;

18 (iii) Appointing an attorney for the individual subject to  
19 guardianship or conservatorship; or

20 (iv) Holding a hearing.

21 (3) The court may decline to act under subsection (2) of this  
22 section if a similar grievance was filed within the six months  
23 preceding the filing of the current grievance and the court followed  
24 the procedures of subsection (2) of this section in considering the  
25 earlier grievance; and may levy necessary sanctions, including but  
26 not limited to the imposition of reasonable attorney fees, costs,  
27 striking pleadings, or other appropriate relief, if after  
28 consideration the court finds that the grievance is made for reason  
29 to harass, delay, with malice, or other bad faith.

30 (4) In any court action under this section where the court finds  
31 the professional guardian or conservator breached a fiduciary duty,  
32 the court must direct the clerk of the court to send a copy of the  
33 order entered under this section to the certified professional  
34 guardianship board.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 129.** DELEGATION BY PARENT. Except as  
36 otherwise provided in RCW 11.125.410, a parent of a minor, by a power  
37 of attorney, may delegate to another person for a period not  
38 exceeding twenty-four months any of the parent's powers regarding

1 care, custody, or property of the minor, other than power to consent  
2 to marriage or adoption.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 130.** EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS—REMOVAL. A  
4 guardian ad litem or visitor shall not engage in ex parte  
5 communications with any judicial officer involved in the matter for  
6 which he or she is appointed during the pendency of the proceeding,  
7 except as permitted by court rule or statute for ex parte motions. Ex  
8 parte motions shall be heard in open court on the record. The record  
9 may be preserved in a manner deemed appropriate by the county where  
10 the matter is heard. The court, upon its own motion, or upon the  
11 motion of a party, may consider the removal of any guardian ad litem  
12 or visitor who violates this section from any pending case or from  
13 any court-authorized registry, and if so removed may require  
14 forfeiture of any fees for professional services on the pending case.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 131.** REGISTRY FOR GUARDIANS AD LITEM AND  
16 VISITORS. (1) The superior court of each county shall develop and  
17 maintain a registry of persons who are willing and qualified to serve  
18 as guardians ad litem and visitors in guardianship and  
19 conservatorship matters. The court shall choose as guardian ad litem  
20 or visitor a person whose name appears on the registry in a system of  
21 consistent rotation, except in extraordinary circumstances such as  
22 the need for particular expertise. The court shall develop procedures  
23 for periodic review of the persons on the registry and for probation,  
24 suspension, or removal of persons on the registry for failure to  
25 perform properly their duties as guardian ad litem or visitor. In the  
26 event the court does not select the person next on the list, it shall  
27 include in the order of appointment a written reason for its  
28 decision.

29 (2) To be eligible for the registry a person shall:

30 (a) Present a written statement outlining his or her background  
31 and qualifications. The background statement shall include, but is  
32 not limited to, the following information:

33 (i) Level of formal education;

34 (ii) Training related to the duties of a guardian ad litem or  
35 visitor;

36 (iii) Number of years' experience as a guardian ad litem or  
37 visitor;

1 (iv) Number of appointments as a guardian ad litem or visitor and  
2 the county or counties of appointment;

3 (v) Criminal history, as defined in RCW 9.94A.030; and

4 (vi) Evidence of the person's knowledge, training, and experience  
5 in each of the following: Needs of impaired elderly people, physical  
6 disabilities, mental illness, developmental disabilities, and other  
7 areas relevant to the needs of persons subject to guardianship or  
8 conservatorship, legal procedure, and the requirements of this  
9 chapter.

10 The written statement of qualifications shall include the names  
11 of any counties in which the person was removed from a guardian ad  
12 litem or visitor registry pursuant to a grievance action, and the  
13 name of the court and the cause number of any case in which the court  
14 has removed the person for cause; and

15 (b) Complete the training as described in subsection (5) of this  
16 section. The training is not applicable to guardians ad litem  
17 appointed pursuant to special proceeding rule 98.16W.

18 (3) The superior court shall remove any person from the guardian  
19 ad litem or visitor registry who misrepresents his or her  
20 qualifications pursuant to a grievance procedure established by the  
21 court.

22 (4) The background and qualification information shall be updated  
23 annually.

24 (5) The department of social and health services shall convene an  
25 advisory group to develop a model guardian ad litem and visitor  
26 training program and shall update the program biennially. The  
27 advisory group shall consist of representatives from consumer,  
28 advocacy, and professional groups knowledgeable in developmental  
29 disabilities, neurological impairment, physical disabilities, mental  
30 illness, domestic violence, aging, legal, court administration, the  
31 Washington state bar association, and other interested parties.

32 (6) The superior court shall require utilization of the model  
33 program developed by the advisory group as described in subsection  
34 (5) of this section to assure that candidates applying for  
35 registration as a qualified guardian ad litem or visitor shall have  
36 satisfactorily completed training to attain these essential minimum  
37 qualifications to act as guardian ad litem or visitor.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 132.** GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP SUMMARY.

39 Every order appointing a guardian or conservator and every court

1 order approving accounts or reports filed by a guardian or  
2 conservator must include a guardianship/conservatorship summary  
3 placed directly below the case caption or on a separate cover page in  
4 or substantially in the same form as set forth in section 606 of this  
5 act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 133.** GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP COURTHOUSE  
7 FACILITATOR PROGRAM. A county may create a guardianship/  
8 conservatorship courthouse facilitator program to provide basic  
9 services to pro se litigants in guardianship and conservatorship  
10 cases. The legislative authority of any county may impose user fees  
11 or may impose a surcharge of up to twenty dollars, or both, on  
12 superior court cases filed under this chapter, chapter 11.90 RCW, and  
13 chapter 73.36 RCW to pay for the expenses of the guardianship/  
14 conservatorship courthouse facilitator program. Fees collected under  
15 this section shall be collected and deposited in the same manner as  
16 other county funds are collected and deposited, and shall be  
17 maintained in a separate guardianship/conservatorship courthouse  
18 facilitator account to be used as provided in this section.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 134.** FILING FEE. (1)(a) The attorney general  
20 may petition for the appointment of a guardian, conservator, or other  
21 protective arrangement under sections 302, 402, and 504 of this act  
22 in which there is cause to believe that a guardianship,  
23 conservatorship, or protective arrangement is necessary and no  
24 private party is able and willing to petition.

25 (b) Prepayment of a filing fee shall not be required in any  
26 guardianship, conservatorship, or protective arrangement proceeding  
27 brought by the attorney general. Payment of the filing fee shall be  
28 ordered from the estate of the respondent person at the hearing on  
29 the merits of the petition, unless in the judgment of the court, such  
30 payment would impose a hardship upon the respondent, in which case  
31 the filing shall be waived.

32 (2) No filing fee shall be charged by the court for filing a  
33 petition for guardianship, conservatorship, or other protective  
34 arrangement filed under sections 302, 402, and 504 of this act if the  
35 petition alleges that the respondent has total assets of a value of  
36 less than three thousand dollars.

37 (3) No filing fee shall be charged by the court for filing a  
38 petition for guardianship or conservatorship filed under article 2 of

1 this act, where the potential guardian is a relative and not a  
2 professional guardian or conservator.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 135.** GUARDIANSHIPS INVOLVING VETERANS. For  
4 guardianships involving veterans see chapter 73.36 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 136.** CONSTRUCTION—CHAPTER APPLICABLE TO STATE  
6 REGISTERED DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS—2009 c 521. For the purposes of this  
7 chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow,  
8 widower, next of kin, and relative shall be interpreted as applying  
9 equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in  
10 state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital  
11 relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of  
12 marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic  
13 partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to  
14 the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal  
15 law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-  
16 specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or  
17 other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to  
18 individuals in state registered domestic partnerships.

19 **ARTICLE 2**  
20 **GUARDIANSHIP OF MINOR**

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** BASIS FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR  
22 MINOR. (1) A person becomes a guardian for a minor only on  
23 appointment by the court.

24 (2) The court may appoint a guardian for a minor who does not  
25 have a guardian if the court finds the appointment is in the minor's  
26 best interest and:

27 (a) Each parent of the minor, after being fully informed of the  
28 nature and consequences of guardianship, consents;

29 (b) All parental rights have been terminated; or

30 (c) There is clear and convincing evidence that no parent of the  
31 minor is willing or able to exercise the powers the court is granting  
32 the guardian.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 202.** PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR  
34 MINOR. (1) A person interested in the welfare of a minor, including  
35 the minor, may petition for appointment of a guardian for the minor.



1 (2) A petition under subsection (1) of this section must state  
2 the petitioner's name, principal residence, current street address,  
3 if different, relationship to the minor, interest in the appointment,  
4 the name and address of any attorney representing the petitioner,  
5 and, to the extent known, the following:

6 (a) The minor's name, age, principal residence, current street  
7 address, if different, and, if different, address of the dwelling in  
8 which it is proposed the minor will reside if the appointment is  
9 made;

10 (b) The name and current street address of the minor's parents;

11 (c) The name and address, if known, of each person that had  
12 primary care or custody of the minor for at least sixty days during  
13 the two years immediately before the filing of the petition or for at  
14 least seven hundred thirty days during the five years immediately  
15 before the filing of the petition;

16 (d) The name and address of any attorney for the minor and any  
17 attorney for each parent of the minor;

18 (e) The reason guardianship is sought and would be in the best  
19 interest of the minor;

20 (f) The name and address of any proposed guardian and the reason  
21 the proposed guardian should be selected;

22 (g) If the minor has property other than personal effects, a  
23 general statement of the minor's property with an estimate of its  
24 value;

25 (h) Whether the minor needs an interpreter, translator, or other  
26 form of support to communicate effectively with the court or  
27 understand court proceedings;

28 (i) Whether any parent of the minor needs an interpreter,  
29 translator, or other form of support to communicate effectively with  
30 the court or understand court proceedings; and

31 (j) Whether any other proceeding concerning the care or custody  
32 of the minor is pending in any court in this state or another  
33 jurisdiction.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 203.** NOTICE OF HEARING FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
35 GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) If a petition is filed under section 202 of  
36 this act, the court shall schedule a hearing and the petitioner  
37 shall:

1 (a) Serve notice of the date, time, and place of the hearing,  
2 together with a copy of the petition, personally on each of the  
3 following that is not the petitioner:

4 (i) The minor, if the minor will be twelve years of age or older  
5 at the time of the hearing;

6 (ii) Each parent of the minor or, if there is none, the adult  
7 nearest in kinship who can be found with reasonable diligence;

8 (iii) Any adult with whom the minor resides;

9 (iv) Each person that had primary care or custody of the minor  
10 for at least sixty days during the two years immediately before the  
11 filing of the petition or for at least seven hundred thirty days  
12 during the five years immediately before the filing of the petition;  
13 and

14 (v) Any other person the court determines should receive personal  
15 service of notice; and

16 (b) Give notice under section 113 of this act of the date, time,  
17 and place of the hearing, together with a copy of the petition, to:

18 (i) Any person nominated as guardian by the minor, if the minor  
19 is twelve years of age or older;

20 (ii) Any nominee of a parent;

21 (iii) Each grandparent and adult sibling of the minor;

22 (iv) Any guardian or conservator acting for the minor in any  
23 jurisdiction; and

24 (v) Any other person the court determines.

25 (2) Notice required by subsection (1) of this section must  
26 include a statement of the right to request appointment of an  
27 attorney for the minor or object to appointment of a guardian and a  
28 description of the nature, purpose, and consequences of appointment  
29 of a guardian.

30 (3) The court may not grant a petition for guardianship of a  
31 minor if notice substantially complying with subsection (1)(a) of  
32 this section is not served on:

33 (a) The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older; and

34 (b) Each parent of the minor, unless the court finds by clear and  
35 convincing evidence that the parent cannot with due diligence be  
36 located and served or the parent waived, in a record, the right to  
37 notice.

38 (4) If a petitioner is unable to serve notice under subsection  
39 (1)(a) of this section on a parent of a minor or alleges that the

1 parent waived, in a record, the right to notice under this section,  
2 the court shall appoint a visitor who shall:

3 (a) Interview the petitioner and the minor;

4 (b) If the petitioner alleges the parent cannot be located,  
5 ascertain whether the parent cannot be located with due diligence;

6 (c) Investigate any other matter relating to the petition the  
7 court directs; and

8 (d) Ascertain whether the parent consents to the guardian for the  
9 minor.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 204.** ATTORNEY FOR MINOR OR PARENT. (1) The  
11 court is not required, but may appoint an attorney to represent a  
12 minor who is the subject of a proceeding under section 202 of this  
13 act if:

14 (a) Requested by the minor and the minor is twelve years of age  
15 or older;

16 (b) Recommended by a guardian ad litem; or

17 (c) The court determines the minor needs representation.

18 (2) An attorney appointed under subsection (1) of this section  
19 shall:

20 (a) Make a reasonable effort to ascertain the minor's wishes;

21 (b) Advocate for the minor's wishes to the extent reasonably  
22 ascertainable; and

23 (c) If the minor's wishes are not reasonably ascertainable,  
24 advocate for the minor's legal rights.

25 (3) A minor who is the subject of a proceeding under section 202  
26 of this act may retain an attorney to represent the minor in the  
27 proceeding.

28 (4) A parent of a minor who is the subject of a proceeding under  
29 section 202 of this act may retain an attorney to represent the  
30 parent in the proceeding.

31 (5) The court must appoint an attorney to represent a parent of a  
32 minor who is the subject of a proceeding under section 202 of this  
33 act if:

34 (a) The parent has appeared in the proceeding;

35 (b) The parent is indigent; and

36 (c) Any of the following is true:

37 (i) The parent objects to appointment of a guardian for the  
38 minor; or

1 (ii) The court determines that counsel is needed to ensure that  
2 consent to appointment of a guardian is informed; or

3 (iii) The court otherwise determines the parent needs  
4 representation.

5 (6) The court must inquire about whether a parent is indigent to  
6 ensure that counsel is appointed in a timely manner. For purposes of  
7 this section, "indigent" has the same meaning as under RCW  
8 10.101.010.

9 (7) The court is not required, but may appoint an attorney to  
10 represent a parent of a minor who is the subject of a proceeding  
11 under section 202 of this act, even if the parent is not indigent,  
12 if:

13 (a) The parent objects to appointment of a guardian for the  
14 minor;

15 (b) The court determines that counsel is needed to ensure that  
16 consent to appointment of a guardian is informed; or

17 (c) The court otherwise determines that the parent needs  
18 representation.

19 (8) A party represented by an attorney in proceedings under this  
20 article has the right to introduce evidence, to be heard in his or  
21 her own behalf, and to examine witnesses. If a party to an action  
22 under this article is represented by counsel, no order may be  
23 provided to that party for signature without prior notice and  
24 provision of the order to counsel.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 205.** ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION AT HEARING  
26 FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) The court shall allow a  
27 minor who is the subject of a hearing under section 203 of this act  
28 to attend the hearing and allow the minor to participate in the  
29 hearing unless the court determines, by clear and convincing evidence  
30 presented at the hearing or a separate hearing, that:

31 (a) The minor lacks the ability or maturity to participate  
32 meaningfully in the hearing; or

33 (b) Attendance would be harmful to the minor.

34 (2) Unless excused by the court for good cause, the person  
35 proposed to be appointed as guardian for a minor shall attend a  
36 hearing under section 203 of this act.

37 (3) Each parent of a minor who is the subject of a hearing under  
38 section 203 of this act has the right to attend the hearing.

1 (4) A person may request permission to participate in a hearing  
2 under section 203 of this act. The court may grant the request, with  
3 or without hearing, on determining that it is in the best interest of  
4 the minor who is the subject of the hearing. The court may impose  
5 appropriate conditions on the person's participation.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 206.** CUSTODY ORDERS—BACKGROUND INFORMATION TO  
7 BE CONSULTED. (1) Before granting any order regarding the custody of  
8 a child under this chapter, the court must consult the judicial  
9 information system, if available, to determine the existence of any  
10 information and proceedings that are relevant to the placement of the  
11 child.

12 (2) Before entering a final order, the court must:

13 (a) Direct the department of children, youth, and families to  
14 release information as provided under RCW 13.50.100; and

15 (b) Require the petitioner to provide the results of an  
16 examination of state and national criminal identification data  
17 provided by the Washington state patrol criminal identification  
18 system as described in chapter 43.43 RCW for the petitioner and adult  
19 members of the petitioner's household.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 207.** ORDER OF APPOINTMENT—PRIORITY OF NOMINEE  
21 —LIMITED GUARDIANSHIP FOR MINOR. (1) After a hearing under section  
22 203 of this act, the court may appoint a guardian for a minor, if  
23 appointment is proper under section 201 of this act, dismiss the  
24 proceeding, or take other appropriate action consistent with this  
25 chapter or law of this state other than this chapter.

26 (2) In appointing a guardian under subsection (1) of this  
27 section, the following rules apply:

28 (a) The court shall appoint a person nominated as guardian by a  
29 parent of the minor in a will or other record unless the court finds  
30 the appointment is contrary to the best interest of the minor.

31 (b) If multiple parents have nominated different persons to serve  
32 as guardian, the court shall appoint the nominee whose appointment is  
33 in the best interest of the minor, unless the court finds that  
34 appointment of none of the nominees is in the best interest of the  
35 minor.

36 (c) If a guardian is not appointed under (a) or (b) of this  
37 subsection, the court shall appoint the person nominated by the minor

1 if the minor is twelve years of age or older unless the court finds  
2 that appointment is contrary to the best interest of the minor. In  
3 that case, the court shall appoint as guardian a person whose  
4 appointment is in the best interest of the minor.

5 (3) In the interest of maintaining or encouraging involvement by  
6 a minor's parent in the minor's life, developing self-reliance of the  
7 minor, or for other good cause, the court, at the time of appointment  
8 of a guardian for the minor or later, on its own or on motion of the  
9 minor or other interested person, may create a limited guardianship  
10 by limiting the powers otherwise granted by this article to the  
11 guardian. Following the same procedure, the court may grant  
12 additional powers or withdraw powers previously granted.

13 (4) The court, as part of an order appointing a guardian for a  
14 minor, shall state rights retained by any parent of the minor, which  
15 may include contact or visitation with the minor, decision making  
16 regarding the minor's health care, education, or other matter, or  
17 access to a record regarding the minor.

18 (5) An order granting a guardianship for a minor must state that  
19 each parent of the minor is entitled to notice that:

20 (a) The guardian has delegated custody of the minor subject to  
21 guardianship;

22 (b) The court has modified or limited the powers of the guardian;  
23 or

24 (c) The court has removed the guardian.

25 (6) An order granting a guardianship for a minor must identify  
26 any person in addition to a parent of the minor which is entitled to  
27 notice of the events listed in subsection (5) of this section.

28 (7) An order granting guardianship for a minor must direct the  
29 clerk of the court to issue letters of office to the guardian  
30 containing an expiration date which should be the minor's eighteenth  
31 birthday.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 208.** STANDBY GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) A

33 standby guardian appointed under this section may act as guardian,  
34 with all duties and powers of a guardian under sections 210 and 211  
35 of this act, when no parent of the minor is willing or able to  
36 exercise the duties and powers granted to the guardian.

37 (2) A parent of a minor, in a signed record, may nominate a  
38 person to be appointed by the court as standby guardian for the  
39 minor. The parent, in a signed record, may state desired limitations

1 on the powers to be granted the standby guardian. The parent, in a  
2 signed record, may revoke or amend the nomination at any time before  
3 the court appoints a standby guardian.

4 (3) The court may appoint a standby guardian for a minor on:

5 (a) Petition by a parent of the minor or a person nominated under  
6 subsection (2) of this section; and

7 (b) Finding that no parent of the minor likely will be able or  
8 willing to care for or make decisions with respect to the minor not  
9 later than two years after the appointment.

10 (4) A petition under subsection (3)(a) of this section must  
11 include the same information required under section 202 of this act  
12 for the appointment of a guardian for a minor.

13 (5) On filing a petition under subsection (3)(a) of this section,  
14 the petitioner shall:

15 (a) Serve a copy of the petition personally on:

16 (i) The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older, and  
17 the minor's attorney, if any;

18 (ii) Each parent of the minor;

19 (iii) The person nominated as standby guardian; and

20 (iv) Any other person the court determines; and

21 (b) Include with the copy of the petition served under (a) of  
22 this subsection a statement of the right to request appointment of an  
23 attorney for the minor or to object to appointment of the standby  
24 guardian, and a description of the nature, purpose, and consequences  
25 of appointment of a standby guardian.

26 (6) A person entitled to notice under subsection (5) of this  
27 section, not later than sixty days after service of the petition and  
28 statement, may object to appointment of the standby guardian by  
29 filing an objection with the court and giving notice of the objection  
30 to each other person entitled to notice under subsection (5) of this  
31 section.

32 (7) If an objection is filed under subsection (6) of this  
33 section, the court shall hold a hearing to determine whether a  
34 standby guardian should be appointed and, if so, the person that  
35 should be appointed. If no objection is filed, the court may make the  
36 appointment.

37 (8) The court may not grant a petition for a standby guardian of  
38 the minor if notice substantially complying with subsection (5) of  
39 this section is not served on:

40 (a) The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older; and

1 (b) Each parent of the minor, unless the court finds by clear and  
2 convincing evidence that the parent, in a record, waived the right to  
3 notice or cannot be located and served with due diligence.

4 (9) If a petitioner is unable to serve notice under subsection  
5 (5) of this section on a parent of the minor or alleges that a parent  
6 of the minor waived the right to notice under this section, the court  
7 shall appoint a visitor who shall:

8 (a) Interview the petitioner and the minor;

9 (b) If the petitioner alleges the parent cannot be located and  
10 served, ascertain whether the parent cannot be located with due  
11 diligence; and

12 (c) Investigate any other matter relating to the petition the  
13 court directs.

14 (10) If the court finds under subsection (3) of this section that  
15 a standby guardian should be appointed, the following rules apply:

16 (a) The court shall appoint the person nominated under subsection  
17 (2) of this section unless the court finds the appointment is  
18 contrary to the best interest of the minor.

19 (b) If the parents have nominated different persons to serve as  
20 standby guardian, the court shall appoint the nominee whose  
21 appointment is in the best interest of the minor, unless the court  
22 finds that appointment of none of the nominees is in the best  
23 interest of the minor.

24 (11) An order appointing a standby guardian under this section  
25 must state that each parent of the minor is entitled to notice, and  
26 identify any other person entitled to notice, if:

27 (a) The standby guardian assumes the duties and powers of the  
28 guardian;

29 (b) The guardian delegates custody of the minor;

30 (c) The court modifies or limits the powers of the guardian; or

31 (d) The court removes the guardian.

32 (12) Before assuming the duties and powers of a guardian, a  
33 standby guardian must file with the court an acceptance of  
34 appointment as guardian and give notice of the acceptance to:

35 (a) Each parent of the minor, unless the parent, in a record,  
36 waived the right to notice or cannot be located and served with due  
37 diligence;

38 (b) The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older; and

39 (c) Any person, other than the parent, having care or custody of  
40 the minor.



1 (13) A person that receives notice under subsection (12) of this  
2 section or any other person interested in the welfare of the minor  
3 may file with the court an objection to the standby guardian's  
4 assumption of duties and powers of a guardian. The court shall hold a  
5 hearing if the objection supports a reasonable belief that the  
6 conditions for assumption of duties and powers have not been  
7 satisfied.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 209.** EMERGENCY GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) On its  
9 own, or on petition by a person interested in a minor's welfare, the  
10 court may appoint an emergency guardian for the minor if the court  
11 finds:

12 (a) Appointment of an emergency guardian is likely to prevent  
13 substantial harm to the minor's health, safety, or welfare; and

14 (b) No other person appears to have authority and willingness to  
15 act in the circumstances.

16 (2) The duration of authority of an emergency guardian for a  
17 minor may not exceed sixty days and the emergency guardian may  
18 exercise only the powers specified in the order of appointment. The  
19 emergency guardian's authority may be extended once for not more than  
20 sixty days if the court finds that the conditions for appointment of  
21 an emergency guardian in subsection (1) of this section continue.

22 (3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this  
23 section, reasonable notice of the date, time, and place of a hearing  
24 on a petition for appointment of an emergency guardian for a minor  
25 must be given to:

26 (a) The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older;

27 (b) Any attorney appointed under section 204 of this act;

28 (c) Each parent of the minor;

29 (d) Any person, other than a parent, having care or custody of  
30 the minor; and

31 (e) Any other person the court determines.

32 (4) The court may appoint an emergency guardian for a minor  
33 without notice under subsection (3) of this section and a hearing  
34 only if the court finds from an affidavit or testimony that the  
35 minor's health, safety, or welfare will be substantially harmed  
36 before a hearing with notice on the appointment can be held. If the  
37 court appoints an emergency guardian without notice to an  
38 unrepresented minor or the attorney for a represented minor, notice  
39 of the appointment must be given not later than forty-eight hours

1 after the appointment to the individuals listed in subsection (3) of  
2 this section. Not later than five days after the appointment, the  
3 court shall hold a hearing on the appropriateness of the appointment.

4 (5) Appointment of an emergency guardian under this section, with  
5 or without notice, is not a determination that a basis exists for  
6 appointment of a guardian under section 201 of this act.

7 (6) The court may remove an emergency guardian appointed under  
8 this section at any time. The emergency guardian shall make any  
9 report the court requires.

10 (7) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, the court may  
11 extend an emergency guardianship pending the outcome of a full  
12 hearing under section 202 or 208 of this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 210.** DUTIES OF GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) A  
14 guardian for a minor is a fiduciary. Except as otherwise limited by  
15 the court, a guardian for a minor has the duties and responsibilities  
16 of a parent regarding the minor's support, care, education, health,  
17 safety, and welfare. A guardian shall act in the minor's best  
18 interest and exercise reasonable care, diligence, and prudence.

19 (2) A guardian for a minor shall:

20 (a) Be personally acquainted with the minor and maintain  
21 sufficient contact with the minor to know the minor's abilities,  
22 limitations, needs, opportunities, and physical and mental health;

23 (b) Take reasonable care of the minor's personal effects and  
24 bring a proceeding for a conservatorship or protective arrangement  
25 instead of conservatorship if necessary to protect other property of  
26 the minor;

27 (c) Expend funds of the minor which have been received by the  
28 guardian for the minor's current needs for support, care, education,  
29 health, safety, and welfare;

30 (d) Conserve any funds of the minor not expended under (c) of  
31 this subsection for the minor's future needs, but if a conservator is  
32 appointed for the minor, pay the funds at least quarterly to the  
33 conservator to be conserved for the minor's future needs;

34 (e) Report the condition of the minor and account for funds and  
35 other property of the minor in the guardian's possession or subject  
36 to the guardian's control, as required by court rule or ordered by  
37 the court on application of a person interested in the minor's  
38 welfare;

1 (f) Inform the court of any change in the minor's dwelling or  
2 address; and

3 (g) In determining what is in the minor's best interest, take  
4 into account the minor's preferences to the extent actually known or  
5 reasonably ascertainable by the guardian.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 211.** POWERS OF GUARDIAN FOR MINOR. (1) Except  
7 as otherwise limited by court order, a guardian of a minor has the  
8 powers a parent otherwise would have regarding the minor's support,  
9 care, education, health, safety, and welfare.

10 (2) Except as otherwise limited by court order, a guardian for a  
11 minor may:

12 (a) Apply for and receive funds and benefits otherwise payable  
13 for the support of the minor to the minor's parent, guardian, or  
14 custodian under a statutory system of benefits or insurance or any  
15 private contract, devise, trust, conservatorship, or custodianship;

16 (b) Unless inconsistent with a court order entitled to  
17 recognition in this state, take custody of the minor and establish  
18 the minor's place of dwelling in this state and, after following the  
19 process in RCW 26.09.405 through 26.09.560 and on authorization of  
20 the court, establish or move the minor's dwelling outside this state;

21 (c) If the minor is not subject to conservatorship, commence a  
22 proceeding, including an administrative proceeding, or take other  
23 appropriate action to compel a person to support the minor, pay child  
24 support, or make other payments for the benefit of the minor;

25 (d) Consent to health or other care, treatment, or service for  
26 the minor; or

27 (e) To the extent reasonable, delegate to the minor  
28 responsibility for a decision affecting the minor's well-being.

29 (3) The court may authorize a guardian for a minor to consent to  
30 the adoption of the minor if the minor does not have a parent.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 212.** REMOVAL OF GUARDIAN FOR MINOR—  
32 TERMINATION OF GUARDIANSHIP—APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR. (1)  
33 Guardianship under this chapter for a minor terminates:

34 (a) On the minor's death, adoption, emancipation, or attainment  
35 of majority; or

36 (b) When the court finds that the standard in section 201 of this  
37 act for appointment of a guardian is not satisfied, unless the court  
38 finds that:

1 (i) Termination of the guardianship would be harmful to the  
2 minor; and

3 (ii) The minor's interest in the continuation of the guardianship  
4 outweighs the interest of any parent of the minor in restoration of  
5 the parent's right to make decisions for the minor.

6 (2) A minor subject to guardianship or a person interested in the  
7 welfare of the minor, including a parent, may petition the court to  
8 terminate the guardianship, modify the guardianship, remove the  
9 guardian and appoint a successor guardian, or remove a standby  
10 guardian and appoint a different standby guardian.

11 (3) A petitioner under subsection (2) of this section shall give  
12 notice of the hearing on the petition to the minor, if the minor is  
13 twelve years of age or older and is not the petitioner, the guardian,  
14 each parent of the minor, and any other person the court determines.

15 (4) The court shall follow the priorities in section 207(2) of  
16 this act when selecting a successor guardian for a minor.

17 (5) Not later than thirty days after appointment of a successor  
18 guardian for a minor, the court shall give notice of the appointment  
19 to the minor subject to guardianship, if the minor is twelve years of  
20 age or older, each parent of the minor, and any other person the  
21 court determines.

22 (6) When terminating a guardianship for a minor under this  
23 section, the court may issue an order providing for transitional  
24 arrangements that will assist the minor with a transition of custody  
25 and is in the best interest of the minor.

26 (7) A guardian for a minor that is removed shall cooperate with a  
27 successor guardian to facilitate transition of the guardian's  
28 responsibilities and protect the best interest of the minor.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 213.** PRIOR COURT ORDER VALIDITY. This chapter  
30 does not affect the validity of any court order issued under chapter  
31 26.10 RCW prior to the effective date of this section. Orders issued  
32 under chapter 26.10 RCW prior to the effective date of this section  
33 remain in effect and do not need to be reissued in a new order under  
34 this chapter.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 214.** APPLICATION OF THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE  
36 ACT. (1) Every petition filed in proceedings under this chapter shall  
37 contain a statement alleging whether the child is or may be an Indian

1 child as defined in RCW 13.38.040. If the child is an Indian child,  
2 chapter 13.38 RCW shall apply.

3 (2) Every order or decree entered in any proceeding under this  
4 chapter shall contain a finding that the federal Indian child welfare  
5 act or chapter 13.38 RCW does or does not apply. Where there is a  
6 finding that the federal Indian child welfare act or chapter 13.38  
7 RCW does apply, the decree or order must also contain a finding that  
8 all notice and evidentiary requirements under the federal Indian  
9 child welfare act and chapter 13.38 RCW have been satisfied.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 215.** CHILD SUPPORT. In entering or modifying  
11 an order under this chapter, the court may order one or more parents  
12 of the child to pay an amount reasonable or necessary for the child's  
13 support pursuant to chapter 26.19 RCW.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 216.** HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE—CONDITIONS.

15 (1) In entering or modifying a custody order under this chapter, the  
16 court must require one or more parents to maintain or provide health  
17 insurance coverage for any dependent child if the following  
18 conditions are met:

19 (a) Health insurance that can be extended to cover the child is  
20 available to that parent through an employer or other organization;  
21 and

22 (b) The employer or other organization offering health insurance  
23 will contribute all or a part of the premium for coverage of the  
24 child.

25 (2) A parent who is required to extend insurance coverage to a  
26 child under this section is liable for any covered health care costs  
27 for which the parent receives direct payment from an insurer.

28 (3) This section may not be construed to limit the authority of  
29 the court to enter or modify support orders containing provisions for  
30 payment of medical expenses, medical costs, or insurance premiums  
31 which are in addition to and not inconsistent with this section.  
32 "Health insurance" as used in this section does not include medical  
33 assistance provided under chapter 74.09 RCW.

34 **ARTICLE 3**  
35 **GUARDIANSHIP OF ADULT**

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 301.**    BASIS FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR  
2 ADULT. (1) On petition and after notice and hearing, the court may:

3        (a) Appoint a guardian for an adult if the court finds by clear  
4 and convincing evidence that:

5        (i) The respondent lacks the ability to meet essential  
6 requirements for physical health, safety, or self-care because the  
7 respondent is unable to receive and evaluate information or make or  
8 communicate decisions, even with appropriate supportive services,  
9 technological assistance, or supported decision making; and

10       (ii) The respondent's identified needs cannot be met by a  
11 protective arrangement instead of guardianship or other less  
12 restrictive alternative; or

13       (b) With appropriate findings, treat the petition as one for a  
14 conservatorship under article 4 of this chapter or protective  
15 arrangement under article 5 of this chapter, issue any appropriate  
16 order, or dismiss the proceeding.

17       (2) The court shall grant a guardian appointed under subsection  
18 (1) of this section only those powers necessitated by the  
19 demonstrated needs and limitations of the respondent and issue orders  
20 that will encourage development of the respondent's maximum self-  
21 determination and independence. The court may not establish a full  
22 guardianship if a limited guardianship, protective arrangement  
23 instead of guardianship, or other less restrictive alternative would  
24 meet the needs of the respondent.

25       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 302.**    PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR  
26 ADULT. (1) A person interested in an adult's welfare, including the  
27 adult for whom the order is sought, may petition for appointment of a  
28 guardian for the adult.

29       (2) A petition under subsection (1) of this section must state  
30 the petitioner's name, principal residence, current street address,  
31 if different, relationship to the respondent, interest in the  
32 appointment, the name and address of any attorney representing the  
33 petitioner, and, to the extent known, the following:

34       (a) The respondent's name, age, principal residence, current  
35 street address, if different, and, if different, address of the  
36 dwelling in which it is proposed the respondent will reside if the  
37 petition is granted;

38       (b) The name and address of the respondent's:

1 (i) Spouse or domestic partner or, if the respondent has none, an  
2 adult with whom the respondent has shared household responsibilities  
3 for more than six months in the twelve-month period immediately  
4 before the filing of the petition;

5 (ii) Adult children or, if none, each parent and adult sibling of  
6 the respondent, or, if none, at least one adult nearest in kinship to  
7 the respondent who can be found with reasonable diligence; and

8 (iii) Adult stepchildren whom the respondent actively parented  
9 during the stepchildren's minor years and with whom the respondent  
10 had an ongoing relationship in the two-year period immediately before  
11 the filing of the petition;

12 (c) The name and current address of each of the following, if  
13 applicable:

14 (i) A person responsible for care of the respondent;

15 (ii) Any attorney currently representing the respondent;

16 (iii) Any representative payee appointed by the social security  
17 administration for the respondent;

18 (iv) A guardian or conservator acting for the respondent in this  
19 state or in another jurisdiction;

20 (v) A trustee or custodian of a trust or custodianship of which  
21 the respondent is a beneficiary;

22 (vi) Any fiduciary for the respondent appointed by the department  
23 of veterans affairs;

24 (vii) An agent designated under a power of attorney for health  
25 care in which the respondent is identified as the principal;

26 (viii) An agent designated under a power of attorney for finances  
27 in which the respondent is identified as the principal;

28 (ix) A person nominated as guardian by the respondent;

29 (x) A person nominated as guardian by the respondent's parent or  
30 spouse or domestic partner in a will or other signed record;

31 (xi) A proposed guardian and the reason the proposed guardian  
32 should be selected; and

33 (xii) A person known to have routinely assisted the respondent  
34 with decision making during the six months immediately before the  
35 filing of the petition;

36 (d) The reason a guardianship is necessary, including a brief  
37 description of:

38 (i) The nature and extent of the respondent's alleged need;

1 (ii) Any protective arrangement instead of guardianship or other  
2 less restrictive alternatives for meeting the respondent's alleged  
3 need which have been considered or implemented;

4 (iii) If no protective arrangement instead of guardianship or  
5 other less restrictive alternatives have been considered or  
6 implemented, the reason they have not been considered or implemented;  
7 and

8 (iv) The reason a protective arrangement instead of guardianship  
9 or other less restrictive alternative is insufficient to meet the  
10 respondent's alleged need;

11 (e) Whether the petitioner seeks a limited guardianship or full  
12 guardianship;

13 (f) If the petitioner seeks a full guardianship, the reason a  
14 limited guardianship or protective arrangement instead of  
15 guardianship is not appropriate;

16 (g) If a limited guardianship is requested, the powers to be  
17 granted to the guardian;

18 (h) The name and current address, if known, of any person with  
19 whom the petitioner seeks to limit the respondent's contact;

20 (i) If the respondent has property other than personal effects, a  
21 general statement of the respondent's property, with an estimate of  
22 its value, including any insurance or pension, and the source and  
23 amount of other anticipated income or receipts; and

24 (j) Whether the respondent needs an interpreter, translator, or  
25 other form of support to communicate effectively with the court or  
26 understand court proceedings.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 303.** NOTICE OF HEARING FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
28 GUARDIAN FOR ADULT. (1) All petitions filed under section 302 of this  
29 act for appointment of a guardian for an adult shall be heard within  
30 sixty-days unless an extension of time is requested by a party or the  
31 visitor within such sixty-day period and granted for good cause  
32 shown. If an extension is granted, the court shall set a new hearing  
33 date.

34 (2) A copy of a petition under section 302 of this act and notice  
35 of a hearing on the petition must be served personally on the  
36 respondent and the visitor appointed under section 304 of this act  
37 not more than five court days after the petition under section 302 of  
38 this act has been filed. The notice must inform the respondent of the  
39 respondent's rights at the hearing, including the right to an



1 attorney and to attend the hearing. The notice must include a  
2 description of the nature, purpose, and consequences of granting the  
3 petition. The court may not grant the petition if notice  
4 substantially complying with this subsection is not served on the  
5 respondent.

6 (3) In a proceeding on a petition under section 302 of this act,  
7 the notice required under subsection (2) of this section must be  
8 given to the persons required to be listed in the petition under  
9 section 302(2) (a) through (c) of this act and any other person  
10 interested in the respondent's welfare the court determines. Failure  
11 to give notice under this subsection does not preclude the court from  
12 appointing a guardian.

13 (4) After the appointment of a guardian, notice of a hearing on a  
14 petition for an order under this article, together with a copy of the  
15 petition, must be given to:

- 16 (a) The adult subject to guardianship;
- 17 (b) The guardian; and
- 18 (c) Any other person the court determines.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 304.** APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF VISITOR. (1) On  
20 receipt of a petition under section 302 of this act for appointment  
21 of a guardian for an adult, the court shall appoint a visitor. The  
22 visitor must be an individual with training or experience in the type  
23 of abilities, limitations, and needs alleged in the petition.

24 (2) The court, in the order appointing a visitor, shall specify  
25 the hourly rate the visitor may charge for his or her services, and  
26 shall specify the maximum amount the visitor may charge without  
27 additional court review and approval.

28 (3) (a) The visitor appointed under subsection (1) of this section  
29 shall within five days of receipt of notice of appointment file with  
30 the court and serve, either personally or by certified mail with  
31 return receipt, the respondent or his or her legal counsel, the  
32 petitioner or his or her legal counsel, and any interested party  
33 entitled to notice under section 116 of this act with a statement  
34 including: His or her training relating to the duties as a visitor;  
35 his or her criminal history as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 for the  
36 period covering ten years prior to the appointment; his or her hourly  
37 rate, if compensated; whether the visitor has had any contact with a  
38 party to the proceeding prior to his or her appointment; and whether  
39 he or she has an apparent conflict of interest. Within three days of

1 the later of the actual service or filing of the visitor's statement,  
2 any party may set a hearing and file and serve a motion for an order  
3 to show cause why the visitor should not be removed for one of the  
4 following three reasons:

5 (i) Lack of expertise necessary for the proceeding;

6 (ii) An hourly rate higher than what is reasonable for the  
7 particular proceeding; or

8 (iii) A conflict of interest.

9 (b) Notice of the hearing shall be provided to the visitor and  
10 all parties. If, after a hearing, the court enters an order replacing  
11 the visitor, findings shall be included, expressly stating the  
12 reasons for the removal. If the visitor is not removed, the court has  
13 the authority to assess to the moving party attorneys' fees and costs  
14 related to the motion. The court shall assess attorneys' fees and  
15 costs for frivolous motions.

16 (4) A visitor appointed under subsection (1) of this section  
17 shall interview the respondent in person and, in a manner the  
18 respondent is best able to understand:

19 (a) Explain to the respondent the substance of the petition, the  
20 nature, purpose, and effect of the proceeding, the respondent's  
21 rights at the hearing on the petition, and the general powers and  
22 duties of a guardian;

23 (b) Determine the respondent's views about the appointment sought  
24 by the petitioner, including views about a proposed guardian, the  
25 guardian's proposed powers and duties, and the scope and duration of  
26 the proposed guardianship; and

27 (c) Inform the respondent that all costs and expenses of the  
28 proceeding, including the respondent's attorney's fees, may be paid  
29 from the respondent's assets.

30 (5) The visitor appointed under subsection (1) of this section  
31 shall:

32 (a) Interview the petitioner and proposed guardian, if any;

33 (b) Visit the respondent's present dwelling and any dwelling in  
34 which it is reasonably believed the respondent will live if the  
35 appointment is made;

36 (c) Obtain information from any physician or other person known  
37 to have treated, advised, or assessed the respondent's relevant  
38 physical or mental condition; and

39 (d) Investigate the allegations in the petition and any other  
40 matter relating to the petition the court directs.

1 (6) A visitor appointed under subsection (1) of this section  
2 shall file a report in a record with the court and provide a copy of  
3 the report to the respondent, petitioner, and any interested party  
4 entitled to notice under section 116 of this act at least fifteen  
5 days prior to the hearing on the petition filed under section 302 of  
6 this act, which must include:

7 (a) A summary of self-care and independent living tasks the  
8 respondent can manage without assistance or with existing supports,  
9 could manage with the assistance of appropriate supportive services,  
10 technological assistance, or supported decision making, and cannot  
11 manage;

12 (b) A recommendation regarding the appropriateness of  
13 guardianship, including whether a protective arrangement instead of  
14 guardianship or other less restrictive alternative for meeting the  
15 respondent's needs is available and:

16 (i) If a guardianship is recommended, whether it should be full  
17 or limited; and

18 (ii) If a limited guardianship is recommended, the powers to be  
19 granted to the guardian;

20 (c) A statement of the qualifications of the proposed guardian  
21 and whether the respondent approves or disapproves of the proposed  
22 guardian;

23 (d) A statement whether the proposed dwelling meets the  
24 respondent's needs and whether the respondent has expressed a  
25 preference as to residence;

26 (e) A recommendation whether a professional evaluation under  
27 section 306 of this act is necessary;

28 (f) A statement whether the respondent is able to attend a  
29 hearing at the location court proceedings typically are held;

30 (g) A statement whether the respondent is able to participate in  
31 a hearing and which identifies any technology or other form of  
32 support that would enhance the respondent's ability to participate;  
33 and

34 (h) Any other matter the court directs.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 305.** APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF ATTORNEY FOR  
36 ADULT. (1) Unless the respondent in a proceeding for appointment of a  
37 guardian for an adult is represented by an attorney, the court is not  
38 required, but may appoint an attorney to represent the respondent,  
39 regardless of the respondent's ability to pay.

1 (2) An attorney representing the respondent in a proceeding for  
2 appointment of a guardian for an adult shall:

3 (a) Make reasonable efforts to ascertain the respondent's wishes;

4 (b) Advocate for the respondent's wishes to the extent reasonably  
5 ascertainable; and

6 (c) If the respondent's wishes are not reasonably ascertainable,  
7 advocate for the result that is the least restrictive in type,  
8 duration, and scope, consistent with the respondent's interests.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 306.** PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION. (1) At or  
10 before a hearing on a petition for a guardianship for an adult, the  
11 court shall order a professional evaluation of the respondent:

12 (a) If the respondent requests the evaluation; or

13 (b) In other cases, unless the court finds that it has sufficient  
14 information to determine the respondent's needs and abilities without  
15 the evaluation.

16 (2) If the court orders an evaluation under subsection (1) of  
17 this section, the respondent must be examined by a physician licensed  
18 to practice under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, psychologist licensed  
19 under chapter 18.83 RCW, or advanced registered nurse practitioner  
20 licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW selected by the visitor who is  
21 qualified to evaluate the respondent's alleged cognitive and  
22 functional abilities and limitations and will not be advantaged or  
23 disadvantaged by a decision to grant the petition or otherwise have a  
24 conflict of interest. The individual conducting the evaluation  
25 promptly shall file report in a record with the court. Unless  
26 otherwise directed by the court, the report must contain:

27 (a) A description of the nature, type, and extent of the  
28 respondent's cognitive and functional abilities and limitations;

29 (b) An evaluation of the respondent's mental and physical  
30 condition and, if appropriate, educational potential, adaptive  
31 behavior, and social skills;

32 (c) A prognosis for improvement and recommendation for the  
33 appropriate treatment, support, or habilitation plan; and

34 (d) The date of the examination on which the report is based.

35 (3) The respondent may decline to participate in an evaluation  
36 ordered under subsection (1) of this section.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 307.** ATTENDANCE AND RIGHTS AT HEARING. (1)  
38 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a

1 hearing under section 303 of this act may not proceed unless the  
2 respondent attends the hearing. If it is not reasonably feasible for  
3 the respondent to attend a hearing at the location court proceedings  
4 typically are held, the court shall make reasonable efforts to hold  
5 the hearing at an alternative location convenient to the respondent  
6 or allow the respondent to attend the hearing using real-time audio-  
7 visual technology.

8 (2) A hearing under section 303 of this act may proceed without  
9 the respondent in attendance if the court finds by clear and  
10 convincing evidence that:

11 (a) The respondent consistently and repeatedly has refused to  
12 attend the hearing after having been fully informed of the right to  
13 attend and the potential consequences of failing to do so; or

14 (b) There is no practicable way for the respondent to attend and  
15 participate in the hearing even with appropriate supportive services  
16 and technological assistance.

17 (3) The respondent may be assisted in a hearing under section 303  
18 of this act by a person or persons of the respondent's choosing,  
19 assistive technology, or an interpreter or translator, or a  
20 combination of these supports. If assistance would facilitate the  
21 respondent's participation in the hearing, but is not otherwise  
22 available to the respondent, the court shall make reasonable efforts  
23 to provide it.

24 (4) The respondent has a right to choose an attorney to represent  
25 the respondent at a hearing under section 303 of this act.

26 (5) At a hearing held under section 303 of this act, the  
27 respondent may:

28 (a) Present evidence and subpoena witnesses and documents;

29 (b) Examine witnesses, including any court-appointed evaluator  
30 and the visitor; and

31 (c) Otherwise participate in the hearing.

32 (6) Unless excused by the court for good cause, a proposed  
33 guardian shall attend a hearing under section 303 of this act.

34 (7) A hearing under section 303 of this act must be closed on  
35 request of the respondent and a showing of good cause.

36 (8) Any person may request to participate in a hearing under  
37 section 303 of this act. The court may grant the request, with or  
38 without a hearing, on determining that the best interest of the  
39 respondent will be served. The court may impose appropriate  
40 conditions on the person's participation.

1        NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 308.**     CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS. (1) The  
2 existence of a proceeding for or the existence of a guardianship for  
3 an adult is a matter of public record unless the court seals the  
4 record after:

5        (a) The respondent or individual subject to guardianship requests  
6 the record be sealed; and

7        (b) Either:

8            (i) The petition for guardianship is dismissed; or

9            (ii) The guardianship is terminated.

10        (2) An adult subject to a proceeding for a guardianship, whether  
11 or not a guardian is appointed, an attorney designated by the adult,  
12 and a person entitled to notice under section 310(5) of this act or a  
13 subsequent order are entitled to access court records of the  
14 proceeding and resulting guardianship, including the guardian's plan  
15 under section 317 of this act and report under section 318 of this  
16 act. A person not otherwise entitled to access court records under  
17 this subsection for good cause may petition the court for access to  
18 court records of the guardianship, including the guardian's report  
19 and plan. The court shall grant access if access is in the best  
20 interest of the respondent or adult subject to guardianship or  
21 furthers the public interest and does not endanger the welfare or  
22 financial interests of the adult.

23        (3) A report under section 304 of this act of a visitor or a  
24 professional evaluation under section 306 of this act is confidential  
25 and must be sealed on filing, but is available to:

26        (a) The court;

27        (b) The individual who is the subject of the report or  
28 evaluation, without limitation as to use;

29        (c) The petitioner, visitor, and petitioner's and respondent's  
30 attorneys, for purposes of the proceeding;

31        (d) Unless the court orders otherwise, an agent appointed under a  
32 power of attorney for health care or power of attorney for finances  
33 in which the respondent is the principal; and

34        (e) Any other person if it is in the public interest or for a  
35 purpose the court orders for good cause.

36        NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 309.**     WHO MAY BE GUARDIAN FOR ADULT—ORDER OF  
37 PRIORITY. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this  
38 section, the court in appointing a guardian for an adult shall

1 consider persons qualified to be guardian in the following order of  
2 priority:

3 (a) A guardian, other than a temporary or emergency guardian,  
4 currently acting for the respondent in another jurisdiction;

5 (b) A person nominated as guardian by the respondent, including  
6 the respondent's most recent nomination made in a power of attorney;

7 (c) An agent appointed by the respondent under a power of  
8 attorney for health care;

9 (d) A spouse or domestic partner of the respondent;

10 (e) A relative or other individual who has shown special care and  
11 concern for the respondent; and

12 (f) A certified professional guardian or conservator.

13 (2) If two or more persons have equal priority under subsection  
14 (1) of this section, the court shall select as guardian the person  
15 the court considers best qualified. In determining the best qualified  
16 person, the court shall consider the person's relationship with the  
17 respondent, the person's skills, the expressed wishes of the  
18 respondent, the extent to which the person and the respondent have  
19 similar values and preferences, and the likelihood the person will be  
20 able to perform the duties of a guardian successfully.

21 (3) The court, acting in the best interest of the respondent, may  
22 decline to appoint as guardian a person having priority under  
23 subsection (1) of this section and appoint a person having a lower  
24 priority or no priority.

25 (4) A person that provides paid services to the respondent, or an  
26 individual who is employed by a person that provides paid services to  
27 the respondent or is the spouse, domestic partner, parent, or child  
28 of an individual who provides or is employed to provide paid services  
29 to the respondent, may not be appointed as guardian unless:

30 (a) The individual is related to the respondent by blood,  
31 marriage, or adoption; or

32 (b) The court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the  
33 person is the best qualified person available for appointment and the  
34 appointment is in the best interest of the respondent.

35 (5) An owner, operator, or employee of a long-term care facility  
36 at which the respondent is receiving care may not be appointed as  
37 guardian unless the owner, operator, or employee is related to the  
38 respondent by blood, marriage, or adoption.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 310.**    ORDER OF APPOINTMENT FOR GUARDIAN. (1) A  
2 court order appointing a guardian for an adult must:

3        (a) Include a specific finding that clear and convincing evidence  
4 established that the identified needs of the respondent cannot be met  
5 by a protective arrangement instead of guardianship or other less  
6 restrictive alternative, including use of appropriate supportive  
7 services, technological assistance, or supported decision making;

8        (b) Include a specific finding that clear and convincing evidence  
9 established the respondent was given proper notice of the hearing on  
10 the petition;

11       (c) State whether the adult subject to guardianship retains the  
12 right to vote and, if the adult does not retain the right to vote,  
13 include findings that support removing that right which must include  
14 a finding that the adult cannot communicate, with or without support,  
15 a specific desire to participate in the voting process; and

16       (d) State whether the adult subject to guardianship retains the  
17 right to marry and, if the adult does not retain the right to marry,  
18 include findings that support removing that right.

19       (2) An adult subject to guardianship retains the right to vote  
20 unless the order under subsection (1) of this section includes the  
21 statement required by subsection (1)(c) of this section. An adult  
22 subject to guardianship retains the right to marry unless the order  
23 under subsection (1) of this section includes the findings required  
24 by subsection (1)(d) of this section.

25       (3) A court order establishing a full guardianship for an adult  
26 must state the basis for granting a full guardianship and include  
27 specific findings that support the conclusion that a limited  
28 guardianship would not meet the functional needs of the adult subject  
29 to guardianship.

30       (4) A court order establishing a limited guardianship for an  
31 adult must state the specific powers granted to the guardian.

32       (5) The court, as part of an order establishing a guardianship  
33 for an adult, shall identify any person that subsequently is entitled  
34 to:

35       (a) Notice of the rights of the adult under section 311(2) of  
36 this act;

37       (b) Notice of a change in the primary dwelling of the adult;

38       (c) Notice that the guardian has delegated:

39       (i) The power to manage the care of the adult;

40       (ii) The power to make decisions about where the adult lives;



1 (iii) The power to make major medical decisions on behalf of the  
2 adult;

3 (iv) A power that requires court approval under section 315 of  
4 this act; or

5 (v) Substantially all powers of the guardian;

6 (d) Notice that the guardian will be unavailable to visit the  
7 adult for more than two months or unavailable to perform the  
8 guardian's duties for more than one month;

9 (e) A copy of the guardian's plan under section 317 of this act  
10 and the guardian's report under section 318 of this act;

11 (f) Access to court records relating to the guardianship;

12 (g) Notice of the death or significant change in the condition of  
13 the adult;

14 (h) Notice that the court has limited or modified the powers of  
15 the guardian; and

16 (i) Notice of the removal of the guardian.

17 (6) A spouse, domestic partner, and adult children of an adult  
18 subject to guardianship are entitled to notice under subsection (5)  
19 of this section unless the court determines notice would be contrary  
20 to the preferences or prior directions of the adult subject to  
21 guardianship or not in the best interest of the adult.

22 (7) All orders establishing a guardianship for an adult must  
23 contain:

24 (a) A guardianship summary placed directly below the case caption  
25 or on a separate cover page in the form or substantially the same  
26 form as set forth in section 606 of this act;

27 (b) The date which the limited guardian or guardian must file the  
28 guardian's plan under section 317(1) of this act;

29 (c) The date by which the court will review the guardian's plan  
30 as required by section 317(4) of this act;

31 (d) The report interval which the guardian shall file its  
32 guardian's plan under section 318 of this act. The report interval  
33 may be annual, biennial, or triennial;

34 (e) The date the limited guardian or guardian must file its  
35 guardian's plan under section 318 of this act. The due date of the  
36 filing of the report shall be within ninety days after the  
37 anniversary date of the appointment;

38 (f) The date for the court to review the guardian's plan under  
39 section 318 of this act and enter its order. The court shall conduct

1 the review within one hundred twenty days after the anniversary date  
2 of the appointment.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 311.** NOTICE OF ORDER OF APPOINTMENT—RIGHTS.

4 (1) A guardian appointed under section 309 of this act shall give the  
5 adult subject to guardianship and all other persons given notice  
6 under section 303 of this act a copy of the order of appointment,  
7 together with notice of the right to request termination or  
8 modification. The order and notice must be given not later than  
9 fourteen days after the appointment.

10 (2) Not later than thirty days after appointment of a guardian  
11 under section 309 of this act, the guardian shall give to the adult  
12 subject to guardianship and any other person entitled to notice under  
13 section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order a statement of the  
14 rights of the adult subject to guardianship and procedures to seek  
15 relief if the adult is denied those rights. The statement must be in  
16 at least sixteen-point font, in plain language, and, to the extent  
17 feasible, in a language in which the adult subject to guardianship is  
18 proficient. The statement must notify the adult subject to  
19 guardianship of the right to:

20 (a) Seek termination or modification of the guardianship, or  
21 removal of the guardian, and choose an attorney to represent the  
22 adult in these matters;

23 (b) Be involved in decisions affecting the adult, including  
24 decisions about the adult's care, dwelling, activities, or social  
25 interactions, to the extent reasonably feasible;

26 (c) Be involved in health care decision making to the extent  
27 reasonably feasible and supported in understanding the risks and  
28 benefits of health care options to the extent reasonably feasible;

29 (d) Be notified at least fourteen days before a change in the  
30 adult's primary dwelling or permanent move to a nursing home, mental  
31 health facility, or other facility that places restrictions on the  
32 individual's ability to leave or have visitors unless the change or  
33 move is proposed in the guardian's plan under section 317 of this act  
34 or authorized by the court by specific order;

35 (e) Object to a change or move described in (d) of this  
36 subsection and the process for objecting;

37 (f) Communicate, visit, or interact with others, including  
38 receiving visitors, and making or receiving telephone calls, personal

1 mail, or electronic communications, including through social media,  
2 unless:

3 (i) The guardian has been authorized by the court by specific  
4 order to restrict communications, visits, or interactions;

5 (ii) A protective order or protective arrangement instead of  
6 guardianship is in effect that limits contact between the adult and a  
7 person; or

8 (iii) The guardian has good cause to believe restriction is  
9 necessary because interaction with a specified person poses a risk of  
10 significant physical, psychological, or financial harm to the adult,  
11 and the restriction is:

12 (A) For a period of not more than seven business days if the  
13 person has a relative or preexisting social relationship with the  
14 adult; or

15 (B) For a period of not more than sixty days if the person does  
16 not have a relative or preexisting social relationship with the  
17 adult;

18 (g) Receive a copy of the guardian's plan under section 317 of  
19 this act and the guardian's report under section 318 of this act;

20 (h) Object to the guardian's plan or report; and

21 (i) Associate with persons of their choosing as provided in  
22 section 315(5) of this act.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 312.** EMERGENCY GUARDIAN FOR ADULT. (1) On its  
24 own after a petition has been filed under section 302 of this act, or  
25 on petition by a person interested in an adult's welfare, the court  
26 may appoint an emergency guardian for the adult if the court finds:

27 (a) Appointment of an emergency guardian is likely to prevent  
28 substantial harm to the adult's physical health, safety, or welfare;

29 (b) No other person appears to have authority and willingness to  
30 act in the circumstances; and

31 (c) There is reason to believe that a basis for appointment of a  
32 guardian under section 301 of this act exists.

33 (2) The duration of authority of an emergency guardian for an  
34 adult may not exceed sixty days, and the emergency guardian may  
35 exercise only the powers specified in the order of appointment. The  
36 emergency guardian's authority may be extended once for not more than  
37 sixty days if the court finds that the conditions for appointment of  
38 an emergency guardian in subsection (1) of this section continue.

1 (3) Immediately on filing of a petition for appointment of an  
2 emergency guardian for an adult, the court shall appoint an attorney  
3 to represent the respondent in the proceeding. Except as otherwise  
4 provided in subsection (4) of this section, reasonable notice of the  
5 date, time, and place of a hearing on the petition must be given to  
6 the respondent, the respondent's attorney, and any other person the  
7 court determines.

8 (4) The court may appoint an emergency guardian for an adult  
9 without notice to the adult and any attorney for the adult only if  
10 the court finds from an affidavit or testimony that the respondent's  
11 physical health, safety, or welfare will be substantially harmed  
12 before a hearing with notice on the appointment can be held. If the  
13 court appoints an emergency guardian without giving notice under  
14 subsection (3) of this section, the court must:

15 (a) Give notice of the appointment not later than forty-eight  
16 hours after the appointment to:

17 (i) The respondent;

18 (ii) The respondent's attorney; and

19 (iii) Any other person the court determines; and

20 (b) Hold a hearing on the appropriateness of the appointment not  
21 later than five days after the appointment.

22 (5) Appointment of an emergency guardian under this section is  
23 not a determination that a basis exists for appointment of a guardian  
24 under section 301 of this act.

25 (6) The court may remove an emergency guardian appointed under  
26 this section at any time. The emergency guardian shall make any  
27 report the court requires.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 313.** DUTIES OF GUARDIAN FOR ADULT. (1) A  
29 guardian for an adult is a fiduciary and owes the highest duty of  
30 good faith and care to the person under a guardianship. The guardian  
31 shall not substitute his or her moral or religious values, opinions,  
32 or philosophical beliefs for those of the person under a  
33 guardianship. Except as otherwise limited by the court, a guardian  
34 for an adult shall make decisions regarding the support, care,  
35 education, health, and welfare of the adult subject to guardianship  
36 to the extent necessitated by the adult's limitations.

37 (2) A guardian for an adult shall promote the self-determination  
38 of the adult and, to the extent reasonably feasible, encourage the  
39 adult to participate in decisions, act on the adult's own behalf, and

1 develop or regain the capacity to manage the adult's personal  
2 affairs. In furtherance of this duty, the guardian shall:

3 (a) Become or remain personally acquainted with the adult and  
4 maintain sufficient contact with the adult, including through regular  
5 visitation, to know the adult's abilities, limitations, needs,  
6 opportunities, and physical and mental health;

7 (b) To the extent reasonably feasible, identify the values and  
8 preferences of the adult and involve the adult in decisions affecting  
9 the adult, including decisions about the adult's care, dwelling,  
10 activities, or social interactions; and

11 (c) Make reasonable efforts to identify and facilitate supportive  
12 relationships and services for the adult.

13 (3) A guardian for an adult at all times shall exercise  
14 reasonable care, diligence, and prudence when acting on behalf of or  
15 making decisions for the adult. In furtherance of this duty, the  
16 guardian shall:

17 (a) Take reasonable care of the personal effects, pets, and  
18 service or support animals of the adult and bring a proceeding for a  
19 conservatorship or protective arrangement instead of conservatorship  
20 if necessary to protect the adult's property;

21 (b) Expend funds and other property of the adult received by the  
22 guardian for the adult's current needs for support, care, education,  
23 health, and welfare;

24 (c) Conserve any funds and other property of the adult not  
25 expended under (b) of this subsection for the adult's future needs,  
26 but if a conservator has been appointed for the adult, pay the funds  
27 and other property at least quarterly to the conservator to be  
28 conserved for the adult's future needs; and

29 (d) Monitor the quality of services, including long-term care  
30 services, provided to the adult.

31 (4) In making a decision for an adult subject to guardianship,  
32 the guardian shall make the decision the guardian reasonably believes  
33 the adult would make if the adult were able unless doing so would  
34 unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or personal or financial  
35 interests of the adult. To determine the decision the adult subject  
36 to guardianship would make if able, the guardian shall consider the  
37 adult's previous or current directions, preferences, opinions,  
38 values, and actions, to the extent actually known or reasonably  
39 ascertainable by the guardian.

1 (5) If a guardian for an adult cannot make a decision under  
2 subsection (4) of this section because the guardian does not know and  
3 cannot reasonably determine the decision the adult probably would  
4 make if able, or the guardian reasonably believes the decision the  
5 adult would make would unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or  
6 personal or financial interests of the adult, the guardian shall act  
7 in accordance with the best interests of the adult. In determining  
8 the best interests of the adult, the guardian shall consider:

9 (a) Information received from professionals and persons that  
10 demonstrate sufficient interest in the welfare of the adult;

11 (b) Other information the guardian believes the adult would have  
12 considered if the adult were able to act; and

13 (c) Other factors a reasonable person in the circumstances of the  
14 adult would consider, including consequences for others.

15 (6) A guardian for an adult immediately shall notify the court if  
16 the condition of the adult has changed so that the adult is capable  
17 of exercising rights previously removed.

18 (7) The guardian shall file with the court within thirty days of  
19 any substantial change in the condition of the person under  
20 guardianship or any changes in the residence of the person under  
21 guardianship and shall provide a copy of the notice to the adult  
22 subject to guardianship, a person entitled to notice under section  
23 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order, and any other person the  
24 court has determined is entitled to notice.

25 (8) To inform any person entitled to notice under section 310(5)  
26 of this act or a subsequent order, and any other person the court has  
27 determined is entitled to notice, but in no case more than five  
28 business days, after the person subject to guardianship:

29 (a) Makes a change in residence that is intended or likely to  
30 last more than fourteen calendar days;

31 (b) Has been admitted to a medical facility for acute care in  
32 response to a life-threatening injury or medical condition that  
33 requires inpatient care;

34 (c) Has been treated in an emergency room setting or kept for  
35 hospital observation for more than twenty-four hours; or

36 (d) Dies, in which case the notification must be made in person,  
37 by telephone, or by certified mail.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 314.** POWERS OF GUARDIAN FOR ADULT. (1) Except  
39 as limited by court order, a guardian for an adult may:

1 (a) Apply for and receive funds and benefits for the support of  
2 the adult, unless a conservator is appointed for the adult and the  
3 application or receipt is within the powers of the conservator;

4 (b) Unless inconsistent with a court order, establish the adult's  
5 place of dwelling;

6 (c) Consent to health or other care, treatment, or service for  
7 the adult;

8 (d) If a conservator for the adult has not been appointed,  
9 commence a proceeding, including an administrative proceeding, or  
10 take other appropriate action to compel another person to support the  
11 adult or pay funds for the adult's benefit;

12 (e) To the extent reasonable, delegate to the adult  
13 responsibility for a decision affecting the adult's well-being; and

14 (f) Receive personally identifiable health care information  
15 regarding the adult.

16 (2) The court by specific order may authorize a guardian for an  
17 adult to consent to the adoption of the adult.

18 (3) The court by specific order may authorize a guardian for an  
19 adult to:

20 (a) Consent or withhold consent to the marriage of the adult if  
21 the adult's right to marry has been removed under section 310 of this  
22 act;

23 (b) Petition for divorce, dissolution, or annulment of marriage  
24 of the adult or a declaration of invalidity of the adult's marriage;  
25 or

26 (c) Support or oppose a petition for divorce, dissolution, or  
27 annulment of marriage of the adult or a declaration of invalidity of  
28 the adult's marriage.

29 (4) In determining whether to authorize a power under subsection  
30 (2) or (3) of this section, the court shall consider whether the  
31 underlying act would be in accordance with the adult's preferences,  
32 values, and prior directions and whether the underlying act would be  
33 in the adult's best interest.

34 (5) In exercising a guardian's power under subsection (1)(b) of  
35 this section to establish the adult's place of dwelling, the guardian  
36 shall:

37 (a) Select a residential setting the guardian believes the adult  
38 would select if the adult were able, in accordance with the decision-  
39 making standard in section 313 (4) and (5) of this act. If the  
40 guardian does not know and cannot reasonably determine what setting

1 the adult subject to guardianship probably would choose if able, or  
2 the guardian reasonably believes the decision the adult would make  
3 would unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or personal or  
4 financial interests of the adult, the guardian shall choose in  
5 accordance with section 313(5) of this act a residential setting that  
6 is consistent with the adult's best interest;

7 (b) In selecting among residential settings, give priority to a  
8 residential setting in a location that will allow the adult to  
9 interact with persons important to the adult and meet the adult's  
10 needs in the least restrictive manner reasonably feasible unless to  
11 do so would be inconsistent with the decision-making standard in  
12 section 313 (4) and (5) of this act;

13 (c) Not later than thirty days after a change in the dwelling of  
14 the adult:

15 (i) Give notice of the change to the court, the adult, and any  
16 person identified as entitled to the notice in the court order  
17 appointing the guardian or a subsequent order; and

18 (ii) Include in the notice the address and nature of the new  
19 dwelling and state whether the adult received advance notice of the  
20 change and whether the adult objected to the change;

21 (d) Establish or move the permanent place of dwelling of the  
22 adult to a nursing home, mental health facility, or other facility  
23 that places restrictions on the adult's ability to leave or have  
24 visitors only if:

25 (i) The establishment or move is in the guardian's plan under  
26 section 317 of this act;

27 (ii) The court authorizes the establishment or move; or

28 (iii) The guardian gives notice of the establishment or move at  
29 least fourteen days before the establishment or move to the adult and  
30 all persons entitled to notice under section 310(5)(b) of this act or  
31 a subsequent order, and no objection is filed;

32 (e) Establish or move the place of dwelling of the adult outside  
33 this state only if consistent with the guardian's plan and authorized  
34 by the court by specific order; and

35 (f) Take action that would result in the sale of or surrender of  
36 the lease to the primary dwelling of the adult only if:

37 (i) The action is specifically included in the guardian's plan  
38 under section 317 of this act;

39 (ii) The court authorizes the action by specific order; or



1 (iii) Notice of the action was given at least fourteen days  
2 before the action to the adult and all persons entitled to the notice  
3 under section 310(5)(b) of this act or a subsequent order and no  
4 objection has been filed.

5 (6) In exercising a guardian's power under subsection (1)(c) of  
6 this section to make health care decisions, the guardian shall:

7 (a) Involve the adult in decision making to the extent reasonably  
8 feasible, including, when practicable, by encouraging and supporting  
9 the adult in understanding the risks and benefits of health care  
10 options;

11 (b) Defer to a decision by an agent under a power of attorney for  
12 health care executed by the adult and cooperate to the extent  
13 feasible with the agent making the decision; and

14 (c) Take into account:

15 (i) The risks and benefits of treatment options; and

16 (ii) The current and previous wishes and values of the adult, if  
17 known or reasonably ascertainable by the guardian.

18 (7) Notwithstanding subsection (1)(b) of this section no  
19 residential treatment facility which provides nursing or other care  
20 may detain a person within such facility against their will. Any  
21 court order, other than an order issued in accordance with the  
22 involuntary treatment provisions of chapters 10.77, 71.05,  
23 and 72.23 RCW, which purports to authorize such involuntary detention  
24 or purports to authorize a guardian or limited guardian to consent to  
25 such involuntary detention on behalf of an individual subject to a  
26 guardianship shall be void and of no force or effect. This section  
27 does not apply to the detention of a minor as provided in chapter  
28 71.34 RCW.

29 (8) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a court  
30 order authorizing placement of an incapacitated person in a  
31 residential treatment facility if such order is not otherwise  
32 required by law: PROVIDED, That notice of any residential placement  
33 of an individual subject to a guardianship shall be served, either  
34 before or after placement, by the guardian or limited guardian on  
35 such individual, any visitor of record, any guardian ad litem of  
36 record, and any attorney of record.

37 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 315.** SPECIAL LIMITATIONS ON GUARDIAN'S POWER.

38 (1) Unless authorized by the court by specific order, a guardian for  
39 an adult does not have the power to revoke or amend a power of

1 attorney for health care or power of attorney for finances executed  
2 by the adult. If a power of attorney for health care is in effect,  
3 unless there is a court order to the contrary, a health care decision  
4 of an agent takes precedence over that of the guardian and the  
5 guardian shall cooperate with the agent to the extent feasible. If a  
6 power of attorney for finances is in effect, unless there is a court  
7 order to the contrary, a decision by the agent which the agent is  
8 authorized to make under the power of attorney for finances takes  
9 precedence over that of the guardian and the guardian shall cooperate  
10 with the agent to the extent feasible.

11 (2) A guardian for an adult may not initiate the commitment of  
12 the adult to an evaluation and treatment facility except in  
13 accordance with the state's procedure for involuntary civil  
14 commitment.

15 (3) Unless authorized by the court in accordance with subsection  
16 (4) of this section within the past thirty days, a guardian for an  
17 adult may not consent to any of the following procedures for the  
18 adult:

- 19 (a) Therapy or other procedure to induce convulsion;
- 20 (b) Surgery solely for the purpose of psychosurgery; or
- 21 (c) Other psychiatric or mental health procedures that restrict  
22 physical freedom of movement or the rights set forth in RCW  
23 71.05.217.

24 (4) The court may order a procedure listed in subsection (3) of  
25 this section only after giving notice to the adult's attorney and  
26 holding a hearing. If the adult does not have an attorney, the court  
27 must appoint an attorney for the adult prior to entering an order  
28 under this subsection.

29 (5) PERSONS UNDER A GUARDIANSHIP, CONSERVATORSHIP, OR OTHER  
30 PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS—RIGHT TO ASSOCIATE WITH PERSONS OF THEIR  
31 CHOOSING.

32 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person under  
33 a guardianship retains the right to associate with persons of the  
34 person under a guardianship's choosing. This right includes, but is  
35 not limited to, the right to freely communicate and interact with  
36 other persons, whether through in-person visits, telephone calls,  
37 electronic communication, personal mail, or other means. If the  
38 person under a guardianship is unable to express consent for  
39 communication, visitation, or interaction with another person, or is  
40 otherwise unable to make a decision regarding association with

1 another person, a guardian of a person under a guardianship, whether  
2 full or limited, must:

3 (i) Personally inform the person under a guardianship of the  
4 decision under consideration, using plain language, in a manner  
5 calculated to maximize the understanding of the person under a  
6 guardianship;

7 (ii) Maximize the person under a guardianship's participation in  
8 the decision-making process to the greatest extent possible,  
9 consistent with the person under a guardianship's abilities; and

10 (iii) Give substantial weight to the person under a  
11 guardianship's preferences, both expressed and historical.

12 (b) A guardian or limited guardian may not restrict a person  
13 under a guardianship's right to communicate, visit, interact, or  
14 otherwise associate with persons of the person under a guardianship's  
15 choosing, unless:

16 (i) The restriction is specifically authorized by the  
17 guardianship court in the court order establishing or modifying the  
18 guardianship or limited guardianship under chapter 11.--- RCW (the  
19 new chapter created in section 806 of this act);

20 (ii) The restriction is pursuant to a protection order issued  
21 under chapter 74.34 RCW, chapter 26.50 RCW, or other law, that limits  
22 contact between the person under a guardianship and other persons;

23 (iii)(A) The guardian or limited guardian has good cause to  
24 believe that there is an immediate need to restrict a person under a  
25 guardianship's right to communicate, visit, interact, or otherwise  
26 associate with persons of the person under a guardianship's choosing  
27 in order to protect the person under a guardianship from abuse,  
28 neglect, abandonment, or financial exploitation, as those terms are  
29 defined in RCW 74.34.020, or to protect the person under a  
30 guardianship from activities that unnecessarily impose significant  
31 distress on the person under a guardianship; and

32 (B) Within fourteen calendar days of imposing the restriction  
33 under (b)(iii)(A) of this subsection, the guardian or limited  
34 guardian files a petition for a protection order under chapter 74.34  
35 RCW. The immediate need restriction may remain in place until the  
36 court has heard and issued an order or decision on the petition; or

37 (iv) The restriction is pursuant to participation in the  
38 community protection program under chapter 71A.12 RCW.

1 (6) A protection order under chapter 74.34 RCW issued to protect  
2 the person under a guardianship as described in subsection  
3 (5)(b)(iii)(B) of this section:

4 (a) Must include written findings of fact and conclusions of law;

5 (b) May not be more restrictive than necessary to protect the  
6 person under a guardianship from abuse, neglect, abandonment, or  
7 financial exploitation as those terms are defined in RCW 74.34.020;  
8 and

9 (c) May not deny communication, visitation, interaction, or other  
10 association between the person under a guardianship and another  
11 person unless the court finds that placing reasonable time, place, or  
12 manner restrictions is unlikely to sufficiently protect the person  
13 under a guardianship from abuse, neglect, abandonment, or financial  
14 exploitation as those terms are defined in RCW 74.34.020.

15 **Sec. 316.** RCW 11.125.080 and 2016 c 209 s 108 are each amended  
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) In a power of attorney, a principal may nominate a guardian  
18 of the principal's estate or guardian of the principal's person for  
19 consideration by the court if protective proceedings for the  
20 principal's estate or person are begun after the principal executes  
21 the power of attorney. Except for good cause shown or  
22 disqualification, the court shall make its appointment in accordance  
23 with the principal's most recent nomination.

24 (2) If, after a principal executes a power of attorney, a court  
25 appoints a guardian of the principal's estate or other fiduciary  
26 charged with the management of all of the principal's property, the  
27 power of attorney (~~is terminated and the agent's authority does not~~  
28 ~~continue unless continued by the court~~) remains in effect subject to  
29 the provisions of section 315(1) of this act.

30 (3) If, after a principal executes a power of attorney, a court  
31 appoints a guardian of the principal's estate or other fiduciary  
32 charged with the management of some but not all of the principal's  
33 property, the power of attorney shall not terminate or be modified,  
34 except to the extent ordered by the court.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 317.** GUARDIAN'S PLAN. (1) A guardian for an  
36 adult, not later than ninety days after appointment, shall file with  
37 the court a plan for the care of the adult and shall provide a copy  
38 of the plan to the adult subject to guardianship, a person entitled

1 to notice under section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order, and  
2 any other person the court determines. The plan must be based on the  
3 needs of the adult and take into account the best interest of the  
4 adult as well as the adult's preferences, values, and prior  
5 directions, to the extent known to or reasonably ascertainable by the  
6 guardian. The guardian shall include in the plan:

7 (a) The living arrangement, services, and supports the guardian  
8 expects to arrange, facilitate, or continue for the adult;

9 (b) Social and educational activities the guardian expects to  
10 facilitate on behalf of the adult;

11 (c) Any person with whom the adult has a close personal  
12 relationship or relationship involving regular visitation and any  
13 plan the guardian has for facilitating visits with the person;

14 (d) The anticipated nature and frequency of the guardian's visits  
15 and communication with the adult;

16 (e) Goals for the adult, including any goal related to the  
17 restoration of the adult's rights, and how the guardian anticipates  
18 achieving the goals;

19 (f) Whether the adult has an existing plan and, if so, whether  
20 the guardian's plan is consistent with the adult's plan; and

21 (g) A statement or list of the amount the guardian proposes to  
22 charge for each service the guardian anticipates providing to the  
23 adult.

24 (2) A guardian shall give notice of the filing of the guardian's  
25 plan under subsection (1) of this section, together with a copy of  
26 the plan, to the adult subject to guardianship, a person entitled to  
27 notice under section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order, and  
28 any other person the court determines. The notice must include a  
29 statement of the right to object to the plan and be given not later  
30 than fourteen days after the filing.

31 (3) An adult subject to guardianship and any person entitled  
32 under subsection (2) of this section to receive notice and a copy of  
33 the guardian's plan may object to the plan.

34 (4) The court shall review the guardian's plan filed under  
35 subsection (1) of this section and determine whether to approve the  
36 plan or require a new plan. In deciding whether to approve the plan,  
37 the court shall consider an objection under subsection (3) of this  
38 section and whether the plan is consistent with the guardian's duties  
39 and powers under sections 313 and 314 of this act. The court may not  
40 approve the plan until thirty days after its filing.

1 (5) After the guardian's plan filed under this section is  
2 approved by the court, the guardian shall provide a copy of the order  
3 approving the plan to the adult subject to guardianship, a person  
4 entitled to notice under section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent  
5 order, and any other person the court determines.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 318.** GUARDIAN'S REPORT—MONITORING OF  
7 GUARDIANSHIP. (1) A guardian for an adult shall file with the court  
8 by the date established by the court a report in a record regarding  
9 the condition of the adult and accounting for funds and other  
10 property in the guardian's possession or subject to the guardian's  
11 control. The guardian shall provide a copy of the report to the adult  
12 subject to guardianship, a person entitled to notice under section  
13 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order, and any other person the  
14 court determines.

15 (2) A report under subsection (1) of this section must state or  
16 contain:

17 (a) The mental, physical, and social condition of the adult;

18 (b) The living arrangements of the adult during the reporting  
19 period;

20 (c) A summary of the supported decision making, technological  
21 assistance, medical services, educational and vocational services,  
22 and other supports and services provided to the adult and the  
23 guardian's opinion as to the adequacy of the adult's care;

24 (d) A summary of the guardian's visits with the adult, including  
25 the dates of the visits;

26 (e) Action taken on behalf of the adult;

27 (f) The extent to which the adult has participated in decision  
28 making;

29 (g) If the adult is living in an evaluation and treatment  
30 facility or living in a facility that provides the adult with health  
31 care or other personal services, whether the guardian considers the  
32 facility's current plan for support, care, treatment, or habilitation  
33 consistent with the adult's preferences, values, prior directions,  
34 and best interests;

35 (h) Anything of more than de minimis value which the guardian,  
36 any individual who resides with the guardian, or the spouse, domestic  
37 partner, parent, child, or sibling of the guardian has received from  
38 an individual providing goods or services to the adult. A

1 professional guardian must abide by the standards of practice  
2 regarding the acceptance of gifts;

3 (i) If the guardian delegated a power to an agent, the power  
4 delegated and the reason for the delegation;

5 (j) Any business relation the guardian has with a person the  
6 guardian has paid or that has benefited from the property of the  
7 adult;

8 (k) A copy of the guardian's most recently approved plan under  
9 section 317 of this act and a statement whether the guardian has  
10 deviated from the plan and, if so, how the guardian has deviated and  
11 why;

12 (l) Plans for future care and support of the adult;

13 (m) A recommendation as to the need for continued guardianship  
14 and any recommended change in the scope of the guardianship; and

15 (n) Whether any co-guardian or successor guardian appointed to  
16 serve when a designated event occurs is alive and able to serve.

17 (3) The court may appoint a visitor to review a report submitted  
18 under this section or a guardian's plan submitted under section 317  
19 of this act, interview the guardian or adult subject to guardianship,  
20 or investigate any other matter involving the guardianship.

21 (4) Notice of the filing under this section of a guardian's  
22 report, together with a copy of the report, must be given to the  
23 adult subject to guardianship, a person entitled to notice under  
24 section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order, and any other  
25 person the court determines. The notice and report must be given not  
26 later than fourteen days after the filing.

27 (5) The court shall establish procedures for monitoring a report  
28 submitted under this section and review each report to determine  
29 whether:

30 (a) The report provides sufficient information to establish the  
31 guardian has complied with the guardian's duties;

32 (b) The guardianship should continue; and

33 (c) The guardian's requested fees, if any, should be approved.

34 (6) If the court determines there is reason to believe a guardian  
35 for an adult has not complied with the guardian's duties or the  
36 guardianship should be modified or terminated, the court:

37 (a) Shall notify the adult, the guardian, and any other person  
38 entitled to notice under section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent  
39 order;

40 (b) May require additional information from the guardian;

1 (c) May appoint a visitor to interview the adult or guardian or  
2 investigate any matter involving the guardianship; and

3 (d) Consistent with sections 318 and 319 of this act, may hold a  
4 hearing to consider removal of the guardian, termination of the  
5 guardianship, or a change in the powers granted to the guardian or  
6 terms of the guardianship.

7 (7) If the court has reason to believe fees requested by a  
8 guardian for an adult are not reasonable, the court shall hold a  
9 hearing to determine whether to adjust the requested fees.

10 (8) A guardian for an adult must petition the court for approval  
11 of a report filed under this section. The court after review may  
12 approve the report. If the court approves the report, there is a  
13 rebuttable presumption the report is accurate as to a matter  
14 adequately disclosed in the report.

15 (9) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
16 order approving the report shall set the due date for the filing of  
17 the next report to be filed under this section. The court may set the  
18 review interval at annual, biennial, or triennial with the report due  
19 date to be within ninety days of the anniversary date of appointment.  
20 When determining the report interval, the court can consider: The  
21 length of time the guardian has been serving the person under  
22 guardianship; whether the guardian has timely filed all required  
23 reports with the court; whether the guardian is monitored by other  
24 state or local agencies; and whether there have been any allegations  
25 of abuse, neglect, or a breach of fiduciary duty against the  
26 guardian.

27 (10) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
28 order approving the report shall contain a guardianship summary or be  
29 accompanied by a guardianship summary in the form or substantially in  
30 the same form as set forth in section 606 of this act.

31 (11) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
32 order approving the report shall direct the clerk of the court to  
33 reissue letters of office in the form or substantially in the same  
34 form as set forth in section 605 of this act to the guardian  
35 containing an expiration date which will be within one hundred twenty  
36 days after the date the court directs the guardian file its next  
37 report.

38 (12) Any requirement to establish a monitoring program under this  
39 section is subject to appropriation.



1           NEW SECTION.           **Sec. 319.**           REMOVAL OF GUARDIAN FOR ADULT—

2 APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR. (1) The court may remove a guardian for an  
3 adult for failure to perform the guardian's duties or for other good  
4 cause and appoint a successor guardian to assume the duties of  
5 guardian.

6           (2) The court shall hold a hearing to determine whether to remove  
7 a guardian for an adult and appoint a successor guardian on:

8           (a) Petition of the adult, guardian, or person interested in the  
9 welfare of the adult, which contains allegations that, if true, would  
10 support a reasonable belief that removal of the guardian and  
11 appointment of a successor guardian may be appropriate, but the court  
12 may decline to hold a hearing if a petition based on the same or  
13 substantially similar facts was filed during the preceding six  
14 months;

15           (b) Communication from the adult, guardian, or person interested  
16 in the welfare of the adult which supports a reasonable belief that  
17 removal of the guardian and appointment of a successor guardian may  
18 be appropriate; or

19           (c) Determination by the court that a hearing would be in the  
20 best interest of the adult.

21           (3) Notice of a hearing under subsection (2)(a) of this section  
22 and notice of the adult subject to guardianship's right to be  
23 represented at the hearing by counsel of the individual's choosing  
24 must be given to the adult subject to guardianship, the guardian, and  
25 any other person the court determines.

26           (4) An adult subject to guardianship who seeks to remove the  
27 guardian and have a successor guardian appointed has the right to  
28 choose an attorney to represent the adult in this matter. The court  
29 shall award reasonable attorneys' fees to the attorney for the adult  
30 as provided in section 120 of this act.

31           (5) In selecting a successor guardian for an adult, the court  
32 shall follow the priorities under section 309 of this act.

33           (6) Not later than fourteen days after appointing a successor  
34 guardian, the successor guardian shall give notice of the appointment  
35 to the adult subject to guardianship and any person entitled to  
36 notice under section 310(5) of this act or a subsequent order.

37           NEW SECTION.           **Sec. 320.**           TERMINATION OR MODIFICATION OF  
38 GUARDIANSHIP FOR ADULT. (1) An adult subject to guardianship, the

1 guardian for the adult, or a person interested in the welfare of the  
2 adult may petition for:

3 (a) Termination of the guardianship on the ground that a basis  
4 for appointment under section 301 of this act does not exist or  
5 termination would be in the best interest of the adult or for other  
6 good cause; or

7 (b) Modification of the guardianship on the ground that the  
8 extent of protection or assistance granted is not appropriate or for  
9 other good cause.

10 (2) The court shall hold a hearing to determine whether  
11 termination or modification of a guardianship for an adult is  
12 appropriate on:

13 (a) Petition under subsection (1) of this section that contains  
14 allegations that, if true, would support a reasonable belief that  
15 termination or modification of the guardianship may be appropriate,  
16 but the court may decline to hold a hearing if a petition based on  
17 the same or substantially similar facts was filed during the  
18 preceding six months;

19 (b) Communication from the adult, guardian, or person interested  
20 in the welfare of the adult which supports a reasonable belief that  
21 termination or modification of the guardianship may be appropriate,  
22 including because the functional needs of the adult or supports or  
23 services available to the adult have changed;

24 (c) A report from a guardian or conservator which indicates that  
25 termination or modification may be appropriate because the functional  
26 needs of the adult or supports or services available to the adult  
27 have changed or a protective arrangement instead of guardianship or  
28 other less restrictive alternative for meeting the adult's needs is  
29 available; or

30 (d) A determination by the court that a hearing would be in the  
31 best interest of the adult.

32 (3) Notice of a petition under subsection (2)(a) of this section  
33 must be given to the adult subject to guardianship, the guardian, and  
34 any other person the court determines.

35 (4) On presentation of prima facie evidence for termination of a  
36 guardianship for an adult, the court shall order termination unless  
37 it is proven that a basis for appointment of a guardian under section  
38 301 of this act exists.

39 (5) The court shall modify the powers granted to a guardian for  
40 an adult if the powers are excessive or inadequate due to a change in

1 the abilities or limitations of the adult, the adult's supports, or  
2 other circumstances.

3 (6) Unless the court otherwise orders for good cause, before  
4 terminating or modifying a guardianship for an adult, the court shall  
5 follow the same procedures to safeguard the rights of the adult which  
6 apply to a petition for guardianship.

7 (7) An adult subject to guardianship who seeks to terminate or  
8 modify the terms of the guardianship has the right to choose an  
9 attorney to represent the adult in the matter. The court shall award  
10 reasonable attorneys' fees to the attorney for the adult as provided  
11 in section 120 of this act.

12 **ARTICLE 4**  
13 **CONSERVATORSHIP**

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 401.** BASIS FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR.

15 (1) On petition and after notice and hearing, the court may appoint a  
16 conservator for the property or financial affairs of a minor if the  
17 court finds by a preponderance of evidence that appointment of a  
18 conservator is in the minor's best interest, and:

19 (a) If the minor has a parent, the court gives weight to any  
20 recommendation of the parent whether an appointment is in the minor's  
21 best interest; and

22 (b) Either:

23 (i) The minor owns funds or other property requiring management  
24 or protection that otherwise cannot be provided;

25 (ii) The minor has or may have financial affairs that may be put  
26 at unreasonable risk or hindered because of the minor's age; or

27 (iii) Appointment is necessary or desirable to obtain or provide  
28 funds or other property needed for the support, care, education,  
29 health, or welfare of the minor.

30 (2) On petition and after notice and hearing, the court may  
31 appoint a conservator for the property or financial affairs of an  
32 adult if the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that:

33 (a) The adult is unable to manage property or financial affairs  
34 because:

35 (i) Of a limitation in the adult's ability to receive and  
36 evaluate information or make or communicate decisions, even with the  
37 use of appropriate supportive services, technological assistance, or  
38 supported decision making; or

1 (ii) The adult is missing, detained, or unable to return to the  
2 United States;

3 (b) Appointment is necessary to:

4 (i) Avoid harm to the adult or significant dissipation of the  
5 property of the adult; or

6 (ii) Obtain or provide funds or other property needed for the  
7 support, care, education, health, or welfare of the adult or of an  
8 individual entitled to the adult's support; and

9 (c) The respondent's identified needs cannot be met by a  
10 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or other less  
11 restrictive alternatives.

12 (3) The court shall grant a conservator only those powers  
13 necessitated by demonstrated limitations and needs of the respondent  
14 and issue orders that will encourage development of the respondent's  
15 maximum self-determination and independence. The court may not  
16 establish a full conservatorship if a limited conservatorship,  
17 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship, or other less  
18 restrictive alternative would meet the needs of the respondent.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 402.** PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR.

20 (1) The following may petition for the appointment of a conservator:

21 (a) The individual for whom the order is sought;

22 (b) A person interested in the estate, financial affairs, or  
23 welfare of the individual, including a person that would be adversely  
24 affected by lack of effective management of property or financial  
25 affairs of the individual; or

26 (c) The guardian for the individual.

27 (2) A petition under subsection (1) of this section must state  
28 the petitioner's name, principal residence, current street address,  
29 if different, relationship to the respondent, interest in the  
30 appointment, the name and address of any attorney representing the  
31 petitioner, and, to the extent known, the following:

32 (a) The respondent's name, age, principal residence, current  
33 street address, if different, and, if different, address of the  
34 dwelling in which it is proposed the respondent will reside if the  
35 petition is granted;

36 (b) The name and address of the respondent's:

37 (i) Spouse or domestic partner or, if the respondent has none, an  
38 adult with whom the respondent has shared household responsibilities

1 for more than six months in the twelve-month period before the filing  
2 of the petition;

3 (ii) Adult children or, if none, each parent and adult sibling of  
4 the respondent, or, if none, at least one adult nearest in kinship to  
5 the respondent who can be found with reasonable diligence; and

6 (iii) Adult stepchildren whom the respondent actively parented  
7 during the stepchildren's minor years and with whom the respondent  
8 had an ongoing relationship during the two years immediately before  
9 the filing of the petition;

10 (c) The name and current address of each of the following, if  
11 applicable:

12 (i) A person responsible for the care or custody of the  
13 respondent;

14 (ii) Any attorney currently representing the respondent;

15 (iii) The representative payee appointed by the social security  
16 administration for the respondent;

17 (iv) A guardian or conservator acting for the respondent in this  
18 state or another jurisdiction;

19 (v) A trustee or custodian of a trust or custodianship of which  
20 the respondent is a beneficiary;

21 (vi) The fiduciary appointed for the respondent by the department  
22 of veterans affairs;

23 (vii) An agent designated under a power of attorney for health  
24 care in which the respondent is identified as the principal;

25 (viii) An agent designated under a power of attorney for finances  
26 in which the respondent is identified as the principal;

27 (ix) A person known to have routinely assisted the respondent  
28 with decision making in the six-month period immediately before the  
29 filing of the petition;

30 (x) Any proposed conservator, including a person nominated by the  
31 respondent, if the respondent is twelve years of age or older; and

32 (xi) If the individual for whom a conservator is sought is a  
33 minor:

34 (A) An adult not otherwise listed with whom the minor resides;  
35 and

36 (B) Each person not otherwise listed that had primary care or  
37 custody of the minor for at least sixty days during the two years  
38 immediately before the filing of the petition or for at least seven  
39 hundred thirty days during the five years immediately before the  
40 filing of the petition;

1 (d) A general statement of the respondent's property with an  
2 estimate of its value, including any insurance or pension, and the  
3 source and amount of other anticipated income or receipts;

4 (e) The reason conservatorship is necessary, including a brief  
5 description of:

6 (i) The nature and extent of the respondent's alleged need;

7 (ii) If the petition alleges the respondent is missing, detained,  
8 or unable to return to the United States, the relevant circumstances,  
9 including the time and nature of the disappearance or detention and  
10 any search or inquiry concerning the respondent's whereabouts;

11 (iii) Any protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or  
12 other less restrictive alternative for meeting the respondent's  
13 alleged need which has been considered or implemented;

14 (iv) If no protective arrangement or other less restrictive  
15 alternatives have been considered or implemented, the reason it has  
16 not been considered or implemented; and

17 (v) The reason a protective arrangement or other less restrictive  
18 alternative is insufficient to meet the respondent's need;

19 (f) Whether the petitioner seeks a limited conservatorship or a  
20 full conservatorship;

21 (g) If the petitioner seeks a full conservatorship, the reason a  
22 limited conservatorship or protective arrangement instead of  
23 conservatorship is not appropriate;

24 (h) If the petition includes the name of a proposed conservator,  
25 the reason the proposed conservator should be appointed;

26 (i) If the petition is for a limited conservatorship, a  
27 description of the property to be placed under the conservator's  
28 control and any requested limitation on the authority of the  
29 conservator;

30 (j) Whether the respondent needs an interpreter, translator, or  
31 other form of support to communicate effectively with the court or  
32 understand court proceedings; and

33 (k) The name and address of an attorney representing the  
34 petitioner, if any.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 403.** NOTICE AND HEARING FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
36 CONSERVATOR. (1) All petitions filed under section 402 of this act  
37 for appointment of a conservator shall be heard within sixty days  
38 unless an extension of time is requested by a party or the visitor

1 within such sixty-day period and granted for good cause shown. If an  
2 extension is granted, the court shall set a new hearing date.

3 (2) A copy of a petition under section 402 of this act and notice  
4 of a hearing on the petition must be served personally on the  
5 respondent and the visitor appointed under section 405 of this act  
6 not more than five court days after the petition under section 402 of  
7 this act has been filed. If the respondent's whereabouts are unknown  
8 or personal service cannot be made, service on the respondent must be  
9 made by publication. The notice must inform the respondent of the  
10 respondent's rights at the hearing, including the right to an  
11 attorney and to attend the hearing. The notice must include a  
12 description of the nature, purpose, and consequences of granting the  
13 petition. The court may not grant a petition for appointment of a  
14 conservator if notice substantially complying with this subsection is  
15 not served on the respondent.

16 (3) In a proceeding on a petition under section 402 of this act,  
17 the notice required under subsection (2) of this section must be  
18 given to the persons required to be listed in the petition under  
19 section 402(2) (a) through (c) of this act and any other person  
20 interested in the respondent's welfare the court determines. Failure  
21 to give notice under this subsection does not preclude the court from  
22 appointing a conservator.

23 (4) After the appointment of a conservator, notice of a hearing  
24 on a petition for an order under this article, together with a copy  
25 of the petition, must be given to:

26 (a) The individual subject to conservatorship, if the individual  
27 is twelve years of age or older and not missing, detained, or unable  
28 to return to the United States;

29 (b) The conservator; and

30 (c) Any other person the court determines.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 404.** ORDER TO PRESERVE OR APPLY PROPERTY  
32 WHILE PROCEEDING PENDING. While a petition under section 402 of this  
33 act is pending, after preliminary hearing and without notice to  
34 others, the court may issue an order to preserve and apply property  
35 of the respondent as required for the support of the respondent or an  
36 individual who is in fact dependent on the respondent. The court may  
37 appoint a special agent to assist in implementing the order.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 405.**    APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF VISITOR. (1) If

2 the respondent in a proceeding to appoint a conservator is a minor,  
3 the court may appoint a visitor to investigate a matter related to  
4 the petition or inform the minor or a parent of the minor about the  
5 petition or a related matter.

6        (2) If the respondent in a proceeding to appoint a conservator is  
7 an adult, the court shall appoint a visitor. The duties and reporting  
8 requirements of the visitor are limited to the relief requested in  
9 the petition. The visitor must be an individual with training or  
10 experience in the type of abilities, limitations, and needs alleged  
11 in the petition.

12        (3) The court, in the order appointing visitor, shall specify the  
13 hourly rate the visitor may charge for his or her services, and shall  
14 specify the maximum amount the visitor may charge without additional  
15 court review and approval.

16        (4) (a) The visitor appointed under subsection (1) or (2) of this  
17 section shall within five days of receipt of notice of appointment  
18 file with the court and serve, either personally or by certified mail  
19 with return receipt, the respondent or his or her legal counsel, the  
20 petitioner or his or her legal counsel, and any interested party  
21 entitled to notice under section 116 of this act with a statement  
22 including: His or her training relating to the duties as a visitor;  
23 his or her criminal history as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 for the  
24 period covering ten years prior to the appointment; his or her hourly  
25 rate, if compensated; whether the guardian ad litem has had any  
26 contact with a party to the proceeding prior to his or her  
27 appointment; and whether he or she has an apparent conflict of  
28 interest. Within three days of the later of the actual service or  
29 filing of the visitor's statement, any party may set a hearing and  
30 file and serve a motion for an order to show cause why the visitor  
31 should not be removed for one of the following three reasons:

32        (i) Lack of expertise necessary for the proceeding;

33        (ii) An hourly rate higher than what is reasonable for the  
34 particular proceeding; or

35        (iii) A conflict of interest.

36        (b) Notice of the hearing shall be provided to the visitor and  
37 all parties. If, after a hearing, the court enters an order replacing  
38 the visitor, findings shall be included, expressly stating the  
39 reasons for the removal. If the visitor is not removed, the court has  
40 the authority to assess to the moving party attorneys' fees and costs



1 related to the motion. The court shall assess attorneys' fees and  
2 costs for frivolous motions.

3 (5) A visitor appointed under subsection (2) of this section for  
4 an adult shall interview the respondent in person and in a manner the  
5 respondent is best able to understand:

6 (a) Explain to the respondent the substance of the petition, the  
7 nature, purpose, and effect of the proceeding, the respondent's  
8 rights at the hearing on the petition, and the general powers and  
9 duties of a conservator;

10 (b) Determine the respondent's views about the appointment sought  
11 by the petitioner, including views about a proposed conservator, the  
12 conservator's proposed powers and duties, and the scope and duration  
13 of the proposed conservatorship; and

14 (c) Inform the respondent that all costs and expenses of the  
15 proceeding, including respondent's attorneys' fees, may be paid from  
16 the respondent's assets.

17 (6) A visitor appointed under subsection (2) of this section for  
18 an adult shall:

19 (a) Interview the petitioner and proposed conservator, if any;

20 (b) Review financial records of the respondent, if relevant to  
21 the visitor's recommendation under subsection (7)(b) of this section;

22 (c) Investigate whether the respondent's needs could be met by a  
23 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or other less  
24 restrictive alternative and, if so, identify the arrangement or other  
25 less restrictive alternative; and

26 (d) Investigate the allegations in the petition and any other  
27 matter relating to the petition the court directs.

28 (7) A visitor appointed under subsection (2) of this section for  
29 an adult shall file a report in a record with the court and provide a  
30 copy of the report to the respondent, petitioner, and any interested  
31 party entitled to notice under section 116 of this act at least  
32 fifteen days prior to the hearing on the petition filed under section  
33 402 of this act, which must include:

34 (a) A recommendation:

35 (i) Regarding the appropriateness of conservatorship, or whether  
36 a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or other less  
37 restrictive alternative for meeting the respondent's needs is  
38 available;

39 (ii) If a conservatorship is recommended, whether it should be  
40 full or limited;

1 (iii) If a limited conservatorship is recommended, the powers to  
2 be granted to the conservator, and the property that should be placed  
3 under the conservator's control; and

4 (iv) If a conservatorship is recommended, the amount of the bond  
5 or other verified receipt needed under sections 416 and 417 of this  
6 act;

7 (b) A statement of the qualifications of the proposed conservator  
8 and whether the respondent approves or disapproves of the proposed  
9 conservator;

10 (c) A recommendation whether a professional evaluation under  
11 section 407 of this act is necessary;

12 (d) A statement whether the respondent is able to attend a  
13 hearing at the location court proceedings typically are held;

14 (e) A statement whether the respondent is able to participate in  
15 a hearing and which identifies any technology or other form of  
16 support that would enhance the respondent's ability to participate;  
17 and

18 (f) Any other matter the court directs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 406.** APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF ATTORNEY. (1)

20 Unless the respondent in a proceeding for appointment of a  
21 conservator is represented by an attorney, the court is not required,  
22 but may appoint an attorney to represent the respondent, regardless  
23 of the respondent's ability to pay.

24 (2) An attorney representing the respondent in a proceeding for  
25 appointment of a conservator shall:

26 (a) Make reasonable efforts to ascertain the respondent's wishes;

27 (b) Advocate for the respondent's wishes to the extent reasonably  
28 ascertainable; and

29 (c) If the respondent's wishes are not reasonably ascertainable,  
30 advocate for the result that is the least restrictive in type,  
31 duration, and scope, consistent with the respondent's interests.

32 (3) The court is not required, but may appoint an attorney to  
33 represent a parent of a minor who is the subject of a proceeding  
34 under section 402 of this act if:

35 (a) The parent objects to appointment of a conservator;

36 (b) The court determines that counsel is needed to ensure that  
37 consent to appointment of a conservator is informed; or

38 (c) The court otherwise determines the parent needs  
39 representation.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 407.**        PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION. (1) At or  
2 before a hearing on a petition for conservatorship for an adult, the  
3 court shall order a professional evaluation of the respondent:

4            (a) If the respondent requests the evaluation; or

5            (b) In other cases, unless the court finds it has sufficient  
6 information to determine the respondent's needs and abilities without  
7 the evaluation.

8            (2) If the court orders an evaluation under subsection (1) of  
9 this section, the respondent must be examined by a physician licensed  
10 to practice under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, psychologist licensed  
11 under chapter 18.83 RCW, or advanced registered nurse practitioner  
12 licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW selected by the visitor who is  
13 qualified to evaluate the respondent's alleged cognitive and  
14 functional abilities and limitations and will not be advantaged or  
15 disadvantaged by a decision to grant the petition or otherwise have a  
16 conflict of interest. The individual conducting the evaluation  
17 promptly shall file a report in a record with the court. Unless  
18 otherwise directed by the court, the report must contain:

19            (a) A description of the nature, type, and extent of the  
20 respondent's cognitive and functional abilities and limitations with  
21 regard to the management of the respondent's property and financial  
22 affairs;

23            (b) An evaluation of the respondent's mental and physical  
24 condition and, if appropriate, educational potential, adaptive  
25 behavior, and social skills;

26            (c) A prognosis for improvement with regard to the ability to  
27 manage the respondent's property and financial affairs; and

28            (d) The date of the examination on which the report is based.

29            (3) A respondent may decline to participate in an evaluation  
30 ordered under subsection (1) of this section.

31        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 408.**        ATTENDANCE AND RIGHTS AT HEARING. (1)  
32 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a  
33 hearing under section 403 of this act may not proceed unless the  
34 respondent attends the hearing. If it is not reasonably feasible for  
35 the respondent to attend a hearing at the location court proceedings  
36 typically are held, the court shall make reasonable efforts to hold  
37 the hearing at an alternative location convenient to the respondent  
38 or allow the respondent to attend the hearing using real-time audio-  
39 visual technology.

1 (2) A hearing under section 403 of this act may proceed without  
2 the respondent in attendance if the court finds by clear and  
3 convincing evidence that:

4 (a) The respondent consistently and repeatedly has refused to  
5 attend the hearing after having been fully informed of the right to  
6 attend and the potential consequences of failing to do so;

7 (b) There is no practicable way for the respondent to attend and  
8 participate in the hearing even with appropriate supportive services  
9 or technological assistance; or

10 (c) The respondent is a minor who has received proper notice and  
11 attendance would be harmful to the minor.

12 (3) The respondent may be assisted in a hearing under section 403  
13 of this act by a person or persons of the respondent's choosing,  
14 assistive technology, or an interpreter or translator, or a  
15 combination of these supports. If assistance would facilitate the  
16 respondent's participation in the hearing, but is not otherwise  
17 available to the respondent, the court shall make reasonable efforts  
18 to provide it.

19 (4) The respondent has a right to choose an attorney to represent  
20 the respondent at a hearing under section 403 of this act.

21 (5) At a hearing under section 403 of this act, the respondent  
22 may:

23 (a) Present evidence and subpoena witnesses and documents;

24 (b) Examine witnesses, including any court-appointed evaluator  
25 and the visitor; and

26 (c) Otherwise participate in the hearing.

27 (6) Unless excused by the court for good cause, a proposed  
28 conservator shall attend a hearing under section 403 of this act.

29 (7) A hearing under section 403 of this act must be closed on  
30 request of the respondent and a showing of good cause.

31 (8) Any person may request to participate in a hearing under  
32 section 403 of this act. The court may grant the request, with or  
33 without a hearing, on determining that the best interest of the  
34 respondent will be served. The court may impose appropriate  
35 conditions on the person's participation.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 409.** CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS. (1) The  
37 existence of a proceeding for or the existence of conservatorship is  
38 a matter of public record unless the court seals the record after:

1 (a) The respondent, the individual subject to conservatorship, or  
2 the parent of a minor subject to conservatorship requests the record  
3 be sealed; and

4 (b) Either:

5 (i) The petition for conservatorship is dismissed; or

6 (ii) The conservatorship is terminated.

7 (2) An individual subject to a proceeding for a conservatorship,  
8 whether or not a conservator is appointed, an attorney designated by  
9 the individual, and a person entitled to notice under section 411(6)  
10 of this act or a subsequent order may access court records of the  
11 proceeding and resulting conservatorship, including the conservator's  
12 plan under section 419 of this act and the conservator's report under  
13 section 423 of this act. A person not otherwise entitled access to  
14 court records under this section for good cause may petition the  
15 court for access to court records of the conservatorship, including  
16 the conservator's plan and report. The court shall grant access if  
17 access is in the best interest of the respondent or individual  
18 subject to conservatorship or furthers the public interest and does  
19 not endanger the welfare or financial interests of the respondent or  
20 individual.

21 (3) A report under section 405 of this act of a visitor or  
22 professional evaluation under section 407 of this act is confidential  
23 and must be sealed on filing, but is available to:

24 (a) The court;

25 (b) The individual who is the subject of the report or  
26 evaluation, without limitation as to use;

27 (c) The petitioner, visitor, and petitioner's and respondent's  
28 attorneys, for purposes of the proceeding;

29 (d) Unless the court directs otherwise, an agent appointed under  
30 a power of attorney for finances in which the respondent is  
31 identified as the principal; and

32 (e) Any other person if it is in the public interest or for a  
33 purpose the court orders for good cause.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 410.** WHO MAY BE CONSERVATOR—ORDER OF  
35 PRIORITY. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this  
36 section, the court in appointing a conservator shall consider persons  
37 qualified to be a conservator in the following order of priority:

1 (a) A conservator, other than a temporary or emergency  
2 conservator, currently acting for the respondent in another  
3 jurisdiction;

4 (b) A person nominated as conservator by the respondent,  
5 including the respondent's most recent nomination made in a power of  
6 attorney for finances;

7 (c) An agent appointed by the respondent to manage the  
8 respondent's property under a power of attorney for finances;

9 (d) A spouse or domestic partner of the respondent;

10 (e) A relative or other individual who has shown special care and  
11 concern for the respondent; and

12 (f) A certified professional guardian or conservator or other  
13 entity the court determines is suitable.

14 (2) If two or more persons have equal priority under subsection  
15 (1) of this section, the court shall select as conservator the person  
16 the court considers best qualified. In determining the best qualified  
17 person, the court shall consider the person's relationship with the  
18 respondent, the person's skills, the expressed wishes of the  
19 respondent, the extent to which the person and the respondent have  
20 similar values and preferences, and the likelihood the person will be  
21 able to perform the duties of a conservator successfully.

22 (3) The court, acting in the best interest of the respondent, may  
23 decline to appoint as conservator a person having priority under  
24 subsection (1) of this section and appoint a person having a lower  
25 priority or no priority.

26 (4) A person that provides paid services to the respondent, or an  
27 individual who is employed by a person that provides paid services to  
28 the respondent or is the spouse, domestic partner, parent, or child  
29 of an individual who provides or is employed to provide paid services  
30 to the respondent, may not be appointed as conservator unless:

31 (a) The individual is related to the respondent by blood,  
32 marriage, or adoption; or

33 (b) The court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the  
34 person is the best qualified person available for appointment and the  
35 appointment is in the best interest of the respondent.

36 (5) An owner, operator, or employee of a long-term care facility  
37 at which the respondent is receiving care may not be appointed as  
38 conservator unless the owner, operator, or employee is related to the  
39 respondent by blood, marriage, or adoption.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 411.**    ORDER OF APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR. (1)

2    A court order appointing a conservator for a minor must include  
3    findings to support appointment of a conservator and, if a full  
4    conservatorship is granted, the reason a limited conservatorship  
5    would not meet the identified needs of the minor.

6        (2) A court order appointing a conservator for a minor may  
7    dispense with the requirement for the conservator to file reports  
8    with the court under section 423 of this act if all the property of  
9    the minor subject to the conservatorship is protected by a verified  
10   receipt.

11       (3) A court order appointing a conservator for an adult must:

12       (a) Include a specific finding that clear and convincing evidence  
13    has established that the identified needs of the respondent cannot be  
14    met by a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or other  
15    less restrictive alternatives, including use of appropriate  
16    supportive services, technological assistance, or supported decision  
17    making; and

18       (b) Include a specific finding that clear and convincing evidence  
19    established the respondent was given proper notice of the hearing on  
20    the petition.

21       (4) A court order establishing a full conservatorship for an  
22    adult must state the basis for granting a full conservatorship and  
23    include specific findings to support the conclusion that a limited  
24    conservatorship would not meet the functional needs of the adult.

25       (5) A court order establishing a limited conservatorship must  
26    state the specific property placed under the control of the  
27    conservator and the powers granted to the conservator.

28       (6) The court, as part of an order establishing a  
29    conservatorship, shall identify any person that subsequently is  
30    entitled to:

31       (a) Notice of the rights of the individual subject to  
32    conservatorship under section 412(2) of this act;

33       (b) Notice of a sale of or surrender of a lease to the primary  
34    dwelling of the individual;

35       (c) Notice that the conservator has delegated a power that  
36    requires court approval under section 414 of this act or  
37    substantially all powers of the conservator;

38       (d) Notice that the conservator will be unavailable to perform  
39    the conservator's duties for more than one month;

1 (e) A copy of the conservator's plan under section 419 of this  
2 act and the conservator's report under section 423 of this act;

3 (f) Access to court records relating to the conservatorship;

4 (g) Notice of a transaction involving a substantial conflict  
5 between the conservator's fiduciary duties and personal interests;

6 (h) Notice of the death or significant change in the condition of  
7 the individual;

8 (i) Notice that the court has limited or modified the powers of  
9 the conservator; and

10 (j) Notice of the removal of the conservator.

11 (7) If an individual subject to conservatorship is an adult, the  
12 spouse, domestic partner, and adult children of the adult subject to  
13 conservatorship are entitled under subsection (6) of this section to  
14 notice unless the court determines notice would be contrary to the  
15 preferences or prior directions of the adult subject to  
16 conservatorship or not in the best interest of the adult.

17 (8) If an individual subject to conservatorship is a minor, each  
18 parent and adult sibling of the minor is entitled under subsection  
19 (6) of this section to notice unless the court determines notice  
20 would not be in the best interest of the minor.

21 (9) All orders establishing a conservatorship for an adult must  
22 contain:

23 (a) A conservatorship summary placed directly below the case  
24 caption or on a separate cover page in the form or substantially the  
25 same form as set forth in section 606 of this act;

26 (b) The date which the limited conservator or conservator must  
27 file the conservator's plan under section 419 of this act;

28 (c) The date which the limited conservator or conservator must  
29 file an inventory under section 420 of this act;

30 (d) The date by which the court will review the conservator's  
31 plan as required by section 419 of this act;

32 (e) The report interval which the conservator must file its  
33 report under section 423 of this act. The report interval may be  
34 annual, biennial, or triennial;

35 (f) The date the limited conservator or conservator must file its  
36 report under section 423 of this act. The due date of the filing of  
37 the report shall be within ninety days after the anniversary date of  
38 the appointment;

39 (g) The date for the court to review the report under section 423  
40 of this act and enter its order. The court shall conduct the review



1 within one hundred twenty days after the anniversary date of the  
2 appointment.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 412.** NOTICE OF ORDER OF APPOINTMENT—RIGHTS.

4 (1) A conservator appointed under section 411 of this act shall give  
5 to the individual subject to conservatorship and to all other persons  
6 given notice under section 403 of this act a copy of the order of  
7 appointment, together with notice of the right to request termination  
8 or modification. The order and notice must be given not later than  
9 fourteen days after the appointment.

10 (2) Not later than thirty days after appointment of a conservator  
11 under section 411 of this act, the conservator shall give to the  
12 individual subject to conservatorship and any other person entitled  
13 to notice under section 411(6) of this act a statement of the rights  
14 of the individual subject to conservatorship and procedures to seek  
15 relief if the individual is denied those rights. The statement must  
16 be in plain language, in at least sixteen-point font, and to the  
17 extent feasible, in a language in which the individual subject to  
18 conservatorship is proficient. The statement must notify the  
19 individual subject to conservatorship of the right to:

20 (a) Seek termination or modification of the conservatorship, or  
21 removal of the conservator, and choose an attorney to represent the  
22 individual in these matters;

23 (b) Participate in decision making to the extent reasonably  
24 feasible;

25 (c) Receive a copy of the conservator's plan under section 419 of  
26 this act, the conservator's inventory under section 420 of this act,  
27 and the conservator's report under section 423 of this act; and

28 (d) Object to the conservator's inventory, plan, or report.

29 (3) If a conservator is appointed for the reasons stated in  
30 section 401(2)(a)(ii) of this act and the individual subject to  
31 conservatorship is missing, notice under this section to the  
32 individual is not required.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 413.** EMERGENCY CONSERVATOR. (1) On its own or  
34 on petition by a person interested in an individual's welfare after a  
35 petition has been filed under section 402 of this act, the court may  
36 appoint an emergency conservator for the individual if the court  
37 finds:

1 (a) Appointment of an emergency conservator is likely to prevent  
2 substantial and irreparable harm to the individual's property or  
3 financial interests;

4 (b) No other person appears to have authority and willingness to  
5 act in the circumstances; and

6 (c) There is reason to believe that a basis for appointment of a  
7 conservator under section 401 of this act exists.

8 (2) The duration of authority of an emergency conservator may not  
9 exceed sixty days and the emergency conservator may exercise only the  
10 powers specified in the order of appointment. The emergency  
11 conservator's authority may be extended once for not more than sixty  
12 days if the court finds that the conditions for appointment of an  
13 emergency conservator under subsection (1) of this section continue.

14 (3) Immediately on filing of a petition for an emergency  
15 conservator, the court shall appoint an attorney to represent the  
16 respondent in the proceeding. Except as otherwise provided in  
17 subsection (4) of this section, reasonable notice of the date, time,  
18 and place of a hearing on the petition must be given to the  
19 respondent, the respondent's attorney, and any other person the court  
20 determines.

21 (4) The court may appoint an emergency conservator without notice  
22 to the respondent and any attorney for the respondent only if the  
23 court finds from an affidavit or testimony that the respondent's  
24 property or financial interests will be substantially and irreparably  
25 harmed before a hearing with notice on the appointment can be held.  
26 If the court appoints an emergency conservator without giving notice  
27 under subsection (3) of this section, the court must give notice of  
28 the appointment not later than forty-eight hours after the  
29 appointment to:

30 (a) The respondent;

31 (b) The respondent's attorney; and

32 (c) Any other person the court determines.

33 (5) Not later than five days after the appointment, the court  
34 shall hold a hearing on the appropriateness of the appointment.

35 (6) Appointment of an emergency conservator under this section is  
36 not a determination that a basis exists for appointment of a  
37 conservator under section 401 of this act.

38 (7) The court may remove an emergency conservator appointed under  
39 this section at any time. The emergency conservator shall make any  
40 report the court requires.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 414.**        POWERS OF CONSERVATOR REQUIRING COURT

2 APPROVAL. (1) Except as otherwise ordered by the court, a conservator  
3 must give notice to persons entitled to notice under section 403(4)  
4 of this act and receive specific authorization by the court before  
5 the conservator may exercise with respect to the conservatorship the  
6 power to:

7        (a) Make a gift, except a gift of de minimis value;

8        (b) Sell, encumber an interest in, or surrender a lease to the  
9 primary dwelling of the individual subject to conservatorship;

10       (c) Convey, release, or disclaim a contingent or expectant  
11 interest in property, including marital property and any right of  
12 survivorship incident to joint tenancy or tenancy by the entireties;

13       (d) Exercise or release a power of appointment;

14       (e) Create a revocable or irrevocable trust of property of the  
15 conservatorship estate, whether or not the trust extends beyond the  
16 duration of the conservatorship, or revoke or amend a trust revocable  
17 by the individual subject to conservatorship;

18       (f) Exercise a right to elect an option or change a beneficiary  
19 under an insurance policy or annuity or surrender the policy or  
20 annuity for its cash value;

21       (g) Exercise a right to an elective share in the estate of a  
22 deceased spouse or domestic partner of the individual subject to  
23 conservatorship or renounce or disclaim a property interest;

24       (h) Grant a creditor priority for payment over creditors of the  
25 same or higher class if the creditor is providing property or  
26 services used to meet the basic living and care needs of the  
27 individual subject to conservatorship and preferential treatment  
28 otherwise would be impermissible under section 428(5) of this act;  
29 and

30       (i) Make, modify, amend, or revoke the will of the individual  
31 subject to conservatorship in compliance with chapter 11.12 RCW.

32       (2) In approving a conservator's exercise of a power listed in  
33 subsection (1) of this section, the court shall consider primarily  
34 the decision the individual subject to conservatorship would make if  
35 able, to the extent the decision can be ascertained.

36       (3) To determine under subsection (2) of this section the  
37 decision the individual subject to conservatorship would make if  
38 able, the court shall consider the individual's prior or current  
39 directions, preferences, opinions, values, and actions, to the extent

1 actually known or reasonably ascertainable by the conservator. The  
2 court also shall consider:

3 (a) The financial needs of the individual subject to  
4 conservatorship and individuals who are in fact dependent on the  
5 individual subject to conservatorship for support, and the interests  
6 of creditors of the individual;

7 (b) Possible reduction of income, estate, inheritance, or other  
8 tax liabilities;

9 (c) Eligibility for governmental assistance;

10 (d) The previous pattern of giving or level of support provided  
11 by the individual;

12 (e) Any existing estate plan or lack of estate plan of the  
13 individual;

14 (f) The life expectancy of the individual and the probability the  
15 conservatorship will terminate before the individual's death; and

16 (g) Any other relevant factor.

17 (4) A conservator may not revoke or amend a power of attorney for  
18 finances executed by the individual subject to conservatorship. If a  
19 power of attorney for finances is in effect, a decision of the agent  
20 takes precedence over that of the conservator, unless the court  
21 orders otherwise.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 415.** PETITION FOR ORDER AFTER APPOINTMENT. An  
23 individual subject to conservatorship or a person interested in the  
24 welfare of the individual may petition for an order:

25 (1) Requiring the conservator to furnish a bond or collateral or  
26 additional bond or collateral or allowing a reduction in a bond or  
27 collateral previously furnished;

28 (2) Requiring an accounting for the administration of the  
29 conservatorship estate;

30 (3) Directing distribution;

31 (4) Removing the conservator and appointing a temporary or  
32 successor conservator;

33 (5) Modifying the type of appointment or powers granted to the  
34 conservator, if the extent of protection or management previously  
35 granted is excessive or insufficient to meet the individual's needs,  
36 including because the individual's abilities or supports have  
37 changed;

38 (6) Rejecting or modifying the conservator's plan under section  
39 419 of this act, the conservator's inventory under section 420 of

1 this act, or the conservator's report under section 423 of this act;  
2 or

3 (7) Granting other appropriate relief.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 416.** BOND—ALTERNATIVE VERIFIED RECEIPT. (1)  
5 Except as otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this  
6 section, the court shall require a conservator to furnish a bond with  
7 a surety the court specifies, or require a verified receipt,  
8 conditioned on faithful discharge of all duties of the conservator.  
9 The court may waive the requirement only if the court finds that a  
10 bond or other verified receipt is not necessary to protect the  
11 interests of the individual subject to conservatorship. Except as  
12 otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, the  
13 court may not waive the requirement if the conservator is in the  
14 business of serving as a conservator and is being paid for the  
15 conservator's service.

16 (2) Unless the court directs otherwise, the bond required under  
17 this section must be in the amount of the aggregate capital value of  
18 the conservatorship estate, plus the estimated income for the  
19 accounting and report review interval, less the value of property  
20 deposited under a verified receipt requiring a court order for its  
21 removal and real property the conservator lacks power to sell or  
22 convey without specific court authorization. The court, in place of  
23 surety on a bond, may accept collateral for the performance of the  
24 bond, including a pledge of securities or a mortgage of real  
25 property.

26 (3) A regulated financial institution qualified to do trust  
27 business in this state is not required to give a bond under this  
28 section.

29 (4) In all conservatorships where the person subject to  
30 conservatorship has total assets of a value of less than three  
31 thousand dollars, the court may dispense with the requirement of a  
32 bond: PROVIDED, That the conservator swears to report to the court  
33 any changes in the total assets of the person subject to  
34 conservatorship increasing their value to over three thousand  
35 dollars: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the conservator files a yearly  
36 statement showing the monthly income of the person subject to  
37 conservatorship if such monthly income, excluding moneys from state  
38 or federal benefits, is over the sum of five hundred dollars per  
39 month for any three consecutive months.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 417.**    TERMS AND REQUIREMENTS OF BOND. (1) The  
2 following rules apply to the bond required under section 416 of this  
3 act:

4        (a) Except as otherwise provided by the bond, the surety and the  
5 conservator are jointly and severally liable.

6        (b) By executing a bond provided by a conservator, the surety  
7 submits to the personal jurisdiction of the court that issued letters  
8 of office to the conservator in a proceeding relating to the duties  
9 of the conservator in which the surety is named as a party. Notice of  
10 the proceeding must be given to the surety at the address shown in  
11 the records of the court in which the bond is filed and any other  
12 address of the surety then known to the person required to provide  
13 the notice.

14        (c) On petition of a successor conservator or person affected by  
15 a breach of the obligation of the bond, a proceeding may be brought  
16 against the surety for breach of the obligation of the bond.

17        (d) A proceeding against the bond may be brought until liability  
18 under the bond is exhausted.

19        (2) A proceeding may not be brought under this section against a  
20 surety of a bond on a matter as to which a proceeding against the  
21 conservator is barred.

22        (3) If a bond under section 416 of this act is not renewed by the  
23 conservator, the surety or sureties immediately shall give notice to  
24 the court and the individual subject to conservatorship.

25        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 418.**    DUTIES OF CONSERVATOR. (1) A conservator  
26 is a fiduciary and has duties of prudence and loyalty to the  
27 individual subject to conservatorship.

28        (2) A conservator shall promote the self-determination of the  
29 individual subject to conservatorship and, to the extent feasible,  
30 encourage the individual to participate in decisions, act on the  
31 individual's own behalf, and develop or regain the capacity to manage  
32 the individual's personal affairs.

33        (3) In making a decision for an individual subject to  
34 conservatorship, the conservator shall make the decision the  
35 conservator reasonably believes the individual would make if able,  
36 unless doing so would fail to preserve the resources needed to  
37 maintain the individual's well-being and lifestyle or otherwise  
38 unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or personal or financial  
39 interests of the individual. To determine the decision the individual

1 would make if able, the conservator shall consider the individual's  
2 prior or current directions, preferences, opinions, values, and  
3 actions, to the extent actually known or reasonably ascertainable by  
4 the conservator.

5 (4) If a conservator cannot make a decision under subsection (3)  
6 of this section because the conservator does not know and cannot  
7 reasonably determine the decision the individual subject to  
8 conservatorship probably would make if able, or the conservator  
9 reasonably believes the decision the individual would make would fail  
10 to preserve resources needed to maintain the individual's well-being  
11 and lifestyle or otherwise unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare  
12 or personal or financial interests of the individual, the conservator  
13 shall act in accordance with the best interests of the individual. In  
14 determining the best interests of the individual, the conservator  
15 shall consider:

16 (a) Information received from professionals and persons that  
17 demonstrate sufficient interest in the welfare of the individual;

18 (b) Other information the conservator believes the individual  
19 would have considered if the individual were able to act; and

20 (c) Other factors a reasonable person in the circumstances of the  
21 individual would consider, including consequences for others.

22 (5) Except when inconsistent with the conservator's duties under  
23 subsections (1) through (4) of this section, a conservator shall  
24 invest and manage the conservatorship estate as a prudent investor  
25 would, by considering:

26 (a) The circumstances of the individual subject to  
27 conservatorship and the conservatorship estate;

28 (b) General economic conditions;

29 (c) The possible effect of inflation or deflation;

30 (d) The expected tax consequences of an investment decision or  
31 strategy;

32 (e) The role of each investment or course of action in relation  
33 to the conservatorship estate as a whole;

34 (f) The expected total return from income and appreciation of  
35 capital;

36 (g) The need for liquidity, regularity of income, and  
37 preservation or appreciation of capital; and

38 (h) The special relationship or value, if any, of specific  
39 property to the individual subject to conservatorship.

1 (6) The propriety of a conservator's investment and management of  
2 the conservatorship estate is determined in light of the facts and  
3 circumstances existing when the conservator decides or acts and not  
4 by hindsight.

5 (7) A conservator shall make a reasonable effort to verify facts  
6 relevant to the investment and management of the conservatorship  
7 estate.

8 (8) A conservator that has special skills or expertise, or is  
9 named conservator in reliance on the conservator's representation of  
10 special skills or expertise, has a duty to use the special skills or  
11 expertise in carrying out the conservator's duties.

12 (9) In investing, selecting specific property for distribution,  
13 and invoking a power of revocation or withdrawal for the use or  
14 benefit of the individual subject to conservatorship, a conservator  
15 shall consider any estate plan of the individual known or reasonably  
16 ascertainable to the conservator and may examine the will or other  
17 donative, nominative, or appointive instrument of the individual.

18 (10) A conservator shall maintain insurance on the insurable real  
19 and personal property of the individual subject to conservatorship,  
20 unless the conservatorship estate lacks sufficient funds to pay for  
21 insurance or the court finds:

22 (a) The property lacks sufficient equity; or

23 (b) Insuring the property would unreasonably dissipate the  
24 conservatorship estate or otherwise not be in the best interest of  
25 the individual.

26 (11) If a power of attorney for finances is in effect, a  
27 conservator shall cooperate with the agent to the extent feasible.

28 (12) A conservator has access to and authority over a digital  
29 asset of the individual subject to conservatorship to the extent  
30 provided by the revised uniform fiduciary access to digital assets  
31 act (chapter 11.120 RCW) or court order.

32 (13) A conservator for an adult shall notify the court if the  
33 condition of the adult has changed so that the adult is capable of  
34 exercising rights previously removed. The notice must be given  
35 immediately on learning of the change.

36 (14) A conservator shall notify the court within thirty days of  
37 any substantial change in the value of the property of the person  
38 subject to conservatorship and shall provide a copy of the notice to  
39 the person subject to guardianship, a person entitled to notice under  
40 section 403 of this act or a subsequent order, and any other person



1 the court has determined is entitled to notice and schedule a hearing  
2 for the court to review the adequacy of the bond or other verified  
3 receipt under sections 416 and 417 of this act.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 419.** CONSERVATOR'S PLAN. (1) A conservator,  
5 not later than ninety days after appointment, shall file with the  
6 court a plan for protecting, managing, expending, and distributing  
7 the assets of the conservatorship estate. The plan must be based on  
8 the needs of the individual subject to conservatorship and take into  
9 account the best interest of the individual as well as the  
10 individual's preferences, values, and prior directions, to the extent  
11 known to or reasonably ascertainable by the conservator. The  
12 conservator shall include in the plan:

13 (a) A budget containing projected expenses and resources,  
14 including an estimate of the total amount of fees the conservator  
15 anticipates charging per year and a statement or list of the amount  
16 the conservator proposes to charge for each service the conservator  
17 anticipates providing to the individual;

18 (b) How the conservator will involve the individual in decisions  
19 about management of the conservatorship estate;

20 (c) Any step the conservator plans to take to develop or restore  
21 the ability of the individual to manage the conservatorship estate;  
22 and

23 (d) An estimate of the duration of the conservatorship.

24 (2) A conservator shall give notice of the filing of the  
25 conservator's plan under subsection (1) of this section, together  
26 with a copy of the plan, to the individual subject to  
27 conservatorship, a person entitled to notice under section 411(6) of  
28 this act or a subsequent order, and any other person the court  
29 determines. The notice must include a statement of the right to  
30 object to the plan and be given not later than fourteen days after  
31 the filing.

32 (3) An individual subject to conservatorship and any person  
33 entitled under subsection (2) of this section to receive notice and a  
34 copy of the conservator's plan may object to the plan.

35 (4) The court shall review the conservator's plan filed under  
36 subsection (1) of this section and determine whether to approve the  
37 plan or require a new plan. In deciding whether to approve the plan,  
38 the court shall consider an objection under subsection (3) of this  
39 section and whether the plan is consistent with the conservator's

1 duties and powers. The court may not approve the plan until thirty  
2 days after its filing.

3 (5) After a conservator's plan under this section is approved by  
4 the court, the conservator shall provide a copy of the plan to the  
5 individual subject to conservatorship, a person entitled to notice  
6 under section 411(6) of this act or a subsequent order, and any other  
7 person the court determines.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 420.** INVENTORY—RECORDS. (1) Not later than  
9 sixty days after appointment, a conservator shall prepare and file  
10 with the appointing court a detailed inventory of the conservatorship  
11 estate, together with an oath or affirmation that the inventory is  
12 believed to be complete and accurate as far as information permits.

13 (2) A conservator shall give notice of the filing of an inventory  
14 to the individual subject to conservatorship, a person entitled to  
15 notice under section 411(6) of this act or a subsequent order, and  
16 any other person the court determines. The notice must be given not  
17 later than fourteen days after the filing.

18 (3) A conservator shall keep records of the administration of the  
19 conservatorship estate and make them available for examination on  
20 reasonable request of the individual subject to conservatorship, a  
21 guardian for the individual, or any other person the conservator or  
22 the court determines.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 421.** ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS OF CONSERVATOR NOT  
24 REQUIRING COURT APPROVAL. (1) Except as otherwise provided in section  
25 414 of this act or qualified or limited in the court's order of  
26 appointment and stated in the letters of office, a conservator has  
27 all powers granted in this section and any additional power granted  
28 to a trustee by law of this state other than this chapter.

29 (2) A conservator, acting reasonably and consistent with the  
30 fiduciary duties of the conservator to accomplish the purpose of the  
31 conservatorship, without specific court authorization or  
32 confirmation, may with respect to the conservatorship estate:

33 (a) Collect, hold, and retain property, including property in  
34 which the conservator has a personal interest and real property in  
35 another state, until the conservator determines disposition of the  
36 property should be made;

37 (b) Receive additions to the conservatorship estate;

- 1 (c) Continue or participate in the operation of a business or  
2 other enterprise;
- 3 (d) Acquire an undivided interest in property in which the  
4 conservator, in a fiduciary capacity, holds an undivided interest;
- 5 (e) Invest assets;
- 6 (f) Deposit funds or other property in a financial institution,  
7 including one operated by the conservator;
- 8 (g) Acquire or dispose of property, including real property in  
9 another state, for cash or on credit, at public or private sale, and  
10 manage, develop, improve, exchange, partition, change the character  
11 of, or abandon property;
- 12 (h) Make ordinary or extraordinary repairs or alterations in a  
13 building or other structure, demolish any improvement, or raze an  
14 existing or erect a new party wall or building;
- 15 (i) Subdivide or develop land, dedicate land to public use, make  
16 or obtain the vacation of a plat and adjust a boundary, adjust a  
17 difference in valuation of land, exchange or partition land by giving  
18 or receiving consideration, and dedicate an easement to public use  
19 without consideration;
- 20 (j) Enter for any purpose into a lease of property as lessor or  
21 lessee, with or without an option to purchase or renew, for a term  
22 within or extending beyond the term of the conservatorship;
- 23 (k) Enter into a lease or arrangement for exploration and removal  
24 of minerals or other natural resources or a pooling or unitization  
25 agreement;
- 26 (l) Grant an option involving disposition of property or accept  
27 or exercise an option for the acquisition of property;
- 28 (m) Vote a security, in person or by general or limited proxy;
- 29 (n) Pay a call, assessment, or other sum chargeable or accruing  
30 against or on account of a security;
- 31 (o) Sell or exercise a stock subscription or conversion right;
- 32 (p) Consent, directly or through a committee or agent, to the  
33 reorganization, consolidation, merger, dissolution, or liquidation of  
34 a corporation or other business enterprise;
- 35 (q) Hold a security in the name of a nominee or in other form  
36 without disclosure of the conservatorship so that title to the  
37 security may pass by delivery;
- 38 (r) Insure:
- 39 (i) The conservatorship estate, in whole or in part, against  
40 damage or loss in accordance with section 418(10) of this act; and

- 1           (ii) The conservator against liability with respect to a third  
2 person;
- 3           (s) Borrow funds, with or without security, to be repaid from the  
4 conservatorship estate or otherwise;
- 5           (t) Advance funds for the protection of the conservatorship  
6 estate or the individual subject to conservatorship and all expenses,  
7 losses, and liability sustained in the administration of the  
8 conservatorship estate or because of holding any property for which  
9 the conservator has a lien on the conservatorship estate;
- 10           (u) Pay or contest a claim, settle a claim by or against the  
11 conservatorship estate or the individual subject to conservatorship  
12 by compromise, arbitration, or otherwise, or release, in whole or in  
13 part, a claim belonging to the conservatorship estate to the extent  
14 the claim is uncollectible;
- 15           (v) Pay a tax, assessment, compensation of the conservator or any  
16 guardian, and other expense incurred in the collection, care,  
17 administration, and protection of the conservatorship estate;
- 18           (w) Pay a sum distributable to the individual subject to  
19 conservatorship or an individual who is in fact dependent on the  
20 individual subject to conservatorship by paying the sum to the  
21 distributee or for the use of the distributee:
- 22           (i) To the guardian for the distributee;
- 23           (ii) To the custodian of the distributee under the uniform  
24 transfers to minors act (chapter 11.114 RCW); or
- 25           (iii) If there is no guardian, custodian, or custodial trustee,  
26 to a relative or other person having physical custody of the  
27 distributee;
- 28           (x) Bring or defend an action, claim, or proceeding in any  
29 jurisdiction for the protection of the conservatorship estate or the  
30 conservator in the performance of the conservator's duties;
- 31           (y) Structure the finances of the individual subject to  
32 conservatorship to establish eligibility for a public benefit,  
33 including by making gifts consistent with the individual's  
34 preferences, values, and prior directions, if the conservator's  
35 action does not jeopardize the individual's welfare and otherwise is  
36 consistent with the conservator's duties; and
- 37           (z) Execute and deliver any instrument that will accomplish or  
38 facilitate the exercise of a power of the conservator.



1 conservatorship, as reimbursement for expenditures the conservator  
2 might have made, or in advance for services to be provided to the  
3 individual subject to conservatorship or individual who is dependent  
4 on the individual subject to conservatorship if it is reasonable to  
5 expect the services will be performed and advance payment is  
6 customary or reasonably necessary under the circumstances.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 423.** CONSERVATOR'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTING—  
8 MONITORING. (1) A conservator shall file with the court by the date  
9 established by the court a report in a record regarding the  
10 administration of the conservatorship estate unless the court  
11 otherwise directs, on resignation or removal, on termination of the  
12 conservatorship, and at any other time the court directs.

13 (2) A report under subsection (1) of this section must state or  
14 contain:

15 (a) An accounting that lists property included in the  
16 conservatorship estate and the receipts, disbursements, liabilities,  
17 and distributions during the period for which the report is made;

18 (b) A list of the services provided to the individual subject to  
19 conservatorship;

20 (c) A copy of the conservator's most recently approved plan and a  
21 statement whether the conservator has deviated from the plan and, if  
22 so, how the conservator has deviated and why;

23 (d) A recommendation as to the need for continued conservatorship  
24 and any recommended change in the scope of the conservatorship;

25 (e) To the extent feasible, a copy of the most recent reasonably  
26 available financial statements evidencing the status of bank  
27 accounts, investment accounts, and mortgages or other debts of the  
28 individual subject to conservatorship with all but the last four  
29 digits of the account numbers and social security number redacted;

30 (f) Anything of more than de minimis value which the conservator,  
31 any individual who resides with the conservator, or the spouse,  
32 domestic partner, parent, child, or sibling of the conservator has  
33 received from a person providing goods or services to the individual  
34 subject to conservatorship;

35 (g) Any business relation the conservator has with a person the  
36 conservator has paid or that has benefited from the property of the  
37 individual subject to conservatorship; and

38 (h) Whether any co-conservator or successor conservator appointed  
39 to serve when a designated event occurs is alive and able to serve.

1 (3) The court may appoint a visitor to review a report under this  
2 section or conservator's plan under section 419 of this act,  
3 interview the individual subject to conservatorship or conservator,  
4 or investigate any other matter involving the conservatorship. In  
5 connection with the report, the court may order the conservator to  
6 submit the conservatorship estate to appropriate examination in a  
7 manner the court directs.

8 (4) Notice of the filing under this section of a conservator's  
9 report, together with a copy of the report, must be provided to the  
10 individual subject to conservatorship, a person entitled to notice  
11 under section 411(6) of this act or a subsequent order, and other  
12 persons the court determines. The notice and report must be given not  
13 later than fourteen days after filing.

14 (5) The court shall establish procedures for monitoring a report  
15 submitted under this section and review each report at least annually  
16 to determine whether:

17 (a) The reports provide sufficient information to establish the  
18 conservator has complied with the conservator's duties;

19 (b) The conservatorship should continue; and

20 (c) The conservator's requested fees, if any, should be approved.

21 (6) If the court determines there is reason to believe a  
22 conservator has not complied with the conservator's duties or the  
23 conservatorship should not continue, the court:

24 (a) Shall notify the individual subject to conservatorship, the  
25 conservator, and any other person entitled to notice under section  
26 411(6) of this act or a subsequent order;

27 (b) May require additional information from the conservator;

28 (c) May appoint a visitor to interview the individual subject to  
29 conservatorship or conservator or investigate any matter involving  
30 the conservatorship; and

31 (d) Consistent with sections 430 and 431 of this act, may hold a  
32 hearing to consider removal of the conservator, termination of the  
33 conservatorship, or a change in the powers granted to the conservator  
34 or terms of the conservatorship.

35 (7) If the court has reason to believe fees requested by a  
36 conservator are not reasonable, the court shall hold a hearing to  
37 determine whether to adjust the requested fees.

38 (8) A conservator must petition the court for approval of a  
39 report filed under this section. The court after review may approve  
40 the report. If the court approves the report, there is a rebuttable

1 presumption the report is accurate as to a matter adequately  
2 disclosed in the report.

3 (9) An order, after notice and hearing, approving an interim  
4 report of a conservator filed under this section adjudicates  
5 liabilities concerning a matter adequately disclosed in the report,  
6 as to a person given notice of the report or accounting.

7 (10) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
8 order approving the report shall set the due date for the filing of  
9 the next report to be filed under this section. The court may set the  
10 review at annual, biennial, or triennial intervals with the report  
11 due date to be within ninety days of the anniversary date of  
12 appointment. When determining the report interval, the court can  
13 consider: The length of time the conservator has been serving the  
14 person under conservatorship; whether the conservator has timely  
15 filed all required reports with the court; whether the conservator is  
16 monitored by other state or local agencies; the income of the person  
17 subject to conservatorship; the value of the property of the person  
18 subject to conservatorship; the adequacy of the bond and other  
19 verified receipt; and whether there have been any allegations of  
20 abuse, neglect, or a breach of fiduciary duty against the  
21 conservator.

22 (11) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
23 order approving the report shall contain a conservatorship summary or  
24 accompanied by a conservatorship summary in the form or substantially  
25 in the same form as set forth in section 606 of this act.

26 (12) If the court approves a report filed under this section, the  
27 order approving the report shall direct the clerk of the court to  
28 reissue letters of office in the form or substantially in the same  
29 form as set forth in section 605 of this act to the conservator  
30 containing an expiration date which will be within one hundred twenty  
31 days after the date the court directs the conservator file its next  
32 report.

33 (13) An order, after notice and hearing, approving a final report  
34 filed under this section discharges the conservator from all  
35 liabilities, claims, and causes of action by a person given notice of  
36 the report and the hearing as to a matter adequately disclosed in the  
37 report.

38 (14) Any requirement to establish a monitoring program under this  
39 section is subject to appropriation.



1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 424.**        ATTEMPTED TRANSFER OF PROPERTY BY  
2 INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO CONSERVATORSHIP. (1) The interest of an  
3 individual subject to conservatorship in property included in the  
4 conservatorship estate is not transferable or assignable by the  
5 individual and is not subject to levy, garnishment, or similar  
6 process for claims against the individual unless allowed under  
7 section 428 of this act.

8        (2) If an individual subject to conservatorship enters into a  
9 contract after having the right to enter the contract removed by the  
10 court, the contract is void against the individual and the  
11 individual's property but is enforceable against the person that  
12 contracted with the individual.

13        (3) A person other than the conservator that deals with an  
14 individual subject to conservatorship with respect to property  
15 included in the conservatorship estate is entitled to protection  
16 provided by law of this state other than this chapter.

17        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 425.**        TRANSACTION INVOLVING CONFLICT OF  
18 INTEREST. A transaction involving a conservatorship estate which is  
19 affected by a substantial conflict between the conservator's  
20 fiduciary duties and personal interests is voidable unless the  
21 transaction is authorized by court order after notice to persons  
22 entitled to notice under section 411(6) of this act or a subsequent  
23 order. A transaction affected by a substantial conflict includes a  
24 sale, encumbrance, or other transaction involving the conservatorship  
25 estate entered into by the conservator, an individual with whom the  
26 conservator resides, the spouse, domestic partner, descendant,  
27 sibling, agent, or attorney of the conservator, or a corporation or  
28 other enterprise in which the conservator has a substantial  
29 beneficial interest.

30        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 426.**        PROTECTION OF PERSON DEALING WITH  
31 CONSERVATOR. (1) A person that assists or deals with a conservator in  
32 good faith and for value in any transaction, other than a transaction  
33 requiring a court order under section 414 of this act, is protected  
34 as though the conservator properly exercised any power in question.  
35 Knowledge by a person that the person is dealing with a conservator  
36 alone does not require the person to inquire into the existence of  
37 authority of the conservator or the propriety of the conservator's  
38 exercise of authority, but restrictions on authority stated in

1 letters of office, or otherwise provided by law, are effective as to  
2 the person. A person that pays or delivers property to a conservator  
3 is not responsible for proper application of the property.

4 (2) Protection under subsection (1) of this section extends to a  
5 procedural irregularity or jurisdictional defect in the proceeding  
6 leading to the issuance of letters of office and does not substitute  
7 for protection for a person that assists or deals with a conservator  
8 provided by comparable provisions in law of this state other than  
9 this chapter relating to a commercial transaction or simplifying a  
10 transfer of securities by a fiduciary.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 427.** DEATH OF INDIVIDUAL SUBJECT TO  
12 CONSERVATORSHIP. (1) If an individual subject to conservatorship  
13 dies, the conservator shall deliver to the court for safekeeping any  
14 will of the individual in the conservator's possession and inform the  
15 personal representative named in the will if feasible, or if not  
16 feasible, a beneficiary named in the will, of the delivery.

17 (2) If forty days after the death of an individual subject to  
18 conservatorship no personal representative has been appointed and no  
19 application or petition for appointment is before the court, the  
20 conservator may apply to exercise the powers and duties of a personal  
21 representative to administer and distribute the decedent's estate.  
22 The conservator shall give notice of his or her appointment and the  
23 pendency of any probate proceedings as provided in RCW 11.28.237 and  
24 shall also give notice to a person nominated as personal  
25 representative by a will of the decedent of which the conservator is  
26 aware. The court may grant the application if there is no objection  
27 and endorse the letters of office to note that the individual  
28 formerly subject to conservatorship is deceased and the conservator  
29 has acquired the powers and duties of a personal representative.

30 (3) On the death of an individual subject to conservatorship, the  
31 conservator shall conclude the administration of the conservatorship  
32 estate as provided in section 431 of this act.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 428.** PRESENTATION AND ALLOWANCE OF CLAIM. (1)  
34 A conservator may pay, or secure by encumbering property included in  
35 the conservatorship estate, a claim against the conservatorship  
36 estate or the individual subject to conservatorship arising before or  
37 during the conservatorship, on presentation and allowance in

1 accordance with the priorities under subsection (4) of this section.

2 A claimant may present a claim by:

3 (a) Sending or delivering to the conservator a statement in a  
4 record of the claim, indicating its basis, the name and address of  
5 the claimant, and the amount claimed; or

6 (b) Filing the claim with the court, in a form acceptable to the  
7 court, and sending or delivering a copy of the claim to the  
8 conservator.

9 (2) A claim under subsection (1) of this section is presented on  
10 receipt by the conservator of the statement of the claim or the  
11 filing with the court of the claim, whichever first occurs. A  
12 presented claim is allowed if it is not disallowed in whole or in  
13 part by the conservator in a record sent or delivered to the claimant  
14 not later than sixty days after its presentation. Before payment, the  
15 conservator may change an allowance of the claim to a disallowance in  
16 whole or in part, but not after allowance under a court order or  
17 order directing payment of the claim. Presentation of a claim tolls  
18 until thirty days after disallowance of the claim the running of a  
19 statute of limitations that has not expired relating to the claim.

20 (3) A claimant whose claim under subsection (1) of this section  
21 has not been paid may petition the court to determine the claim at  
22 any time before it is barred by a statute of limitations, and the  
23 court may order its allowance, payment, or security by encumbering  
24 property included in the conservatorship estate. If a proceeding is  
25 pending against the individual subject to conservatorship at the time  
26 of appointment of the conservator or is initiated thereafter, the  
27 moving party shall give the conservator notice of the proceeding if  
28 it could result in creating a claim against the conservatorship  
29 estate.

30 (4) If a conservatorship estate is likely to be exhausted before  
31 all existing claims are paid, the conservator shall distribute the  
32 estate in money or in kind in payment of claims in the following  
33 order:

34 (a) Costs and expenses of administration;

35 (b) A claim of the federal or state government having priority  
36 under law other than this chapter;

37 (c) A claim incurred by the conservator for support, care,  
38 education, health, or welfare previously provided to the individual  
39 subject to conservatorship or an individual who is in fact dependent  
40 on the individual subject to conservatorship;

1 (d) A claim arising before the conservatorship; and

2 (e) All other claims.

3 (5) Preference may not be given in the payment of a claim under  
4 subsection (4) of this section over another claim of the same class.  
5 A claim due and payable may not be preferred over a claim not due  
6 unless:

7 (a) Doing so would leave the conservatorship estate without  
8 sufficient funds to pay the basic living and health care expenses of  
9 the individual subject to conservatorship; and

10 (b) The court authorizes the preference under section 414(1)(h)  
11 of this act.

12 (6) If assets of a conservatorship estate are adequate to meet  
13 all existing claims, the court, acting in the best interest of the  
14 individual subject to conservatorship, may order the conservator to  
15 grant a security interest in the conservatorship estate for payment  
16 of a claim at a future date.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 429.** PERSONAL LIABILITY OF CONSERVATOR. (1)

18 Except as otherwise agreed by a conservator, the conservator is not  
19 personally liable on a contract properly entered into in a fiduciary  
20 capacity in the course of administration of the conservatorship  
21 estate unless the conservator fails to reveal the conservator's  
22 representative capacity in the contract or before entering into the  
23 contract.

24 (2) A conservator is personally liable for an obligation arising  
25 from control of property of the conservatorship estate or an act or  
26 omission occurring in the course of administration of the  
27 conservatorship estate only if the conservator is personally at  
28 fault.

29 (3) A claim based on a contract entered into by a conservator in  
30 a fiduciary capacity, an obligation arising from control of property  
31 included in the conservatorship estate, or a tort committed in the  
32 course of administration of the conservatorship estate may be  
33 asserted against the conservatorship estate in a proceeding against  
34 the conservator in a fiduciary capacity, whether or not the  
35 conservator is personally liable for the claim.

36 (4) A question of liability between a conservatorship estate and  
37 the conservator personally may be determined in a proceeding for  
38 accounting, surcharge, or indemnification or another appropriate  
39 proceeding or action.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 430.**    REMOVAL OF CONSERVATOR—APPOINTMENT OF  
2 SUCCESSOR. (1) The court may remove a conservator for failure to  
3 perform the conservator's duties or other good cause and appoint a  
4 successor conservator to assume the duties of the conservator.

5        (2) The court shall hold a hearing to determine whether to remove  
6 a conservator and appoint a successor on:

7        (a) Petition of the individual subject to conservatorship,  
8 conservator, or person interested in the welfare of the individual  
9 which contains allegations that, if true, would support a reasonable  
10 belief that removal of the conservator and appointment of a successor  
11 may be appropriate, but the court may decline to hold a hearing if a  
12 petition based on the same or substantially similar facts was filed  
13 during the preceding six months;

14        (b) Communication from the individual subject to conservatorship,  
15 conservator, or person interested in the welfare of the individual  
16 which supports a reasonable belief that removal of the conservator  
17 and appointment of a successor may be appropriate; or

18        (c) Determination by the court that a hearing would be in the  
19 best interest of the individual subject to conservatorship.

20        (3) Notice of a hearing under subsection (2)(a) of this section  
21 and notice of the individual's right to be represented at the hearing  
22 by counsel of the individual's choosing must be given to the  
23 individual subject to conservatorship, the conservator, and any other  
24 person the court determines.

25        (4) An individual subject to conservatorship who seeks to remove  
26 the conservator and have a successor appointed has the right to  
27 choose an attorney to represent the individual in this matter. The  
28 court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees to the attorney as  
29 provided in section 120 of this act.

30        (5) In selecting a successor conservator, the court shall follow  
31 the priorities under section 410 of this act.

32        (6) Not later than fourteen days after appointing a successor  
33 conservator, the successor conservator shall give notice of the  
34 appointment to the individual subject to conservatorship and any  
35 person entitled to notice under section 411(6) of this act or a  
36 subsequent order.

37        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 431.**    TERMINATION OR MODIFICATION OF  
38 CONSERVATORSHIP. (1) A conservatorship for a minor terminates on the  
39 earliest of:

1 (a) A court order terminating the conservatorship;  
2 (b) The minor becoming an adult or, if the minor consents or the  
3 court finds by clear and convincing evidence that substantial harm to  
4 the minor's interests is otherwise likely, attaining twenty-one years  
5 of age;  
6 (c) Emancipation of the minor; or  
7 (d) Death of the minor.  
8 (2) A conservatorship for an adult terminates on order of the  
9 court or when the adult dies.  
10 (3) An individual subject to conservatorship, the conservator, or  
11 a person interested in the welfare of the individual may petition  
12 for:  
13 (a) Termination of the conservatorship on the ground that a basis  
14 for appointment under section 401 of this act does not exist or  
15 termination would be in the best interest of the individual or for  
16 other good cause; or  
17 (b) Modification of the conservatorship on the ground that the  
18 extent of protection or assistance granted is not appropriate or for  
19 other good cause.  
20 (4) The court shall hold a hearing to determine whether  
21 termination or modification of a conservatorship is appropriate on:  
22 (a) Petition under subsection (3) of this section that contains  
23 allegations that, if true, would support a reasonable belief that  
24 termination or modification of the conservatorship may be  
25 appropriate, but the court may decline to hold a hearing if a  
26 petition based on the same or substantially similar facts was filed  
27 within the preceding six months;  
28 (b) A communication from the individual subject to  
29 conservatorship, conservator, or person interested in the welfare of  
30 the individual which supports a reasonable belief that termination or  
31 modification of the conservatorship may be appropriate, including  
32 because the functional needs of the individual or supports or  
33 services available to the individual have changed;  
34 (c) A report from a guardian or conservator which indicates that  
35 termination or modification may be appropriate because the functional  
36 needs or supports or services available to the individual have  
37 changed or a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship or  
38 other less restrictive alternative is available; or  
39 (d) A determination by the court that a hearing would be in the  
40 best interest of the individual.

1 (5) Notice of a petition under subsection (3) of this section  
2 must be given to the individual subject to conservatorship, the  
3 conservator, and any such other person the court determines.

4 (6) On presentation of prima facie evidence for termination of a  
5 conservatorship, the court shall order termination unless it is  
6 proven that a basis for appointment of a conservator under section  
7 401 of this act exists.

8 (7) The court shall modify the powers granted to a conservator if  
9 the powers are excessive or inadequate due to a change in the  
10 abilities or limitations of the individual subject to  
11 conservatorship, the individual's supports, or other circumstances.

12 (8) Unless the court otherwise orders for good cause, before  
13 terminating a conservatorship, the court shall follow the same  
14 procedures to safeguard the rights of the individual subject to  
15 conservatorship which apply to a petition for conservatorship.

16 (9) An individual subject to conservatorship who seeks to  
17 terminate or modify the terms of the conservatorship has the right to  
18 choose an attorney to represent the individual in this matter. The  
19 court shall award reasonable attorneys' fees to the attorney as  
20 provided in section 120 of this act.

21 (10) On termination of a conservatorship other than by reason of  
22 the death of the individual subject to conservatorship, property of  
23 the conservatorship estate passes to the individual. The order of  
24 termination must direct the conservator to file a final report and  
25 petition for discharge on approval by the court of the final report.

26 (11) On termination of a conservatorship by reason of the death  
27 of the individual subject to conservatorship, the conservator shall  
28 file a final report and petition for discharge on approval by the  
29 court of the final report within ninety days of death of the person  
30 subject to conservatorship. On approval of the final report, the  
31 conservator shall proceed expeditiously to distribute the  
32 conservatorship estate to the individual's estate or as otherwise  
33 ordered by the court. The conservator may take reasonable measures  
34 necessary to preserve the conservatorship estate until distribution  
35 can be made.

36 (12) The court shall issue a final order of discharge on the  
37 approval by the court of the final report and satisfaction by the  
38 conservator of any other condition the court imposed on the  
39 conservator's discharge.





1 (3) The following persons may petition under this article for a  
2 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship:

3 (a) The individual for whom the protective arrangement is sought;

4 (b) A person interested in the property, financial affairs, or  
5 welfare of the individual, including a person that would be affected  
6 adversely by lack of effective management of property or financial  
7 affairs of the individual; and

8 (c) The guardian for the individual.

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 502. BASIS FOR PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENT INSTEAD  
10 OF GUARDIANSHIP FOR ADULT. (1) After the hearing on a petition under  
11 section 302 of this act for a guardianship or under section 501(2) of  
12 this act for a protective arrangement instead of guardianship, the  
13 court may issue an order under subsection (2) of this section for a  
14 protective arrangement instead of guardianship if the court finds by  
15 clear and convincing evidence that:

16 (a) The respondent lacks the ability to meet essential  
17 requirements for physical health, safety, or self-care because the  
18 respondent is unable to receive and evaluate information or make or  
19 communicate decisions, even with appropriate supportive services,  
20 technological assistance, or supported decision making; and

21 (b) The respondent's identified needs cannot be met by a less  
22 restrictive alternative.

23 (2) If the court makes the findings under subsection (1) of this  
24 section, the court, instead of appointing a guardian, may:

25 (a) Authorize or direct a transaction necessary to meet the  
26 respondent's need for health, safety, or care, including:

27 (i) A particular medical treatment or refusal of a particular  
28 medical treatment;

29 (ii) A move to a specified place of dwelling; or

30 (iii) Visitation or supervised visitation between the respondent  
31 and another person;

32 (b) Restrict access to the respondent by a specified person whose  
33 access places the respondent at serious risk of physical,  
34 psychological, or financial harm; and

35 (c) Reorder other arrangements on a limited basis that are  
36 appropriate.

37 (3) In deciding whether to issue an order under this section, the  
38 court shall consider the factors under sections 314 and 315 of this

1 act that a guardian must consider when making a decision on behalf of  
2 an adult subject to guardianship.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 503.** BASIS FOR PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENT INSTEAD  
4 OF CONSERVATORSHIP FOR ADULT OR MINOR. (1) After the hearing on a  
5 petition under section 402 of this act for conservatorship for an  
6 adult or under section 501(3) of this act for a protective  
7 arrangement instead of a conservatorship for an adult, the court may  
8 issue an order under subsection (3) of this section for a protective  
9 arrangement instead of conservatorship for the adult if the court  
10 finds by clear and convincing evidence that:

11 (a) The adult is unable to manage property or financial affairs  
12 because:

13 (i) Of a limitation in the ability to receive and evaluate  
14 information or make or communicate decisions, even with appropriate  
15 supportive services, technological assistance, or supported decision  
16 making; or

17 (ii) The adult is missing, detained, or unable to return to the  
18 United States;

19 (b) An order under subsection (3) of this section is necessary  
20 to:

21 (i) Avoid harm to the adult or significant dissipation of the  
22 property of the adult; or

23 (ii) Obtain or provide funds or other property needed for the  
24 support, care, education, health, or welfare of the adult or an  
25 individual entitled to the adult's support; and

26 (c) The respondent's identified needs cannot be met by a less  
27 restrictive alternative.

28 (2) After the hearing on a petition under section 402 of this act  
29 for conservatorship for a minor or under section 501(3) of this act  
30 for a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship for a minor,  
31 the court may issue an order under subsection (3) of this section for  
32 a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship for the  
33 respondent if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that  
34 the arrangement is in the minor's best interest, and:

35 (a) If the minor has a parent, the court gives weight to any  
36 recommendation of the parent whether an arrangement is in the minor's  
37 best interest;

38 (b) Either:

1 (i) The minor owns money or property requiring management or  
2 protection that otherwise cannot be provided;

3 (ii) The minor has or may have financial affairs that may be put  
4 at unreasonable risk or hindered because of the minor's age; or

5 (iii) The arrangement is necessary or desirable to obtain or  
6 provide funds or other property needed for the support, care,  
7 education, health, or welfare of the minor; and

8 (iv) The order under subsection (3) of this section is necessary  
9 or desirable to obtain or provide money needed for the support, care,  
10 education, health, or welfare of the minor.

11 (3) If the court makes the findings under subsection (1) or (2)  
12 of this section, the court, instead of appointing a conservator, may:

13 (a) Authorize or direct a transaction necessary to protect the  
14 financial interest or property of the respondent, including:

15 (i) An action to establish eligibility for benefits;

16 (ii) Payment, delivery, deposit, or retention of funds or  
17 property;

18 (iii) Sale, mortgage, lease, or other transfer of property;

19 (iv) Purchase of an annuity;

20 (v) Entry into a contractual relationship, including a contract  
21 to provide for personal care, supportive services, education,  
22 training, or employment;

23 (vi) Addition to or establishment of a trust;

24 (vii) Ratification or invalidation of a contract, trust, will, or  
25 other transaction, including a transaction related to the property or  
26 business affairs of the respondent; or

27 (viii) Settlement of a claim; or

28 (b) Restrict access to the respondent's property by a specified  
29 person whose access to the property places the respondent at serious  
30 risk of financial harm.

31 (4) After the hearing on a petition under section 501 (1)(b) or  
32 (3) of this act, whether or not the court makes the findings under  
33 subsection (1) or (2) of this section, the court may issue an order  
34 to restrict access to the respondent or the respondent's property by  
35 a specified person that the court finds by clear and convincing  
36 evidence:

37 (a) Through fraud, coercion, duress, or the use of deception and  
38 control caused or attempted to cause an action that would have  
39 resulted in financial harm to the respondent or the respondent's  
40 property; and

1 (b) Poses a serious risk of substantial financial harm to the  
2 respondent or the respondent's property.

3 (5) Before issuing an order under subsection (3) or (4) of this  
4 section, the court shall consider the factors under section 418 of  
5 this act a conservator must consider when making a decision on behalf  
6 of an individual subject to conservatorship.

7 (6) Before issuing an order under subsection (3) or (4) of this  
8 section for a respondent who is a minor, the court also shall  
9 consider the best interest of the minor, the preference of the  
10 parents of the minor, and the preference of the minor, if the minor  
11 is twelve years of age or older.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 504.** PETITION FOR PROTECTIVE ARRANGEMENT. A  
13 petition for a protective arrangement instead of guardianship or  
14 conservatorship must state the petitioner's name, principal  
15 residence, current street address, if different, relationship to the  
16 respondent, interest in the protective arrangement, the name and  
17 address of any attorney representing the petitioner, and, to the  
18 extent known, the following:

19 (1) The respondent's name, age, principal residence, current  
20 street address, if different, and, if different, address of the  
21 dwelling in which it is proposed the respondent will reside if the  
22 petition is granted;

23 (2) The name and address of the respondent's:

24 (a) Spouse or domestic partner or, if the respondent has none, an  
25 adult with whom the respondent has shared household responsibilities  
26 for more than six months in the twelve-month period before the filing  
27 of the petition;

28 (b) Adult children or, if none, each parent and adult sibling of  
29 the respondent, or, if none, at least one adult nearest in kinship to  
30 the respondent who can be found with reasonable diligence; and

31 (c) Adult stepchildren whom the respondent actively parented  
32 during the stepchildren's minor years and with whom the respondent  
33 had an ongoing relationship in the two-year period immediately before  
34 the filing of the petition;

35 (3) The name and current address of each of the following, if  
36 applicable:

37 (a) A person responsible for the care or custody of the  
38 respondent;

39 (b) Any attorney currently representing the respondent;

1 (c) The representative payee appointed by the social security  
2 administration for the respondent;

3 (d) A guardian or conservator acting for the respondent in this  
4 state or another jurisdiction;

5 (e) A trustee or custodian of a trust or custodianship of which  
6 the respondent is a beneficiary;

7 (f) The fiduciary appointed for the respondent by the department  
8 of veterans affairs;

9 (g) An agent designated under a power of attorney for health care  
10 in which the respondent is identified as the principal;

11 (h) An agent designated under a power of attorney for finances in  
12 which the respondent is identified as the principal;

13 (i) A person nominated as guardian or conservator by the  
14 respondent if the respondent is twelve years of age or older;

15 (j) A person nominated as guardian by the respondent's parent,  
16 spouse, or domestic partner in a will or other signed record;

17 (k) A person known to have routinely assisted the respondent with  
18 decision making in the six-month period immediately before the filing  
19 of the petition; and

20 (l) If the respondent is a minor:

21 (i) An adult not otherwise listed with whom the respondent  
22 resides; and

23 (ii) Each person not otherwise listed that had primary care or  
24 custody of the respondent for at least sixty days during the two  
25 years immediately before the filing of the petition or for at least  
26 seven hundred thirty days during the five years immediately before  
27 the filing of the petition;

28 (4) The nature of the protective arrangement sought;

29 (5) The reason the protective arrangement sought is necessary,  
30 including a brief description of:

31 (a) The nature and extent of the respondent's alleged need;

32 (b) Any less restrictive alternative for meeting the respondent's  
33 alleged need which has been considered or implemented;

34 (c) If no less restrictive alternative has been considered or  
35 implemented, the reason less restrictive alternatives have not been  
36 considered or implemented; and

37 (d) The reason other less restrictive alternatives are  
38 insufficient to meet the respondent's alleged need;

39 (6) The name and current address, if known, of any person with  
40 whom the petitioner seeks to limit the respondent's contact;

1 (7) Whether the respondent needs an interpreter, translator, or  
2 other form of support to communicate effectively with the court or  
3 understand court proceedings;

4 (8) If a protective arrangement instead of guardianship is sought  
5 and the respondent has property other than personal effects, a  
6 general statement of the respondent's property with an estimate of  
7 its value, including any insurance or pension, and the source and  
8 amount of any other anticipated income or receipts; and

9 (9) If a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship is  
10 sought, a general statement of the respondent's property with an  
11 estimate of its value, including any insurance or pension, and the  
12 source and amount of other anticipated income or receipts.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 505.** NOTICE AND HEARING. (1) All petitions  
14 filed under section 504 of this act for appointment of a guardian for  
15 an adult shall be heard within sixty days unless an extension of time  
16 is requested by a party or the visitor within such sixty-day period  
17 and granted for good cause shown.

18 (2) A copy of a petition under section 501 of this act and notice  
19 of a hearing on the petition must be served personally on the  
20 respondent and the visitor appointed under section 506 of this act  
21 not more than five court days after the petition under section 504 of  
22 this act has been filed. The notice must inform the respondent of the  
23 respondent's rights at the hearing, including the right to an  
24 attorney and to attend the hearing. The notice must include a  
25 description of the nature, purpose, and consequences of granting the  
26 petition. The court may not grant the petition if notice  
27 substantially complying with this subsection is not served on the  
28 respondent.

29 (3) In a proceeding on a petition under section 501 of this act,  
30 the notice required under subsection (2) of this section must be  
31 given to the persons required to be listed in the petition under  
32 section 504 (1) through (3) of this act and any other person  
33 interested in the respondent's welfare the court determines. Failure  
34 to give notice under this subsection does not preclude the court from  
35 granting the petition.

36 (4) After the court has ordered a protective arrangement under  
37 this article, notice of a hearing on a petition filed under this  
38 chapter, together with a copy of the petition, must be given to the  
39 respondent and any other person the court determines.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 506.**    APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF VISITOR. (1) On

2 filing of a petition under section 501 of this act for a protective  
3 arrangement instead of guardianship, the court shall appoint a  
4 visitor. The visitor must be an individual with training or  
5 experience in the type of abilities, limitations, and needs alleged  
6 in the petition.

7        (2) On filing of a petition under section 501 of this act for a  
8 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship for a minor, the  
9 court may appoint a visitor to investigate a matter related to the  
10 petition or inform the minor or a parent of the minor about the  
11 petition or a related matter.

12        (3) On filing of a petition under section 501 of this act or a  
13 protective arrangement instead of conservatorship for an adult, the  
14 court shall appoint a visitor unless the respondent is represented by  
15 an attorney appointed by the court. The visitor must be an individual  
16 with training or experience in the types of abilities, limitations,  
17 and needs alleged in the petition.

18        (4) The court, in the order appointing visitor, shall specify the  
19 hourly rate the visitor may charge for his or her services, and shall  
20 specify the maximum amount the visitor may charge without additional  
21 court review and approval.

22        (5) (a) The visitor appointed under subsection (1) or (3) of this  
23 section shall within five days of receipt of notice of appointment  
24 file with the court and serve, either personally or by certified mail  
25 with return receipt, the respondent or his or her legal counsel, the  
26 petitioner or his or her legal counsel, and any interested party  
27 entitled to notice under section 116 of this act with a statement  
28 including: His or her training relating to the duties as a visitor;  
29 his or her criminal history as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 for the  
30 period covering ten years prior to the appointment; his or her hourly  
31 rate, if compensated; whether the guardian ad litem has had any  
32 contact with a party to the proceeding prior to his or her  
33 appointment; and whether he or she has an apparent conflict of  
34 interest. Within three days of the later of the actual service or  
35 filing of the visitor's statement, any party may set a hearing and  
36 file and serve a motion for an order to show cause why the visitor  
37 should not be removed for one of the following three reasons:

38        (i) Lack of expertise necessary for the proceeding;

39        (ii) An hourly rate higher than what is reasonable for the  
40 particular proceeding; or

1 (iii) A conflict of interest.

2 (b) Notice of the hearing shall be provided to the visitor and  
3 all parties. If, after a hearing, the court enters an order replacing  
4 the visitor, findings shall be included, expressly stating the  
5 reasons for the removal. If the visitor is not removed, the court has  
6 the authority to assess to the moving party attorneys' fees and costs  
7 related to the motion. The court shall assess attorneys' fees and  
8 costs for frivolous motions.

9 (6) A visitor appointed under subsection (1) or (3) of this  
10 section shall interview the respondent in person and in a manner the  
11 respondent is best able to understand:

12 (a) Explain to the respondent the substance of the petition, the  
13 nature, purpose, and effect of the proceeding, and the respondent's  
14 rights at the hearing on the petition;

15 (b) Determine the respondent's views with respect to the order  
16 sought;

17 (c) Inform the respondent that all costs and expenses of the  
18 proceeding, including respondent's attorneys' fees, may be paid from  
19 the respondent's assets;

20 (d) If the petitioner seeks an order related to the dwelling of  
21 the respondent, visit the respondent's present dwelling and any  
22 dwelling in which it is reasonably believed the respondent will live  
23 if the order is granted;

24 (e) If a protective arrangement instead of guardianship is  
25 sought, obtain information from any physician or other person known  
26 to have treated, advised, or assessed the respondent's relevant  
27 physical or mental condition;

28 (f) If a protective arrangement instead of conservatorship is  
29 sought, review financial records of the respondent, if relevant to  
30 the visitor's recommendation under subsection (7)(b) of this section;  
31 and

32 (g) Investigate the allegations in the petition and any other  
33 matter relating to the petition the court directs.

34 (7) A visitor under this section promptly shall file a report in  
35 a record with the court, which must include:

36 (a) To the extent relevant to the order sought, a summary of  
37 self-care, independent living tasks, and financial management tasks  
38 the respondent:

39 (i) Can manage without assistance or with existing supports;



1 (ii) Could manage with the assistance of appropriate supportive  
2 services, technological assistance, or supported decision making; and

3 (iii) Cannot manage;

4 (b) A recommendation regarding the appropriateness of the  
5 protective arrangement sought and whether a less restrictive  
6 alternative for meeting the respondent's needs is available;

7 (c) If the petition seeks to change the physical location of the  
8 dwelling of the respondent, a statement whether the proposed dwelling  
9 meets the respondent's needs and whether the respondent has expressed  
10 a preference as to the respondent's dwelling;

11 (d) A recommendation whether a professional evaluation under  
12 section 508 of this act is necessary;

13 (e) A statement whether the respondent is able to attend a  
14 hearing at the location court proceedings typically are held;

15 (f) A statement whether the respondent is able to participate in  
16 a hearing and which identifies any technology or other form of  
17 support that would enhance the respondent's ability to participate;  
18 and

19 (g) Any other matter the court directs.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 507.** APPOINTMENT AND ROLE OF ATTORNEY. (1)

21 Unless the respondent in a proceeding under this article is  
22 represented by an attorney, the court is not required, but may  
23 appoint an attorney to represent the respondent, regardless of the  
24 respondent's ability to pay.

25 (2) An attorney representing the respondent in a proceeding under  
26 this article shall:

27 (a) Make reasonable efforts to ascertain the respondent's wishes;

28 (b) Advocate for the respondent's wishes to the extent reasonably  
29 ascertainable; and

30 (c) If the respondent's wishes are not reasonably ascertainable,  
31 advocate for the result that is the least restrictive alternative in  
32 type, duration, and scope, consistent with the respondent's  
33 interests.

34 (3) The court is not required, but may appoint an attorney to  
35 represent a parent of a minor who is the subject of a proceeding  
36 under this article if:

37 (a) The parent objects to the entry of an order for a protective  
38 arrangement instead of guardianship or conservatorship;

1 (b) The court determines that counsel is needed to ensure that  
2 consent to the entry of an order for a protective arrangement is  
3 informed; or

4 (c) The court otherwise determines the parent needs  
5 representation.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 508.** PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION. (1) At or  
7 before a hearing on a petition under this article for a protective  
8 arrangement, the court shall order a professional evaluation of the  
9 respondent:

10 (a) If the respondent requests the evaluation; or

11 (b) In other cases, unless the court finds that it has sufficient  
12 information to determine the respondent's needs and abilities without  
13 the evaluation.

14 (2) If the court orders an evaluation under subsection (1) of  
15 this section, the respondent must be examined by a licensed  
16 physician, psychologist, social worker, or other individual appointed  
17 by the court who is qualified to evaluate the respondent's alleged  
18 cognitive and functional abilities and limitations and will not be  
19 advantaged or disadvantaged by a decision to grant the petition or  
20 otherwise have a conflict of interest. The individual conducting the  
21 evaluation promptly shall file a report in a record with the court.  
22 Unless otherwise directed by the court, the report must contain:

23 (a) A description of the nature, type, and extent of the  
24 respondent's cognitive and functional abilities and limitations;

25 (b) An evaluation of the respondent's mental and physical  
26 condition and, if appropriate, educational potential, adaptive  
27 behavior, and social skills;

28 (c) A prognosis for improvement, including with regard to the  
29 ability to manage the respondent's property and financial affairs if  
30 a limitation in that ability is alleged, and recommendation for the  
31 appropriate treatment, support, or habilitation plan; and

32 (d) The date of the examination on which the report is based.

33 (3) The respondent may decline to participate in an evaluation  
34 ordered under subsection (1) of this section.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 509.** ATTENDANCE AND RIGHTS AT HEARING. (1)  
36 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a  
37 hearing under this article may not proceed unless the respondent  
38 attends the hearing. If it is not reasonably feasible for the

1 respondent to attend a hearing at the location court proceedings  
2 typically are held, the court shall make reasonable efforts to hold  
3 the hearing at an alternative location convenient to the respondent  
4 or allow the respondent to attend the hearing using real-time audio-  
5 visual technology.

6 (2) A hearing under this article may proceed without the  
7 respondent in attendance if the court finds by clear and convincing  
8 evidence that:

9 (a) The respondent consistently and repeatedly has refused to  
10 attend the hearing after having been fully informed of the right to  
11 attend and the potential consequences of failing to do so;

12 (b) There is no practicable way for the respondent to attend and  
13 participate in the hearing even with appropriate supportive services  
14 and technological assistance; or

15 (c) The respondent is a minor who has received proper notice and  
16 attendance would be harmful to the minor.

17 (3) The respondent may be assisted in a hearing under this  
18 article by a person or persons of the respondent's choosing,  
19 assistive technology, or an interpreter or translator, or a  
20 combination of these supports. If assistance would facilitate the  
21 respondent's participation in the hearing, but is not otherwise  
22 available to the respondent, the court shall make reasonable efforts  
23 to provide it.

24 (4) The respondent has a right to choose an attorney to represent  
25 the respondent at a hearing under this article.

26 (5) At a hearing under this article, the respondent may:

27 (a) Present evidence and subpoena witnesses and documents;

28 (b) Examine witnesses, including any court-appointed evaluator  
29 and the visitor; and

30 (c) Otherwise participate in the hearing.

31 (6) A hearing under this article must be closed on request of the  
32 respondent and a showing of good cause.

33 (7) Any person may request to participate in a hearing under this  
34 article. The court may grant the request, with or without a hearing,  
35 on determining that the best interests of the respondent will be  
36 served. The court may impose appropriate conditions on the person's  
37 participation.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 510.** NOTICE OF ORDER. The court shall give  
39 notice of an order under this article to the individual who is

1 subject to the protective arrangement instead of guardianship or  
2 conservatorship, a person whose access to the individual is  
3 restricted by the order, and any other person the court determines.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 511.** CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS. (1) The  
5 existence of a proceeding for or the existence of a protective  
6 arrangement instead of guardianship or conservatorship is a matter of  
7 public record unless the court seals the record after:

8 (a) The respondent, the individual subject to the protective  
9 arrangement, or the parent of a minor subject to the protective  
10 arrangement requests the record be sealed; and

11 (b) Either:

12 (i) The proceeding is dismissed;

13 (ii) The protective arrangement is no longer in effect; or

14 (iii) An act authorized by the order granting the protective  
15 arrangement has been completed.

16 (2) A respondent, an individual subject to a protective  
17 arrangement instead of guardianship or conservatorship, an attorney  
18 designated by the respondent or individual, a parent of a minor  
19 subject to a protective arrangement, and any other person the court  
20 determines are entitled to access court records of the proceeding and  
21 resulting protective arrangement. A person not otherwise entitled  
22 access to court records under this subsection for good cause may  
23 petition the court for access. The court shall grant access if access  
24 is in the best interest of the respondent or individual subject to  
25 the protective arrangement or furthers the public interest and does  
26 not endanger the welfare or financial interests of the respondent or  
27 individual.

28 (3) A report of a visitor or professional evaluation generated in  
29 the course of a proceeding under this article must be sealed on  
30 filing but is available to:

31 (a) The court;

32 (b) The individual who is the subject of the report or  
33 evaluation, without limitation as to use;

34 (c) The petitioner, visitor, and petitioner's and respondent's  
35 attorneys, for purposes of the proceeding;

36 (d) Unless the court orders otherwise, an agent appointed under a  
37 power of attorney for finances in which the respondent is the  
38 principal;

1 (e) If the order is for a protective arrangement instead of  
2 guardianship and unless the court orders otherwise, an agent  
3 appointed under a power of attorney for health care in which the  
4 respondent is identified as the principal; and

5 (f) Any other person if it is in the public interest or for a  
6 purpose the court orders for good cause.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 512.** APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL AGENT. The court  
8 may appoint a special agent, to assist in implementing a protective  
9 arrangement under this article. The special agent has the authority  
10 conferred by the order of appointment and serves until discharged by  
11 court order.

12 **ARTICLE 6**  
13 **FORMS**

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 601.** USE OF FORMS. Unless otherwise provided  
15 in this chapter, use of the forms contained in this article is  
16 optional. Failure to use these forms does not prejudice any party.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 602.** PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP FOR MINOR.  
18 This form may be used to petition for guardianship for a minor.

19 Petition for Guardianship for Minor

20 State of: . . . . .

21 County of: . . . . .

22 Name and address of attorney representing petitioner, if  
23 applicable: . . . . .

24 . . . . .

25 . . . . .

26 Note to petitioner: This form can be used to petition for a  
27 guardian for a minor. A court may appoint a guardian for a minor  
28 who does not have a guardian if the court finds the appointment  
29 is in the minor's best interest, and: The parents, after being  
30 fully informed of the nature and consequences of guardianship,  
31 consent; all parental rights have been terminated; or the court  
32 finds by clear and convincing evidence that the parents are  
33 unwilling or unable to exercise their parental rights.

34 (1) Information about the person filing this petition (the  
35 petitioner.)

- 1 (a) Name: . . . . .
- 2 (b) Principal residence: . . . . .
- 3 (c) Current street address (if different): . . . . .
- 4 (d) Relationship to minor: . . . . .
- 5 (e) Interest in this petition: . . . . .
- 6 (f) Telephone number (optional): . . . . .
- 7 (g) Email address (optional): . . . . .
- 8 (2) Information about the minor alleged to need a guardian.
- 9 Provide the following information to the extent known.
- 10 (a) Name: . . . . .
- 11 (b) Age: . . . . .
- 12 (c) Principal residence: . . . . .
- 13 (d) Current street address (if different): . . . . .
- 14 (e) If petitioner anticipates the minor moving, or seeks to
- 15 move the minor, proposed new address: . . . . .
- 16 (f) Does the minor need an interpreter, translator, or other
- 17 form of support to communicate with the court or understand court
- 18 proceedings? If so, please explain: . . . . .
- 19 (g) Telephone number (optional): . . . . .
- 20 (h) Email address (optional): . . . . .
- 21 (3) Information about the minor's parent(s).
- 22 (a) Name(s) of living parent(s): . . . . .
- 23 (b) Current street address(es) of living parent(s): . . . . .
- 24 (c) Does any parent need an interpreter, translator, or other
- 25 form of support to communicate with the court or understand court
- 26 proceedings? If so, please explain: . . . . .
- 27 . . . . .
- 28 . . . . .
- 29 (4) People who are required to be notified of this petition.
- 30 State the name and current address of the people listed in
- 31 Appendix A.
- 32 . . . . .
- 33 . . . . .
- 34 (5) Appointment requested. State the name and address of any
- 35 proposed guardian and the reason the proposed guardian should be
- 36 selected.
- 37 . . . . .
- 38 . . . . .
- 39 (6) State why petitioner seeks the appointment. Include a
- 40 description of the nature and extent of the minor's alleged need.

1 . . . . .  
2 . . . . .  
3 (7) Property. If the minor has property other than personal  
4 effects, state the minor's property with an estimate of its  
5 value.

6 . . . . .  
7 . . . . .  
8 (8) Other proceedings. If there are any other proceedings  
9 concerning the care or custody of the minor currently pending in  
10 any court in this state or another jurisdiction, please describe  
11 them.

12 . . . . .  
13 . . . . .  
14 (9) Attorney(s). If the minor or the minor's parent is  
15 represented by an attorney in this matter, state the name,  
16 telephone number, email address, and address of the attorney(s).  
17 . . . . .  
18 . . . . .

19 SIGNATURE

20 . . . . .  
21 Signature of Petitioner Date  
22 . . . . .  
23 Signature of Petitioner's Attorney if Date  
24 Petitioner is Represented by Counsel

25 APPENDIX A:

26 People whose name and address must be listed in subsection  
27 (4) of this petition if they are not the petitioner:  
28 The minor, if the minor is twelve years of age or older;  
29 Each parent of the minor or, if there are none, the adult  
30 nearest in kinship that can be found;  
31 An adult with whom the minor resides;  
32 Each person that had primary care or custody of the minor for  
33 at least sixty days during the two years immediately before the  
34 filing of the petition or for at least seven hundred thirty days  
35 during the five years immediately before the filing of the  
36 petition;  
37 If the minor is twelve years of age or older, any person  
38 nominated as guardian by the minor;  
39 Any person nominated as guardian by a parent of the minor;





1 decision making or the adult is missing, detained, or unable to  
2 return to the United States, and (2) appointment is necessary to  
3 avoid harm to the adult or significant dissipation of the  
4 property of the adult, or to obtain or provide funds or other  
5 property needed for the support, care, education, health, or  
6 welfare of the adult, or of an individual who is entitled to the  
7 adult's support, and protection is necessary or desirable to  
8 provide funds or other property for that purpose.

9 The court may appoint a conservator or order a protective  
10 arrangement instead of conservatorship for a minor if: (1) The  
11 minor owns funds or other property requiring management or  
12 protection that cannot otherwise be provided; or (2) it would be  
13 in the minor's best interests, and the minor has or may have  
14 financial affairs that may be put at unreasonable risk or  
15 hindered because of the minor's age, or appointment is necessary  
16 or desirable to provide funds or other property needed for the  
17 support, care, education, health, or welfare of the minor.

18 The court may also order a protective arrangement instead of  
19 conservatorship that restricts access to an individual or an  
20 individual's property by a person that the court finds: (1)  
21 Through fraud, coercion, duress, or the use of deception and  
22 control, caused, or attempted to cause, an action that would have  
23 resulted in financial harm to the individual or the individual's  
24 property; and (2) poses a serious risk of substantial financial  
25 harm to the individual or the individual's property.

26 (1) Information about the person filing this petition (the  
27 petitioner.)

- 28 (a) Name: . . . . .
- 29 (b) Principal residence: . . . . .
- 30 (c) Current street address (if different): . . . . .
- 31 (d) Relationship to respondent: . . . . .
- 32 (e) Interest in this petition: . . . . .
- 33 (f) Telephone number (optional): . . . . .
- 34 (g) Email address (optional): . . . . .

35 (2) Information about the individual alleged to need  
36 protection (the "respondent"). Provide the following information  
37 to the extent known.

- 38 (a) Name: . . . . .
- 39 (b) Age: . . . . .
- 40 (c) Principal residence: . . . . .

1 (d) Current street address (if different):. . . . .  
2 (e) If petitioner anticipates respondent moving, or seeks to  
3 move respondent, proposed new address:. . . . .  
4 (f) Does respondent need an interpreter, translator, or other  
5 form of support to communicate with the court or understand court  
6 proceedings? If so, please explain:. . . . .  
7 . . . . .  
8 (g) Telephone number (optional):. . . . .  
9 (h) Email address (optional):. . . . .  
10 (3) People who are required to be notified of this petition.  
11 State the name and address of the people listed in Appendix A.  
12 . . . . .  
13 . . . . .  
14 (4) Existing agents. State the name and address of any person  
15 appointed as an agent under a power of attorney for finances or  
16 power of attorney for health care, or who has been appointed as  
17 the individual's representative for payment of benefits.  
18 . . . . .  
19 . . . . .  
20 (5) Action requested. State whether petitioner is seeking  
21 appointment of a guardian, a conservator, or a protective  
22 arrangement instead of an appointment.  
23 . . . . .  
24 . . . . .  
25 (6) Order requested or appointment requested. If seeking a  
26 protective arrangement instead of a guardianship or  
27 conservatorship, state the transaction or other action you want  
28 the court to order. If seeking appointment of a guardian or  
29 conservator, state the powers petitioner requests the court grant  
30 to a guardian or conservator.  
31 . . . . .  
32 . . . . .  
33 (7) State why the appointment or protective arrangement  
34 sought is necessary. Include a description of the nature and  
35 extent of respondent's alleged need.  
36 . . . . .  
37 . . . . .  
38 (8) State all less restrictive alternatives to meeting  
39 respondent's alleged need that have been considered or  
40 implemented. Less restrictive alternatives could include

1 supported decision making, technological assistance, or the  
2 appointment of an agent by respondent including appointment under  
3 a power of attorney for health care or power of attorney for  
4 finances. If no alternative has been considered or implemented,  
5 state the reason why not.

6 . . . . .  
7 . . . . .  
8 (9) Explain why less restrictive alternatives will not meet  
9 respondent's alleged need.

10 . . . . .  
11 . . . . .  
12 (10) Provide a general statement of respondent's property and  
13 an estimate of its value. Include any real property such as a  
14 house or land, insurance or pension, and the source and amount of  
15 any other anticipated income or receipts. As part of this  
16 statement, indicate, if known, how the property is titled (for  
17 example, is it jointly owned?).

18 . . . . .  
19 . . . . .  
20 (11) For a petition seeking appointment of a conservator.  
21 (Skip this section if not asking for appointment of a  
22 conservator.)

23 (a) If seeking appointment of a conservator with all powers  
24 permissible under this state's law, explain why appointment of a  
25 conservator with fewer powers (i.e., a "limited conservatorship")  
26 or other protective arrangement instead of conservatorship will  
27 not meet the individual's alleged needs.

28 . . . . .  
29 . . . . .  
30 (b) If seeking a limited conservatorship, state the property  
31 petitioner requests be placed under the conservator's control and  
32 any proposed limitation on the conservator's powers and duties.

33 . . . . .  
34 . . . . .  
35 (c) State the name and address of any proposed conservator  
36 and the reason the proposed conservator should be selected.

37 . . . . .  
38 . . . . .

1 (d) If respondent is twelve years of age or older, state the  
2 name and address of any person respondent nominates as  
3 conservator.

4 . . . . .  
5 . . . . .

6 (e) If alleging a limitation in respondent's ability to  
7 receive and evaluate information, provide a brief description of  
8 the nature and extent of respondent's alleged limitation.

9 . . . . .  
10 . . . . .

11 (f) If alleging that respondent is missing, detained, or  
12 unable to return to the United States, state the relevant  
13 circumstances, including the time and nature of the disappearance  
14 or detention and a description of any search or inquiry  
15 concerning respondent's whereabouts.

16 . . . . .  
17 . . . . .

18 (12) For a petition seeking appointment of a guardian. (Skip  
19 this section if not asking for appointment of a guardian.)

20 (a) If seeking appointment of a guardian with all powers  
21 permissible under this state's law, explain why appointment of a  
22 guardian with fewer powers (i.e., a "limited guardianship") or  
23 other protective arrangement instead of guardianship will not  
24 meet the individual's alleged needs.

25 . . . . .  
26 . . . . .

27 (b) If seeking a limited guardianship, state the powers  
28 petitioner requests be granted to the guardian.

29 . . . . .  
30 . . . . .

31 (c) State the name and address of any proposed guardian and  
32 the reason the proposed guardian should be selected.

33 . . . . .  
34 . . . . .

35 (d) State the name and address of any person nominated as  
36 guardian by respondent, or, in a will or other signed writing or  
37 other record, by respondent's parent or spouse or domestic  
38 partner.

39 . . . . .  
40 . . . . .

1 (13) Attorney. If petitioner, respondent, or, if respondent  
2 is a minor, respondent's parent is represented by an attorney in  
3 this matter, state the name, telephone number, email address, and  
4 address of the attorney(s).

5 . . . . .  
6 . . . . .

7 SIGNATURE

8 . . . . .  
9 Signature of Petitioner Date  
10 . . . . .  
11 Signature of Petitioner's Attorney if Date  
12 Petitioner is Represented by Counsel

13 APPENDIX A:

14 People whose name and address must be listed in subsection  
15 (3) of this petition, if they are not the petitioner.

16 Respondent's spouse or domestic partner, or if respondent has  
17 none, any adult with whom respondent has shared household  
18 responsibilities in the past six months;

19 Respondent's adult children, or, if respondent has none,  
20 respondent's parents and adult siblings, or if respondent has  
21 none, one or more adults nearest in kinship to respondent who can  
22 be found with reasonable diligence;

23 Respondent's adult stepchildren whom respondent actively  
24 parented during the stepchildren's minor years and with whom  
25 respondent had an ongoing relationship within two years of this  
26 petition;

27 Any person responsible for the care or custody of respondent;

28 Any attorney currently representing respondent;

29 Any representative payee for respondent appointed by the  
30 social security administration;

31 Any current guardian or conservator for respondent appointed  
32 in this state or another jurisdiction;

33 Any trustee or custodian of a trust or custodianship of which  
34 respondent is a beneficiary;

35 Any veterans administration fiduciary for respondent;

36 Any person respondent has designated as agent under a power  
37 of attorney for finances;

38 Any person respondent has designated as agent under a power  
39 of attorney for health care;

1 Any person known to have routinely assisted the individual  
2 with decision making in the previous six months;

3 Any person respondent nominates as guardian or conservator;  
4 and

5 Any person nominated as guardian by respondent's parent or  
6 spouse or domestic partner in a will or other signed writing or  
7 other record.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 604.** NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS FOR ADULT SUBJECT  
9 TO GUARDIANSHIP OR CONSERVATORSHIP. This form may be used to notify  
10 an adult subject to guardianship or conservatorship of the adult's  
11 rights under sections 311 and 412 of this act.

### 12 **Notification of Rights**

13 You are getting this notice because a guardian, conservator,  
14 or both have been appointed for you. It tells you about some  
15 important rights you have. It does not tell you about all your  
16 rights. If you have questions about your rights, you can ask an  
17 attorney or another person, including your guardian or  
18 conservator, to help you understand your rights.

#### 19 **General rights:**

20 You have the right to exercise any right the court has not  
21 given to your guardian or conservator.

22 You also have the right to ask the court to:

23 End your guardianship, conservatorship, or both;

24 Increase or decrease the powers granted to your guardian,  
25 conservator, or both;

26 Make other changes that affect what your guardian or  
27 conservator can do or how they do it; and

28 Replace the person that was appointed with someone else.

29 You also have a right to hire an attorney to help you do any  
30 of these things.

#### 31 **Additional rights for persons for whom a guardian has been** 32 **appointed:**

33 As an adult subject to guardianship, you have a right to:

34 (1) Be involved in decisions affecting you, including  
35 decisions about your care, where you live, your activities, and  
36 your social interactions, to the extent reasonably feasible;

1 (2) Be involved in decisions about your health care to the  
2 extent reasonably feasible, and to have other people help you  
3 understand the risks and benefits of health care options;

4 (3) Be notified at least fourteen days in advance of a change  
5 in where you live or a permanent move to a nursing home, mental  
6 health facility, or other facility that places restrictions on  
7 your ability to leave or have visitors, unless the guardian has  
8 proposed this change in the guardian's plan or the court has  
9 expressly authorized it;

10 (4) Ask the court to prevent your guardian from changing  
11 where you live or selling or surrendering your primary dwelling  
12 by following the appropriate process for objecting to such a move  
13 in compliance with section 314(5) of this act;

14 (5) Vote and get married unless the court order appointing  
15 your guardian states that you cannot do so;

16 (6) Receive a copy of your guardian's report and your  
17 guardian's plan; and

18 (7) Communicate, visit, or interact with other people (this  
19 includes the right to have visitors, to make and receive  
20 telephone calls, personal mail, or electronic communications)  
21 unless:

22 (a) Your guardian has been authorized by the court by  
23 specific order to restrict these communications, visits, or  
24 interactions;

25 (b) A protective order is in effect that limits contact  
26 between you and other people; or

27 (c) Your guardian has good cause to believe the restriction  
28 is needed to protect you from significant physical,  
29 psychological, or financial harm and the restriction is for not  
30 more than seven business days if the person has a relative or  
31 preexisting social relationship with you or not more than sixty  
32 days if the person does not have that kind of relationship with  
33 you.

34 **Additional rights for persons for whom a conservator has been**  
35 **appointed:**

36 As an adult subject to conservatorship, you have a right to:

37 Participate in decisions about how your property is managed  
38 to the extent feasible; and

39 Receive a copy of your conservator's inventory, report, and  
40 plan.





1 This matter is before the Honorable . . . . . of Superior Court, the seal of the Court being affixed  
2 this . . . . day of . . . . .

3  
4 State of Washington )  
5 ) ss.  
6 County of . . . . . )

7  
8 I, . . . . ., Clerk of the Superior Court of said County and State, certify that this document represents true and correct  
9 Letters of Guardianship/Conservatorship in the above entitled case, entered upon the record on this . . . . . day  
10 of . . . . ., . . . . .

11  
12 These letters remain in full force and effect until the date of expiration set forth above.

13 The seal of Superior Court has been affixed and witnessed by my hand this . . . . . day of . . . . ., . . . . .

14  
15  
16 . . . . ., Clerk of Superior Court

17  
18 By . . . . ., Deputy

19  
20 . . . . .

21 (Signature of Deputy)

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 606.** GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP SUMMARY.  
23 The guardianship/conservatorship summary shall be in or substantially  
24 similar form:

25 **GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP SUMMARY**

26 Date Guardian/  
27 Conservator Appointed: . . . . .  
28 Due Date for Report and  
29 Accounting: . . . . .  
30 Date of Next Review: . . . . .  
31 Letters Expire On: . . . . .  
32 Bond Amount: \$. . . . .

1 Restricted Account  
 2 Agreements Required: .....  
 3 Due Date for Inventory, if  
 4 applicable: .....  
 5 Due Date for Guardian's  
 6 Plan, if applicable: .....

Person subject to guardianship/ conservatorship	Guardian/Conservator
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Phone:	Phone:
Facsimile:	Facsimile:

Interested Parties	Address	Relation

**ARTICLE 7**

**CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL GUARDIANSHIP BOARD OF RESOLUTION GRIEVANCES**

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 701.** CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL GUARDIANSHIP BOARD RESOLUTION OF GRIEVANCES. (1) The certified professional guardianship board must resolve grievances against professional guardians and/or conservators within a reasonable time for alleged violations of the certified professional guardianship board's standards of practice.

(a) All grievances must initially be reviewed within thirty days by certified professional guardianship board members, or a subset thereof, to determine if the grievance is complete, states facts that allege a violation of the standards of practice, and relates to the conduct of a professional guardian and/or conservator, before any

1 investigation or response is requested from the professional guardian  
2 or the superior court. Grievances must provide the dates of the  
3 alleged violations and must be signed and dated by the person filing  
4 the grievance. Grievance investigations by the board are limited to  
5 the allegations contained in the grievance unless, after review by a  
6 majority of the members of the certified professional guardianship  
7 board, further investigation is justified.

8 (b) If the certified professional guardianship board determines  
9 the grievance is complete, states facts that allege a violation of  
10 the standards of practice, and relates to the conduct of a  
11 professional guardian and/or conservator, the certified professional  
12 guardianship board must forward that grievance within ten days to the  
13 superior court for that guardianship or conservatorship and to the  
14 professional guardian and/or conservator. The court must review the  
15 matter as set forth in section 128 of this act, and must direct the  
16 clerk of the court to send a copy of the order entered under this  
17 section to the certified professional guardianship board. The  
18 certified professional guardianship board must act consistently with  
19 any finding of fact issued in that order.

20 (2) Grievances received by the certified professional  
21 guardianship board must be resolved within one hundred eighty days of  
22 receipt.

23 (3) If the grievance cannot be resolved within one hundred eighty  
24 days, the certified professional guardianship board must notify the  
25 professional guardian and/or conservator. The professional guardian  
26 or conservator may propose a resolution of the grievance with facts  
27 and/or arguments. The certified professional guardianship board may  
28 accept the proposed resolution or determine that an additional ninety  
29 days are needed to review the grievance. If the certified  
30 professional guardianship board has not resolved the grievance within  
31 the additional ninety days the professional guardian or conservator  
32 may:

33 (a) File a motion for a court order to compel the certified  
34 professional guardianship board to resolve the grievance within a  
35 reasonable time; or

36 (b) Move for the court to resolve the grievance instead of being  
37 resolved by the certified professional guardianship board.

38 (4) The court has authority to enforce the certified professional  
39 guardianship board's standards of practice in this article to the

1 extent those standards are related to statutory or fiduciary duties  
2 of guardians and conservators.

3 (5) Any unresolved grievances filed with the certified  
4 professional guardianship board at the time of the effective date of  
5 this section must be forwarded to the superior court for that  
6 guardianship or conservatorship for review by the court as set forth  
7 in section 128 of this act.

8 **ARTICLE 8**

9 **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 801.** REPEALS. The following acts or parts of  
11 acts are each repealed:

12 (1) RCW 11.88.005 (Legislative intent) and 1990 c 122 s 1, 1977  
13 ex.s. c 309 s 1, & 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 1;

14 (2) RCW 11.88.008 ("Professional guardian" defined) and 1997 c  
15 312 s 2;

16 (3) RCW 11.88.010 (Authority to appoint guardians—Definitions—  
17 Venue—Nomination by principal) and 2016 c 209 s 403, 2008 c 6 s 802,  
18 2005 c 236 s 3, (2005 c 236 s 2 expired January 1, 2006), 2004 c 267  
19 s 139, 1991 c 289 s 1, 1990 c 122 s 2, 1984 c 149 s 176, 1977 ex.s. c  
20 309 s 2, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 2, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.010;

21 (4) RCW 11.88.020 (Qualifications) and 2011 c 329 s 1, 1997 c 312  
22 s 1, 1990 c 122 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 3, 1971 c 28 s 4, & 1965 c  
23 145 s 11.88.020;

24 (5) RCW 11.88.030 (Petition—Contents—Hearing) and 2011 c 329 s  
25 2, 2009 c 521 s 36, 1996 c 249 s 8, 1995 c 297 s 1, 1991 c 289 s 2,  
26 1990 c 122 s 4, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 3, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 4, & 1965  
27 c 145 s 11.88.030;

28 (6) RCW 11.88.040 (Notice and hearing, when required—Service—  
29 Procedure) and 2008 c 6 s 803, 1995 c 297 s 2, 1991 c 289 s 3, 1990 c  
30 122 s 5, 1984 c 149 s 177, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 4, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95  
31 s 5, 1969 c 70 s 1, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.040;

32 (7) RCW 11.88.045 (Legal counsel and jury trial—Proof—Medical  
33 report—Examinations—Waiver) and 2001 c 148 s 1, 1996 c 249 s 9, 1995  
34 c 297 s 3, 1991 c 289 s 4, 1990 c 122 s 6, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 5, &  
35 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 7;

- 1 (8) RCW 11.88.080 (Guardians nominated by will or durable power  
2 of attorney) and 2016 c 209 s 401, 2005 c 97 s 11, 1990 c 122 s 7, &  
3 1965 c 145 s 11.88.080;
- 4 (9) RCW 11.88.090 (Guardian ad litem—Mediation—Appointment—  
5 Qualifications—Notice of and statement by guardian ad litem—Hearing  
6 and notice—Attorneys' fees and costs—Registry—Duties—Report—  
7 Responses—Fee) and 2008 c 6 s 804, 2000 c 124 s 1, 1999 c 360 s 1,  
8 1996 c 249 s 10, 1995 c 297 s 4, 1991 c 289 s 5, 1990 c 122 s 8, 1977  
9 ex.s. c 309 s 6, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 9, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.090;
- 10 (10) RCW 11.88.093 (Ex parte communications—Removal) and 2000 c  
11 124 s 10;
- 12 (11) RCW 11.88.095 (Disposition of guardianship petition) and  
13 2011 c 329 s 4, 1995 c 297 s 5, 1991 c 289 s 6, & 1990 c 122 s 9;
- 14 (12) RCW 11.88.097 (Guardian ad litem—Fees) and 2000 c 124 s 13;
- 15 (13) RCW 11.88.100 (Oath and bond of guardian or limited  
16 guardian) and 2010 c 8 s 2088, 1990 c 122 s 10, 1983 c 271 s 1, 1977  
17 ex.s. c 309 s 7, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 10, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.100;
- 18 (14) RCW 11.88.105 (Reduction in amount of bond) and 1990 c 122 s  
19 11, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 11, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.105;
- 20 (15) RCW 11.88.107 (When bond not required) and 1990 c 122 s 12,  
21 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 8, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 12, & 1965 c 145 s  
22 11.88.107;
- 23 (16) RCW 11.88.110 (Law on executors' and administrators' bonds  
24 applicable) and 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 13 & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.110;
- 25 (17) RCW 11.88.120 (Modification or termination of guardianship—  
26 Procedure) and 2017 c 271 s 2, 2015 c 293 s 1, 1991 c 289 s 7, 1990 c  
27 122 s 14, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 9, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 14, & 1965 c  
28 145 s 11.88.120;
- 29 (18) RCW 11.88.125 (Standby limited guardian or limited guardian)  
30 and 2013 c 304 s 1, 2011 c 329 s 5, 2008 c 6 s 805, 1991 c 289 s 8,  
31 1990 c 122 s 15, 1979 c 32 s 1, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 10, & 1975 1st  
32 ex.s. c 95 s 6;
- 33 (19) RCW 11.88.127 (Guardianship—Incapacitated person—Letters of  
34 guardianship) and 2011 c 329 s 6;
- 35 (20) RCW 11.88.130 (Transfer of jurisdiction and venue) and 1990  
36 c 122 s 16, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 15, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.130;
- 37 (21) RCW 11.88.140 (Termination of guardianship or limited  
38 guardianship) and 2016 c 202 s 9, 2011 c 329 s 7, 1991 c 289 s 9,

1 1990 c 122 s 17, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 11, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 16, &  
2 1965 c 145 s 11.88.140;

3 (22) RCW 11.88.150 (Administration of deceased incapacitated  
4 person's estate) and 2010 c 8 s 2089, 1990 c 122 s 18, 1977 ex.s. c  
5 309 s 12, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 17, & 1965 c 145 s 11.88.150;

6 (23) RCW 11.88.160 (Guardianships involving veterans) and 1990 c  
7 122 s 13;

8 (24) RCW 11.88.170 (Guardianship courthouse facilitator program)  
9 and 2015 c 295 s 1;

10 (25) RCW 11.88.900 (Construction—Chapter applicable to state  
11 registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521) and 2009 c 521 s 35;

12 (26) RCW 11.92.010 (Guardians or limited guardians under court  
13 control—Legal age) and 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 18, 1971 c 28 s 5, &  
14 1965 c 145 s 11.92.010;

15 (27) RCW 11.92.035 (Claims) and 1990 c 122 s 19, 1975 1st ex.s. c  
16 95 s 19, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.035;

17 (28) RCW 11.92.040 (Duties of guardian or limited guardian in  
18 general) and 2011 c 329 s 9, 1991 c 289 s 10, 1990 c 122 s 20, & 1985  
19 c 30 s 9;

20 (29) RCW 11.92.043 (Additional duties) and 2017 c 268 s 3, 2011 c  
21 329 s 3, 1991 c 289 s 11, & 1990 c 122 s 21;

22 (30) RCW 11.92.050 (Intermediate accounts or reports—Hearing—  
23 Order) and 2011 c 329 s 10, 1995 c 297 s 6, 1990 c 122 s 23, 1975 1st  
24 ex.s. c 95 s 21, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.050;

25 (31) RCW 11.92.053 (Settlement of estate upon termination) and  
26 2011 c 329 s 8, 1995 c 297 s 7, 1990 c 122 s 24, & 1965 c 145 s  
27 11.92.053;

28 (32) RCW 11.92.056 (Citation of surety on bond) and 1990 c 122 s  
29 25, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 22, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.056;

30 (33) RCW 11.92.060 (Guardian to represent incapacitated person—  
31 Compromise of claims—Service of process) and 1990 c 122 s 26, 1975  
32 1st ex.s. c 95 s 23, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.060;

33 (34) RCW 11.92.090 (Sale, exchange, lease, or mortgage of  
34 property) and 1990 c 122 s 27, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 24, & 1965 c 145  
35 s 11.92.090;

36 (35) RCW 11.92.096 (Guardian access to certain held assets) and  
37 1991 c 289 s 13;

38 (36) RCW 11.92.100 (Petition—Contents) and 1990 c 122 s 28, 1975  
39 1st ex.s. c 95 s 25, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.100;

1 (37) RCW 11.92.110 (Sale of real estate) and 1990 c 122 s 29,  
2 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 26, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.110;

3 (38) RCW 11.92.115 (Return and confirmation of sale) and 2010 c 8  
4 s 2090, 1990 c 122 s 30, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 27, & 1965 c 145 s  
5 11.92.115;

6 (39) RCW 11.92.120 (Confirmation conclusive) and 1975 1st ex.s. c  
7 95 s 28 & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.120;

8 (40) RCW 11.92.125 (Broker's fee and closing expenses—Sale,  
9 exchange, mortgage, or lease of real estate) and 1977 ex.s. c 309 s  
10 15 & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.125;

11 (41) RCW 11.92.130 (Performance of contracts) and 1990 c 122 s  
12 31, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 29, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.130;

13 (42) RCW 11.92.140 (Court authorization for actions regarding  
14 guardianship funds) and 2008 c 6 s 807, 1999 c 42 s 616, 1991 c 193 s  
15 32, 1990 c 122 s 32, & 1985 c 30 s 10;

16 (43) RCW 11.92.150 (Request for special notice of proceedings)  
17 and 1990 c 122 s 33 & 1985 c 30 s 11;

18 (44) RCW 11.92.160 (Citation for failure to file account or  
19 report) and 1990 c 122 s 34, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 31, & 1965 c 145 s  
20 11.92.160;

21 (45) RCW 11.92.170 (Removal of property of nonresident  
22 incapacitated person) and 1990 c 122 s 35, 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 16,  
23 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 32, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.170;

24 (46) RCW 11.92.180 (Compensation and expenses of guardian or  
25 limited guardian—Attorney's fees—Department of social and health  
26 services clients paying part of costs—Rules) and 1995 c 297 s 8, 1994  
27 c 68 s 1, 1991 c 289 s 12, 1990 c 122 s 36, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 33,  
28 & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.180;

29 (47) RCW 11.92.185 (Concealed or embezzled property) and 1990 c  
30 122 s 37, 1975 1st ex.s. c 95 s 34, & 1965 c 145 s 11.92.185;

31 (48) RCW 11.92.190 (Detention of person in residential placement  
32 facility against will prohibited—Effect of court order—Service of  
33 notice of residential placement) and 2016 sp.s. c 29 s 412, 1996 c  
34 249 s 11, & 1977 ex.s. c 309 s 14;

35 (49) RCW 11.92.195 (Incapacitated persons—Right to associate with  
36 persons of their choosing) and 2017 c 268 s 1;

37 (50) RCW 26.10.010 (Intent) and 1987 c 460 s 25;

38 (51) RCW 26.10.015 (Mandatory use of approved forms) and 1992 c  
39 229 s 4 & 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 s 27;

1 (52) RCW 26.10.020 (Civil practice to govern—Designation of  
2 proceedings—Decrees) and 1987 c 460 s 26;

3 (53) RCW 26.10.030 (Child custody proceeding—Commencement—Notice  
4 —Intervention) and 2003 c 105 s 3, 2000 c 135 s 3, 1998 c 130 s 4, &  
5 1987 c 460 s 27;

6 (54) RCW 26.10.032 (Child custody motion—Affidavit required—  
7 Notice—Denial of motion—Show cause hearing) and 2003 c 105 s 6;

8 (55) RCW 26.10.034 (Petitions—Indian child statement—Application  
9 of federal Indian child welfare act) and 2011 c 309 s 31, 2004 c 64 s  
10 1, & 2003 c 105 s 7;

11 (56) RCW 26.10.040 (Provisions for child support, custody, and  
12 visitation—Federal tax exemption—Continuing restraining orders—  
13 Domestic violence or antiharassment protection orders—Notice of  
14 modification or termination of restraining order) and 2000 c 119 s 8,  
15 1995 c 93 s 3, 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 453, 1989 c 375 s 31, & 1987 c 460 s  
16 28;

17 (57) RCW 26.10.045 (Child support schedule) and 1988 c 275 s 12;

18 (58) RCW 26.10.050 (Child support by parents—Apportionment of  
19 expense) and 2008 c 6 s 1023 & 1987 c 460 s 29;

20 (59) RCW 26.10.060 (Health insurance coverage—Conditions) and  
21 1989 c 375 s 19 & 1987 c 460 s 30;

22 (60) RCW 26.10.070 (Minor or dependent child—Court appointed  
23 attorney to represent—Payment of costs, fees, and disbursements) and  
24 1989 c 375 s 20 & 1987 c 460 s 31;

25 (61) RCW 26.10.080 (Payment of costs, attorney's fees, etc) and  
26 1987 c 460 s 35;

27 (62) RCW 26.10.090 (Failure to comply with decree or temporary  
28 injunction—Obligation to make support payments or permit visitation  
29 not suspended—Motion) and 1987 c 460 s 36;

30 (63) RCW 26.10.100 (Determination of custody—Child's best  
31 interests) and 1987 c 460 s 38;

32 (64) RCW 26.10.110 (Temporary custody order—Vacation of order)  
33 and 1987 c 460 s 39;

34 (65) RCW 26.10.115 (Temporary orders—Support—Restraining orders  
35 —Domestic violence or antiharassment protection orders—Notice of  
36 modification or termination of restraining order—Preservation of  
37 support debt) and 2000 c 119 s 9, 1995 c 246 s 29, 1994 sp.s. c 7 s  
38 454, & 1989 c 375 s 32;



1 (66) RCW 26.10.120 (Interview with child by court—Advice of  
2 professional personnel) and 1987 c 460 s 40;

3 (67) RCW 26.10.130 (Investigation and report) and 1993 c 289 s 2  
4 & 1987 c 460 s 41;

5 (68) RCW 26.10.135 (Custody orders—Background information to be  
6 consulted) and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 333 & 2003 c 105 s 1;

7 (69) RCW 26.10.140 (Hearing—Record—Expenses of witnesses) and  
8 1987 c 460 s 42;

9 (70) RCW 26.10.150 (Access to child's education and medical  
10 records) and 1987 c 460 s 43;

11 (71) RCW 26.10.160 (Visitation rights—Limitations) and 2018 c 183  
12 s 7, 2011 c 89 s 7, 2004 c 38 s 13, 1996 c 303 s 2, 1994 c 267 s 2,  
13 1989 c 326 s 2, & 1987 c 460 s 44;

14 (72) RCW 26.10.170 (Powers and duties of custodian—Supervision by  
15 appropriate agency when necessary) and 1987 c 460 s 45;

16 (73) RCW 26.10.180 (Remedies when a child is taken, enticed, or  
17 concealed) and 2008 c 6 s 1024, 1989 c 375 s 21, & 1987 c 460 s 46;

18 (74) RCW 26.10.190 (Petitions for modification and proceedings  
19 concerning relocation of child—Assessment of attorneys' fees) and  
20 2000 c 21 s 21, 1989 c 375 s 24, & 1987 c 460 s 47;

21 (75) RCW 26.10.200 (Temporary custody order or modification of  
22 custody decree—Affidavits required) and 1987 c 460 s 48;

23 (76) RCW 26.10.210 (Venue) and 1987 c 460 s 49;

24 (77) RCW 26.10.220 (Restraining orders—Notice—Refusal to comply  
25 —Arrest—Penalty—Defense—Peace officers, immunity) and 2000 c 119 s  
26 22, 1999 c 184 s 11, 1996 c 248 s 10, 1995 c 246 s 30, & 1987 c 460 s  
27 50; and

28 (78) RCW 26.10.910 (Short title—1987 c 460).

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 802.** UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND  
30 CONSTRUCTION. In applying and construing this uniform act,  
31 consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the  
32 law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 803.** RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN  
34 GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT. This act modifies, limits, or  
35 supersedes the electronic signatures in global and national commerce  
36 act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit, or  
37 supersede section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7001(c), or

1 authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in  
2 section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7003(b).

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 804.** APPLICABILITY. This chapter applies to:

4 (1) A proceeding for appointment of a guardian or conservator or  
5 for a protective arrangement instead of guardianship or  
6 conservatorship commenced after the effective date of this section;  
7 and

8 (2) A guardianship, conservatorship, or protective arrangement  
9 instead of a guardianship or conservatorship in existence on the  
10 effective date of this section unless the court finds application of  
11 a particular provision of this act would substantially interfere with  
12 the effective conduct of the proceeding or prejudice the rights of a  
13 party, in which case the particular provision of this act does not  
14 apply and the superseded law applies.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 805.** SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this  
16 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid,  
17 the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
18 persons or circumstances is not affected.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 806.** Articles I through VII and sections 802  
20 through 804 and 807 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 11  
21 RCW.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 807.** EFFECTIVE DATE. This act takes effect  
23 January 1, 2021."

24 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Raises the age of a qualified guardian or conservator to a person over twenty-one years of age instead of a person over eighteen years of age. Provides that a court must approve compensation and expenses by a guardian. Authorizes a court to access the cost of a visitor or professional evaluation against a person who files a petition in bad faith. Provides that when a grievance is filed against a guardian, the court must promptly review the grievance and act to protect the autonomy, independence, values, and preferences of the individual subject to guardianship. Provides that guardians owe a duty of good faith and care to the individual subject to guardianship and must not substitute his or her own values, opinions, or beliefs on the individual. Requires a guardian for an adult to petition the court for approval of the guardian's report. Requires a successor guardian or conservator to notify an individual subject to guardianship or conservatorship of their appointment no

later than fourteen days after appointment instead of thirty days.  
Makes technical corrections.

--- END ---