SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 4910

A bill to amend 1998 PA 386, entitled "Estates and protected individuals code," by amending sections 5305, 5314, 5406, 5417, and 5418 (MCL 700.5305, 700.5314, 700.5406, 700.5417, and 700.5418), sections 5305 and 5314 as amended by 2024 PA 1, section 5406 as amended by 2000 PA 464, and sections 5417 and 5418 as amended by 2000 PA 312, and by adding section 5314a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- Sec. 5305. (1) The duties of a guardian ad litem appointed for when an individual is alleged to be incapacitated include all of the following:
- 4 (a) Personally visiting the individual.
- 5 (b) Explaining to the individual the nature, purpose, and





1	legal effects of a guardian's appointment.
2	(c) Explaining to the individual the hearing procedure and the
3	individual's rights in the hearing procedure, including, but not
4	limited to, all of the following:
5	$ ext{-}(i)$ The right to contest the petition.
6	$rac{(ii)}{}$ The right to request limits on the guardian's powers,
7	including a limitation on the guardian's power to execute on behalf
8	of the ward either of the following:
9	(A) A do-not-resuscitate order.
10	(B) A physician orders for scope of treatment form.
11	(iii) The right to object to a particular person being appointed
12	guardian or designated as standby guardian.
13	(iv) The right to be present at the hearing.
14	(v) The right to be represented by legal counsel.
15	(vi) The right to have legal counsel appointed for the
16	individual if the individual is unable to afford legal counsel.
17	(d) Informing the individual that if a guardian is appointed,
18	the guardian may have the power to execute a do-not-resuscitate
19	order on behalf of the individual and, if meaningful communication
20	is possible, discern if the individual objects to having a do-not-
21	resuscitate order executed on the individual's behalf.
22	(e) Informing the individual that if a guardian is appointed,
23	the guardian may have the power to execute a physician orders for
24	scope of treatment form on behalf of the individual and, if
25	meaningful communication is possible, discern if the individual
26	objects to having a physician orders for scope of treatment form
27	executed on the individual's behalf.
28	(f) Informing the individual of the name of each person known

to be seeking appointment as guardian or designation as standby

1	guardian.
2	(g) Asking the individual and the petitioner about the amount
3	of cash and property readily convertible into cash that is in the
4	individual's estate.
5	(h) Making determinations, and informing the court of those
6	determinations, on all of the following:
7	(i) Whether there are 1 or more appropriate alternatives to the
8	appointment of a full guardian or whether 1 or more actions should
9	be taken in addition to the appointment of a guardian. Before
10	informing the court of the guardian ad litem's determination under
11	this subparagraph, the guardian ad litem shall consider the
12	appropriateness of at least each of the following as alternatives
13	or additional actions:
14	(A) Appointment of a limited guardian, including the specific
15	powers and limitation on those powers the guardian ad litem
16	believes appropriate.
17	(B) Appointment of a conservator or another protective order
18	under part 4 of this article. In the report informing the court of
19	the determinations under this subdivision, the guardian ad litem
20	shall include an estimate of the amount of cash and property
21	readily convertible into cash that is in the individual's estate.
22	(C) Execution of a patient advocate designation, do-not-
23	resuscitate order, physician orders for scope of treatment form, or
24	durable power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose,
25	authority, or duration.
26	(ii) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the
27	guardianship petition might be resolved through court ordered



 ${\tt mediation.}$

28

29

(iii) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the

1	hearing.
2	(iv) Whether the individual wishes to contest the petition.
3	(v) Whether the individual wishes limits placed on the
4	guardian's powers.
5	(vi) Whether the individual objects to having a do-not-
6	resuscitate order executed on the individual's behalf.
7	(vii) Whether the individual objects to having a physician
8	orders for scope of treatment form executed on the individual's
9	behalf.
10	(viii) Whether the individual objects to a particular person
11	being appointed guardian or designated a standby guardian.
12	(2) The court shall not order compensation of the guardian ad
13	litem unless the guardian ad litem states on the record or in the
14	guardian ad litem's written report that the guardian ad litem has
15	complied with subsection (1).
16	(3) If the individual alleged to be incapacitated wishes to
17	contest the petition, to have limits placed on the guardian's
18	powers, or to object to a particular person being appointed
19	guardian or designated as standby guardian and if legal counsel has
20	not been secured, the court shall appoint legal counsel to
21	represent the individual alleged to be incapacitated. If the
22	individual alleged to be incapacitated is indigent, this state
23	shall bear the expense of legal counsel.
24	(4) If the individual alleged to be incapacitated requests
25	legal counsel or the guardian ad litem determines it is in the
26	individual's best interest to have legal counsel, and if legal
27	counsel has not been secured, the court shall appoint legal
28	counsel. If the individual alleged to be incapacitated is indigent,

this state shall bear the expense of legal counsel.

- 4 (a) Interviewing the individual in person at the individual's location and out of the presence of any interested person.
- 6 (b) Advising the individual that the guardian ad litem does
 7 not represent the individual as an attorney and that no attorney8 client relationship has been created, and that statements the
 9 individual makes to the guardian ad litem are not privileged and
 10 may be communicated to the court or other persons.
- 11 (c) Explaining to the individual the nature, purpose, and 12 legal effects of a guardian's appointment.
- (d) Explaining to the individual the hearing procedure and the individual's rights in the hearing procedure, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) The right to contest the petition, in whole or in part.
- 17 (ii) The right to request limits on the guardian's powers,
 18 including a limitation on the guardian's power to execute on behalf
 19 of the individual either of the following:
 - (A) A do-not-resuscitate order.
 - (B) A physician orders for scope of treatment form.
- 22 (iii) The right to object to a particular person being appointed 23 quardian or designated as a standby quardian.
- 24 (*iv*) The right to be present at the hearing. If the individual 25 is unable to attend the hearing at the location where court 26 proceedings typically are held, the guardian ad litem shall inform 27 the individual of the individual's right for the hearing at another 28 location or through the use of video conferencing technology.
- 29 (v) The right to request a reasonable accommodation to allow

20

- 1 the individual to participate as fully as possible at the hearing,
- 2 including with assistive technology or other support.
- 3 (vi) The right to be represented by legal counsel of the 4 individual's choice.
- 5 $(v\ddot{u})$ The right to have legal counsel appointed for the
- 6 individual if the individual is unable to secure legal counsel or
- 7 if the individual is unable to afford legal counsel.
- 8 (e) Identifying whether the individual wishes to be present at
- 9 the hearing. If the allegedly incapacitated individual does not
- 10 wish to be present at the hearing, the guardian ad litem shall
- 11 identify the reasons why the individual does not wish to be
- 12 present.
- 13 (f) Identifying any barriers to the individual's attending a
- 14 hearing at the place where court is held or otherwise fully
- 15 participating in the hearing, including the need for assistive
- 16 technology, transportation, or other support. If the allegedly
- 17 incapacitated individual wishes to attend, the guardian ad litem
- 18 must identify whether the individual has identified a plan for how
- 19 the individual will attend.
- 20 (g) Identifying whether the individual plans to retain legal
- 21 counsel or wishes to have legal counsel appointed.
- 22 (h) Explaining to the individual that if a guardian is
- 23 appointed, the quardian may have the power to take certain actions
- 24 on behalf of the individual. A quardian ad litem must inform the
- 25 individual that a guardian may have any of the following powers
- 26 and, if meaningful communication is possible, discern if the
- 27 individual objects to a quardian having any of the following
- 28 powers:

(i) Executing a do-not-resuscitate order.



- 1 (ii) Executing a physician orders for scope of treatment form.
- 2 (iii) Consenting to any medical treatment.
- 3 (iv) Consenting to placement decisions, including moving the 4 individual to a nursing facility or adult foster care home.
- 5 (ν) Choosing whether the individual can marry or divorce.
- 6 (vi) Handling any financial and property matters, including the 7 sale or disposal of personal property and the maintenance of real 8 property.
- 9 (i) Informing the individual of the name of each person known to be seeking appointment as guardian or designation as standby quardian.
 - (j) Making determinations, and informing the court of those determinations, on all of the following:
 - (i) Whether there are 1 or more appropriate alternatives to the appointment of a full guardian or whether 1 or more actions should be taken in addition to the appointment of a guardian. Before informing the court of the guardian ad litem's determination under this subparagraph, the guardian ad litem shall consider the appropriateness of at least each of the following as alternatives or additional actions:
- 21 (A) Appointment of a limited guardian, including the specific 22 powers and limitation on those powers the guardian ad litem 23 believes appropriate.
 - (B) Appointment of a conservator or another protective order under part 4 of this article. In the report informing the court of the determinations under this subdivision, the guardian ad litem shall include an estimate of the amount of cash and property readily convertible into cash that is in the individual's estate.
 - (C) Execution of a patient advocate designation, do-not-

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

24

25

26

27

28

- 1 resuscitate order, physician orders for scope of treatment form, or
- 2 durable power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose,
- 3 authority, or duration.
- 4 (ii) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the
- 5 quardianship petition might be resolved through court-ordered
- 6 mediation.
- 7 (iii) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the
- 8 hearing.
- 9 (iv) Whether the individual wishes to contest the petition.
- 10 (v) Whether the individual wishes limits placed on the
- 11 guardian's powers.
- 12 (vi) Whether the individual objects to having a do-not-
- 13 resuscitate order executed on the individual's behalf.
- 14 (vii) Whether the individual objects to having a physician
- 15 orders for scope of treatment form executed on the individual's
- 16 behalf.
- 17 (viii) Whether the individual objects to a particular person
- 18 being appointed guardian or designated a standby guardian.
- 19 (ix) If a quardian were appointed, whom the individual would
- 20 want to serve, in order of preference.
- 21 (x) if a quardian were appointed, whom the individual would
- 22 not want to serve.
- 23 (2) Subject to subsection (3), a guardian ad litem appointed
- 24 for an individual alleged to be incapacitated or a legally
- 25 incapacitated individual shall file a written report with the court
- 26 and in the form required by the state court administrative office.
- 27 (3) The guardian ad litem's report required under subsection
- 28 (2) must include, at least, all of the following:
- 29 (a) The date and time the guardian ad litem met with the

- 1 individual.
- 2 (b) The length of time the guardian ad litem met with the
- 3 individual.
- 4 (c) The location where the guardian ad litem met with the 5 individual.
- 6 (d) Whether the guardian ad litem was able to meaningfully
 7 communicate with the individual and any barriers to communication.
- 8 (e) Who, if anyone, was present for the interview besides the 9 individual.
- 10 (f) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the
 11 hearing. If the individual wishes to be present at the hearing, the
 12 guardian ad litem must include in the report both of the following:
- 13 (i) Whether the individual has identified a plan for how the 14 individual will attend.
- 15 (ii) Whether the individual has any barriers to attending court 16 at the place where it is usually held.
- 17 (iii) If the individual has a barrier to attending, whether the 18 barrier can be resolved by moving the location of the hearing or 19 using assistive technology, or both, or other support.
 - (g) Whether the individual has retained or plans to retain legal counsel or wishes for legal counsel to be appointed. If the individual has not indicated whether the individual wishes to be represented by legal counsel, the guardian ad litem shall include in the report a recommendation whether legal counsel should be appointed to represent the individual.
 - (h) Whether the individual has any of the following:
- 27 (i) A power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose, 28 authority, or time period.
- 29 (ii) A patient advocate designation.



2122

23

24

25

- 1 (iii) A physician orders for scope of treatment form.
- 2 (iv) A benefits payee, trustee, or other fiduciary.
- 3 (i) Whether the individual wishes to contest the petition.
- 4 (j) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the petition 5 might be resolved through court-ordered mediation.
- 6 (k) Whether the appointment of a visitor with appropriate
- 7 knowledge, training, and education such as a social worker, mental
- 8 health professional, or medical professional could provide the
- 9 court with the information on whether alternatives to guardianship
- 10 or a limited guardianship is appropriate.
- 11 (l) If a guardian were appointed, whom the individual would
- 12 want to serve in order of preference.
- 13 (m) If a guardian were appointed, whom the individual would
- 14 not want to serve.
- 15 (n) Any other information the guardian ad litem determines
- 16 would be helpful to the court in ruling on the petition.
- 17 (4) A quardian ad litem shall file the report required under
- 18 subsection (2) with the court and serve it on all interested
- 19 persons at least 3 days before the date of the hearing. The court
- 20 may order the report to be filed and served less than 3 days before
- 21 the hearing only if the petition is made on an emergency basis
- 22 under section 5312.
- 23 (5) The court shall not order compensation of the quardian ad
- 24 litem unless the guardian ad litem states on the record or in the
- 25 guardian ad litem's report that the guardian ad litem has complied
- 26 with subsections (1) to (4).
- 27 (6) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this
- 28 part has not already secured legal counsel, the court shall appoint
- 29 legal counsel if any of the following apply:

- 1 (i) The individual requests legal counsel.
- 2 (ii) The individual wishes to contest the petition, to have
- 3 limits placed on the guardian's powers, or to object to a
- 4 particular person being appointed guardian or designated as a
- 5 standby guardian
- 6 (iii) The guardian ad litem determines it is in the individual's
- 7 best interest to have legal counsel.
- 8 (7) If the allegedly incapacitated individual is indigent, the
- 9 state shall bear the expense of appointed legal counsel under
- 10 subsection (6).
- 11 (8) If the allegedly incapacitated individual has retained
- 12 legal counsel or if legal counsel has been appointed under
- 13 subsection (6), the appointment of a quardian ad litem terminates.
- 14 (9) An allegedly incapacitated individual has the right to
- 15 retain legal counsel of the individual's choice at any stage,
- 16 regardless of a finding regarding the individual's capacity.
- 17 Retained legal counsel shall file a substitution of legal counsel
- 18 or a motion to substitute if legal counsel has already been
- 19 appointed. Retained legal counsel is entitled to reasonable
- 20 attorney fees.
- 21 Sec. 5314. (1) If meaningful communication is possible, a
- 22 legally incapacitated individual's guardian shall consult with the
- 23 legally incapacitated individual before making a major decision
- 24 affecting the legally incapacitated individual. To the extent a
- 25 quardian of a legally incapacitated individual is granted powers by
- 26 the court under section 5306, the guardian is responsible for the
- 27 ward's care, custody, and control, but is not liable to third
- 28 persons because of that responsibility for the ward's acts. In
- 29 particular and without qualifying the previous sentences, a

- 1 guardian has all of the following powers and duties, to the extent
 2 granted by court order:
- 3 (a) The Subject to section 5314a, the custody of the person of the ward and the power to establish the ward's place of residence in or outside this state. The guardian shall visit the ward within 3 months after the guardian's appointment and not less than once within 3 months after each previous visit. The Subject to section 5314a, the guardian shall notify the court within not later than 14 days of after a change in the ward's place of residence or a change
- 10 in the guardian's place of residence. All of the following apply to
 11 the duty of the guardian to visit the ward:
 - (i) The guardian shall visit the ward in person not later than 1 month after the quardian's appointment and not less than once within 3 months after each in-person visit. The quardian shall also visit the ward using both audio and video technology or, if that technology is not available, only audio means, each month in which an in-person visit does not occur. If the ward is unable to communicate using audio and visual or audio-only means, the quardian shall communicate with the ward's caregivers or any other party who is familiar with the ward's circumstances and can apprise the quardian of the ward's needs and progress. If the quardian determines that audio and visual visits or audio-only visits are not possible or that the ward is unable to communicate through audiovisual means, the records the guardian must maintain must also identify the circumstances that required the guardian to rely on an audio-only visit or that required the quardian to consult with caregivers or others instead of communicating directly with the ward. The guardian shall maintain records relating to the date, time, and duration of and significant information for each required

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

- visit. The guardian shall make the records available for the
 court's review and for review of interested persons.
- 3 (ii) If the guardian is a limited guardian, the visitation
- 4 duties described in subparagraph (i) apply. However, the limited
- 5 guardian may seek approval from the court to conduct audiovisual or
- 6 audio-only visits less often than monthly in the months in which
- 7 the limited quardian is not visiting in person. The court may grant
- 8 the request if the court finds on the record that monthly
- 9 audiovisual or audio-only visits in the months in which an in-
- 10 person visit is not occurring are not necessary for the
- 11 individual's well-being and best interests and identifies on the
- 12 record the individual's circumstances that led to that finding.
- 13 (iii) If the guardian is not a professional guardian, the
- 14 guardian may delegate the required in-person visits under
- 15 subparagraph (i) to another person. The guardian shall communicate
- 16 with the person who conducted the in-person visit and maintain
- 17 records regarding the information shared by the person who
- 18 conducted the visit.
- 19 (iv) If the guardian is an individual professional guardian,
- 20 the professional guardian shall not delegate the required in-person
- 21 visits under subparagraph (i) to another person.
- 22 (b) If entitled to custody of the ward, the duty to make
- 23 provision for the ward's care, comfort, and maintenance and, when
- 24 appropriate, arrange for the ward's training and education. The
- 25 guardian shall secure services to restore the ward to the best
- 26 possible state of mental and physical well-being so that the ward
- 27 can return to self-management at the earliest possible time. The
- 28 quardian shall make a reasonable effort to identify a reasonable
- 29 number of items of personal or sentimental value, including, but

- not limited to, family heirlooms, photo albums, and collections. 1 2 Not later than 56 days after appointment, the quardian shall serve 3 on all interested persons a list of the identified items. The list 4 must be signed by the guardian and include an attestation that 5 states, "I represent this list is true and correct to the best of 6 my knowledge, information, and belief at the time of signing. I 7 understand that I must handle this property, like all of the ward's 8 property for which I am responsible, consistently with my fiduciary 9 duties. This may include sale, disposal, or other actions to meet 10 my fiduciary duties. I am not responsible for storing any items at 11 my own expense.". Without regard to custodial rights of the ward's person, the quardian shall take reasonable care of the ward's 12 clothing, furniture, vehicles, and other personal effects and 13 14 commence a protective proceeding if the ward's other property needs 15 protection. If a quardian commences a protective proceeding because the quardian believes that it is in the ward's best interest to 16 sell or otherwise dispose of the ward's real property or interest 17 18 in real property, the court may appoint the quardian as special 19 conservator and authorize the special conservator to proceed under 20 section 5423(3). A quardian shall not otherwise sell the ward's 21 real property or interest in real property. An interested person 22 may petition the court for a hearing regarding the sale or 23 disposition of the ward's property. 24
 - (c) The power to give the consent or approval that is necessary to enable the ward to receive medical, mental health, or other professional care, counsel, treatment, or service. However, a guardian does not have and shall not exercise the power to give the consent to or approval for inpatient hospitalization unless the court expressly grants the power in its order. If the ward objects

26

27

28

- 1 or actively refuses mental health treatment, the guardian or any
- 2 other interested person must follow the procedures provided in
- 3 chapter 4 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1400 to
- 4 330.1490, to petition the court for an order to provide involuntary
- 5 mental health treatment. The power of a guardian to execute a do-
- 6 not-resuscitate order under subdivision (d), execute a nonopioid
- 7 directive form under subdivision (f), or execute a physician orders
- 8 for scope of treatment form under subdivision (g) does not affect
- 9 or limit the power of a quardian to consent to a physician's order
- 10 to withhold resuscitative measures in a hospital. As used in this
- 11 subdivision, "involuntary mental health treatment" means that term
- 12 as defined in section 400 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258,
- **13** MCL 330.1400.
- 14 (d) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a do-not-
- 15 resuscitate order on behalf of a ward. However, a quardian shall
- 16 not execute a do-not-resuscitate order unless the guardian does all
- 17 of the following:
- 18 (i) Not more than 14 days before executing the do-not-
- 19 resuscitate order, visits the ward and, if meaningful communication
- 20 is possible, consults with the ward about executing the do-not-
- 21 resuscitate order.
- 22 (ii) Consults directly with the ward's attending physician as
- 23 to the specific medical indications that warrant the do-not-
- 24 resuscitate order.
- 25 (e) If a quardian executes a do-not-resuscitate order under
- 26 subdivision (d), not less than annually after the do-not-
- 27 resuscitate order is first executed, the duty to do all of the
- 28 following:
- 29 (i) Visit the ward and, if meaningful communication is



- possible, consult with the ward about reaffirming the do-notresuscitate order.
- 3 (ii) Consult directly with the ward's attending physician as to
 4 specific medical indications that may warrant reaffirming the do 5 not-resuscitate order.
 - (f) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a nonopioid directive form on behalf of a ward.
 - (g) The power to execute, reaffirm, and revoke a physician orders for scope of treatment form on behalf of a ward. However, a guardian shall not execute a physician orders for scope of treatment form unless the guardian does all of the following:
 - (i) Not more than 14 days before executing the physician orders for scope of treatment form, visits the ward and, if meaningful communication is possible, consults with the ward about executing the physician orders for scope of treatment form.
- 16 (ii) Consults directly with the ward's attending physician as 17 to the specific medical indications that warrant the physician 18 orders for scope of treatment form.
- (h) If a guardian executes a physician orders for scope of treatment form under subdivision (g), not less than annually after the physician orders for scope of treatment form is first executed, the duty to do all of the following:
- (i) Visit the ward and, if meaningful communication is
 possible, consult with the ward about reaffirming the physician
 orders for scope of treatment form.
- (ii) Consult directly with the ward's attending physician as to
 specific medical indications that may warrant reaffirming the
 physician orders for scope of treatment form.
- 29 (i) If a conservator for the ward's estate is not appointed,

8

10

11

12

13

14

the power to do any of the following powers and duty:

- 2 (i) Institute The power to institute a proceeding to compel a
 3 person under a duty to support the ward or to pay money for the
 4 ward's welfare to perform that duty.
 - (ii) Receive—The power to receive money and tangible property deliverable to the ward and apply the money and property for the ward's support, care, and education. The guardian shall not use money from the ward's estate for room and board that the guardian or the guardian's spouse, parent, or child have furnished the ward unless a charge for the service is approved by court order made on notice to at least 1 of the ward's next of kin, if notice is possible. The guardian shall exercise care to conserve any excess for the ward's needs.
 - (iii) The duty to allow interested persons to review proofs of income and disbursements at a time reasonably convenient to the quardian and interested persons.
 - (j) The duty to report the condition of the ward and the ward's estate that is subject to the guardian's possession or control, as required by the court, but not less often than annually. The guardian shall also serve the report required under this subdivision on the ward and interested persons as specified in the Michigan court rules. A report under this subdivision must contain all of the following:
 - (i) The ward's current mental, physical, and social condition.
 - (ii) Improvement or deterioration in the ward's mental, physical, and social condition that occurred during the past year.
 - (iii) The ward's present living arrangement and changes in the ward's living arrangement that occurred during the past year.
- 29 (iv) Whether the guardian recommends a more suitable living

- 1 arrangement for the ward.
- $oldsymbol{v}$ ($oldsymbol{v}$) Medical treatment, including mental health treatment,
- 3 received by the ward.
- $\mathbf{4}$ (vi) Whether the guardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked
- 5 a do-not-resuscitate order on behalf of the ward during the past
- 6 year.
- 7 (vii) Whether the guardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked
- 8 a nonopioid directive form on behalf of the ward during the past
- 9 year.
- 10 (viii) Whether the guardian has executed, reaffirmed, or revoked
- 11 a physician orders for scope of treatment form on behalf of the
- 12 ward during the past year.
- 13 (ix) Services received by the ward.
- 14 (x) A list of the quardian's visits with, and activities on
- 15 behalf of, the ward.
- 16 (xi) A recommendation as to the need for continued
- 17 quardianship.
- 18 (xii) If a standby quardian has been designated, a statement
- 19 signed by the standby quardian that the standby quardian continues
- 20 to be willing to serve in the event of the unavailability, death,
- 21 incapacity, or resignation of the guardian.
- 22 (k) If a conservator is appointed, the duty to pay to the
- 23 conservator, for management as provided in this act, the amount of
- 24 the ward's estate received by the quardian in excess of the amount
- 25 the quardian expends for the ward's current support, care, and
- 26 education. The guardian shall account to the conservator for the
- 27 amount expended.
- 28 (2) If a conservator has not been appointed for the ward, and
- 29 if the ward's qualified estate is greater than 400% of the federal

- 1 poverty level, the quardian must file a petition for
- 2 conservatorship under part 4 of this article. This subsection does
- 3 not prevent the appointment of a conservator for the ward if the
- 4 ward's qualified estate is less than 400% of the federal poverty
- 5 level. As used in this subsection:
- 6 (a) "Federal poverty level" means the poverty guidelines
- 7 published annually in the federal register by the United States
- 8 Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to
- 9 revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902.
- 10 (b) "Liquid assets" means assets that can easily be converted
- 11 into cash in a short amount of time. Liquid assets include, but are
- 12 not limited to, cash, checking and savings accounts, money market
- 13 instruments, certificates of deposit, mutual funds held in a
- 14 taxable account, marketable securities, bonds, and the monetary
- 15 value of life or other insurance. A retirement account is
- 16 considered a liquid asset once the individual's circumstances allow
- 17 him or her to withdraw cash without facing any Internal Revenue
- 18 Service early withdrawal penalties.
- (c) "Ward's qualified estate" means, except as otherwise
- 20 provided in subdivision (d), the ward's liquid assets or income, or
- 21 both, reported by the guardian ad litem under section 5305 or later
- 22 discovered by the quardian.
- (d) Ward's qualified estate does not include liquid assets or
- 24 income that is subject to some oversight such as by a
- 25 representative payee, under a durable power of attorney, joint
- 26 ownership, or a trust, or under some other protection.
- 27 Sec. 5314a. (1) The guardian shall maintain a legally
- 28 incapacitated individual in the legally incapacitated individual's
- 29 permanent residence if possible and consistent with the well-being

- 1 and preferences of the legally incapacitated individual. If a
- 2 legally incapacitated individual is removed from his or her
- 3 permanent residence temporarily for any reason, the guardian must
- 4 make all reasonable efforts to return the legally incapacitated
- 5 individual to his or her permanent residence at the earliest
- 6 opportunity consistent with the legally incapacitated individual's
- 7 wishes. Temporary removal of the legally incapacitated individual
- 8 from his or her permanent residence for the purpose of receiving
- 9 health care or supervision, for engaging in family or social
- 10 activities, or for other reasons including the well-being or
- 11 convenience of the legally incapacitated individual does not
- 12 relieve the quardian of the obligations set forth in this section
- 13 regarding permanent removal from the permanent residence. A
- 14 guardian shall not primarily consider the guardian's own
- 15 convenience or benefit when making a decision to remove the legally
- 16 incapacitated individual from the legally incapacitated
- 17 individual's permanent residence or selecting a new residence for
- 18 the legally incapacitated individual.
- 19 (2) A quardian shall explore reasonably available and
- 20 affordable supports and services that could enable the legally
- 21 incapacitated individual to remain in his or her permanent
- 22 residence.
- 23 (3) If a guardian proposes to move the legally incapacitated
- 24 individual from his or her permanent residence, the guardian must
- 25 attempt to consult with the legally incapacitated individual and
- 26 honor the legally incapacitated individual's preference to the
- 27 greatest extent possible.
- 28 (4) In exercising the guardian's power to establish the
- 29 legally incapacitated individual's place of residence, the guardian

- 1 shall do both of the following:
- 2 (a) Select a residential setting the guardian believes the
- 3 legally incapacitated individual would select if the legally
- 4 incapacitated individual were able. If the guardian does not know
- 5 and cannot reasonably determine what setting the legally
- 6 incapacitated individual would likely select, or the guardian
- 7 reasonably believes the decision the legally incapacitated
- 8 individual would make would unreasonably harm or endanger the
- 9 welfare or personal or financial interests of the legally
- 10 incapacitated individual, the guardian must choose a residential
- 11 setting that is consistent with the legally incapacitated
- 12 individual's best interest.
- 13 (b) Give priority to a residential setting in a location that
- 14 will allow the legally incapacitated individual to interact with
- 15 persons and participate in activities important to the legally
- 16 incapacitated individual and meet the legally incapacitated
- 17 individual's needs in the least restrictive manner reasonably
- 18 feasible.
- 19 (5) If a quardian removes a legally incapacitated individual
- 20 from the legally incapacitated individual's permanent residence to
- 21 another location in this state, the guardian must notify the court
- 22 and interested persons in writing not later than 14 days after the
- 23 removal. The notification required under this subsection must
- 24 include the address of the new permanent residence.
- 25 (6) A guardian shall not move the legally incapacitated
- 26 individual out of state without order of the court. If the quardian
- 27 petitions to move the legally incapacitated individual out of
- 28 state, a guardian ad litem must be appointed and the court shall
- 29 schedule a hearing regardless of whether the individual files

- 1 objections or expresses dissatisfaction with the proposed move. If
- 2 the legally incapacitated individual files objections or expresses
- 3 dissatisfaction with the proposed move, the court must appoint
- 4 legal counsel if the legally incapacitated individual is not
- 5 already represented by legal counsel.
- 6 (7) Subject to subsections (9) and (10), and except as
- 7 otherwise provided in subsection (14), a professional guardian
- 8 shall not permanently remove a legally incapacitated individual
- 9 from the legally incapacitated individual's permanent residence
- 10 unless, subject to subsection (8), the professional guardian files
- 11 a petition under this subsection and the court grants the petition
- 12 under subsection (13). A petition under this subsection must be
- 13 separate from the petition for a finding of incapacity and
- 14 appointment of guardian under section 5303. A petition under this
- 15 subsection must include all of the following information:
- 16 (a) The individual's current permanent residence.
- 17 (b) The proposed new residence.
 - (c) The reason for the proposed move.
- 19 (d) Whether the move is to a more or less restrictive setting.
- 20 (e) The efforts made or resources explored to enable the
- 21 individual to remain in his or her current permanent residence.
- 22 (f) Whether the quardian has engaged in meaningful
- 23 communication with the individual about the proposed move.
- 24 (g) Whether the individual objects to or supports the proposed
- 25 move.

- 26 (8) If the person petitioning for quardianship under section
- 27 5303 proposes or anticipates that a professional guardian will be
- 28 appointed under section 5306, the petitioner or any interested
- 29 person that believes that it is necessary for the well-being of the

- 1 alleged incapacitated individual to move the individual permanently
- 2 from his or her permanent residence may file a petition under
- 3 subsection (7) seeking authority for a professional guardian, if
- 4 appointed under section 5306, to permanently remove the alleged
- 5 incapacitated individual from his or her permanent residence.
- 6 (9) If a professional guardian determines that to protect the
- 7 health, safety, or welfare of the legally incapacitated individual,
- 8 it is necessary to move the legally incapacitated individual from
- 9 his or her permanent residence to a another residence the
- 10 professional guardian intends to be permanent before obtaining
- 11 court approval under subsection (13), the professional guardian may
- 12 move the legally incapacitated individual. Not later than 14 days
- 13 after moving the legally incapacitated individual as allowed under
- 14 this subsection, the professional guardian must file a petition
- 15 under subsection (7). The petition must include the circumstances
- 16 that the professional guardian determined made it necessary to move
- 17 the legally incapacitated individual before filing a petition under
- 18 subsection (7). If applicable, the petition must include any
- 19 circumstances to which the legally incapacitated individual or an
- 20 interested person objects.
- 21 (10) If, after a temporary stay in a health care facility or
- 22 at a residence the professional quardian initially intended to be
- 23 temporary, the professional guardian determines that it is
- 24 necessary to change to the permanent residence of the legally
- 25 incapacitated individual, the professional guardian must, not later
- 26 than 14 days after making the determination, file a petition under
- 27 subsection (7). The petition must include the circumstances
- 28 underlying the professional guardian's determination.
- 29 (11) If a petition for removal from the permanent residence

- 1 has been filed under subsection (7), the court shall promptly
- 2 appoint a guardian ad litem and hold the hearing not later than 28
- 3 days after the petition is filed. The guardian ad litem must, in
- 4 addition to the other duties set forth in section 5305, do all of
- 5 the following:
- 6 (a) Advise the individual that a petition has been filed to
- 7 move the individual from his or her permanent residence to the new
- 8 residence identified in the petition or another location the court
- 9 determines is appropriate.
- 10 (b) Explain that if the court grants the petition to move the
- 11 individual, the guardian will have the authority to change the
- 12 individual's permanent residence to the location specified in the
- 13 petition or to another location the court determines is
- 14 appropriate.
- 15 (c) Ascertain, if possible, the wishes of the individual to
- 16 remain in his or her permanent residence.
- 17 (d) Include a summary of the discussion in the guardian ad
- 18 litem's written report.
- 19 (12) If the alleged incapacitated individual or legally
- 20 incapacitated individual does not already have legal counsel, the
- 21 court must appoint legal counsel if the individual files an
- 22 objection to the petition for authority to move the individual from
- 23 his or her permanent residence under subsection (7) or if the
- 24 quardian ad litem's report under subsection (11) states that the
- 25 individual objects to being removed from his or her permanent
- 26 residence.
- 27 (13) The court shall not grant a petition for removal from the
- 28 permanent residence under subsection (7) unless the court, after
- 29 due consideration and opportunity for testimony on the matter,

- 1 determines by clear and convincing evidence that moving the legally
- 2 incapacitated individual from the permanent residence to the
- 3 residence identified in the petition is 1 or more of the following:
- 4 (a) Necessary to protect the individual's physical health,
- 5 safety, or welfare.

- (b) Consistent with the individual's wishes.
- 7 (14) If the legally incapacitated individual must leave the
- 8 permanent residence because the residence becomes permanently
- 9 unavailable, the professional quardian must provide at least 14
- 10 days' prior written notice to the legally incapacitated individual
- 11 and interested persons if possible under the circumstances or, if
- 12 less time is available before the legally incapacitated individual
- 13 must move, notice at the earliest opportunity. The professional
- 14 guardian shall provide written notice to the court and all
- 15 interested persons not later than 14 days after the move under this
- 16 subsection explaining why the permanent residence is no longer
- 17 available, whether the professional guardian attempted to consult
- 18 with the legally incapacitated individual about where the legally
- 19 incapacitated individual wanted to move, whether the professional
- 20 quardian honored the legally incapacitated individual's preferences
- 21 regarding where the legally incapacitated individual wanted to
- 22 move, the address of the new residence, the type of residence, and
- 23 how the new residence will meet the legally incapacitated
- 24 individual's needs. If the legally incapacitated individual's
- 25 residence becomes permanently unavailable, the professional
- 26 guardian is not required to file a petition under subsection (7)
- 27 and the court is not required to appoint a guardian ad litem or
- 28 legal counsel or hold a hearing. For purposes of this subsection, a
- 29 residence becomes permanently unavailable as a result of a facility

- 1 closure, removal of the property from the rental market,
- 2 involuntary discharge, notice to quit, or eviction that cannot be
- 3 appropriately resolved by the professional guardian, irreparable
- 4 damage to the permanent residence, or other circumstances that are
- 5 not initiated by the professional guardian but necessitate the
- 6 permanent removal of the legally incapacitated individual from his
- 7 or her permanent residence.
- 8 (15) If removal from the permanent residence necessitates the
- 9 sale, transfer, or disposal of real property or sentimental
- 10 personal property and if meaningful communication is possible, the
- 11 guardian must consult with the legally incapacitated individual
- 12 before taking any action to dispose of the property. A guardian
- 13 shall make all reasonable efforts to identify and honor the legally
- 14 incapacitated individual's wishes to preserve sentimental personal
- 15 property in the overall context of the legally incapacitated
- 16 individual's estate, including items identified in the inventory
- 17 under section 5314, and shall take reasonable steps to safeguard
- 18 that personal property. A quardian is not responsible for storage
- 19 for the legally incapacitated individual's personal property at the
- 20 quardian's personal expense. The court may remove a quardian that
- 21 fails to comply with this subsection.
- 22 (16) As used in this section, "permanent residence" means any
- 23 of the following:
- 24 (a) The location the allegedly incapacitated individual or
- 25 legally incapacitated individual uses as a permanent address, in
- 26 which most of the individual's possessions are maintained.
- 27 (b) The location the allegedly incapacitated individual or
- 28 legally incapacitated individual considers to be his or her home.
- Sec. 5406. (1) Upon On receipt of a petition for a



- conservator's appointment or another protective order because of 1 minority, the court shall set a date for hearing. If, at any time 2 in the proceeding, the court determines that the minor's interests 3 are or may be inadequately represented, the court may appoint an 4 5 attorney to represent the minor, giving consideration to the 6 minor's choice if 14 years of age or older. An attorney appointed 7 by the court to represent a minor has the powers and duties of a 8 quardian ad litem.
- 9 (2) Upon On receipt of a petition for a conservator's 10 appointment or another protective order for a reason other than 11 minority, the court shall set a date for initial hearing. Unless the individual to be protected has chosen retained legal counsel, 12 or is mentally competent but aged or physically infirm, the court 13 14 shall appoint a guardian ad litem. to represent the person in the 15 proceeding. If the alleged disability is mental illness, mental 16 deficiency, physical illness or disability, chronic use of drugs, or chronic intoxication, the court may direct that the individual 17 alleged to need protection be examined by a physician or mental 18 health professional appointed by the court, preferably a physician 19 20 or mental health professional who is not connected with an institution in which the individual is a patient or is detained. 21 The individual alleged to need protection has the right to secure 22 23 an independent evaluation at his or her own expense. The court may 24 send a visitor to interview the individual to be protected. The 25 visitor may be a guardian ad litem or a court officer or employee.
 - (3) The court may utilize, as an additional visitor, the service of a public or charitable agency to evaluate the condition of the individual to be protected and make appropriate recommendations to the court.

2728

- 1 (4) A guardian ad litem, physician, mental health
- 2 professional, or visitor appointed under this section who meets
- ${f 3}$ with, examines, or evaluates an individual who is the subject of a
- 4 petition in a protective proceeding shall do all of the following:
- 5 (a) Consider whether there is an appropriate alternative to a6 conservatorship.
- 7 (b) If a conservatorship is appropriate, consider the
 8 desirability of limiting the scope and duration of the
 9 conservator's authority.
- 10 (c) Report to the court based on the considerations required11 in subdivisions (a) and (b).
- 12 (5) The duties of a guardian ad litem appointed when an 13 individual is alleged to be an individual in need of protection 14 include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
- 15 (a) Interviewing the individual in person at the individual's 16 location and out of the presence of any interested person.
 - (b) Advising the individual that the guardian ad litem does not represent the individual as an attorney and that no attorney-client relationship has been created, and that statements the individual makes to the guardian ad litem are not privileged and may be communicated to the court or other persons.
 - (c) Explaining to the individual the nature, purpose, and legal effects of a conservator's appointment.
 - (d) Explaining to the individual the hearing procedure and the individual's rights in the hearing procedure, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - (i) The right to contest the petition, in whole or in part.
- 28 (ii) The right to request limits on the conservator's powers.
- 29 (iii) The right to be present at the hearing. If the individual



18

1920

21

22

23

24

25

26

- 1 is unable to attend the hearing at the location where court
- 2 proceedings typically are held, the guardian ad litem shall inform
- 3 the individual of the individual's right for the hearing to be held
- 4 at another location or through the use of video conferencing
- 5 technology.
- 6 (iv) The right to request a reasonable accommodation to allow
- 7 the individual to participate as fully as possible at the hearing,
- 8 including with assistive technology or other support.
- 9 (ν) The right to be represented by legal counsel of the
- 10 individual's choice.
- 11 (vi) The right to have legal counsel appointed for the
- 12 individual if the individual is unable to secure legal counsel or
- 13 if the individual is unable to afford legal counsel.
- (e) Identifying whether the individual wishes to be present at
- 15 the hearing. If the individual alleged to be in need of protection
- 16 does not wish to be present at the hearing, the guardian ad litem
- 17 shall identify the reasons why the individual does not wish to be
- 18 present.
- 19 (f) Identifying any barriers to the individual's attending a
- 20 hearing at the place where court is held or otherwise fully
- 21 participating in the hearing, including the need for assistive
- 22 technology, transportation, or other support. If the individual
- 23 alleged to be in need of protection wishes to attend, the guardian
- 24 ad litem must identify whether the individual has identified a plan
- 25 for how the individual will attend.
- 26 (g) Identifying whether the individual plans to retain legal
- 27 counsel or wishes to have legal counsel appointed.
- 28 (h) Explaining to the individual that if a conservator is
- 29 appointed, the conservator may have the power to take certain

- 1 actions on behalf of the individual. A quardian ad litem must
- 2 inform the individual that a conservator may have the power to and,
- 3 if meaningful communication is possible, discern whether the
- 4 individual objects to a conservator having the power to handle any
- 5 financial and property matters, including the sale or disposal of
- 6 personal property and the maintenance of real property.
- 7 (i) Making determinations, and informing the court of those 8 determinations, on all of the following:
- 9 (i) Whether there are 1 or more appropriate alternatives to the
- 10 appointment of a full conservator or whether 1 or more actions
- 11 should be taken in addition to the appointment of a conservator.
- 12 Before informing the court of the quardian ad litem's determination
- 13 under this subparagraph, the guardian ad litem shall consider the
- 14 appropriateness of at least each of the following as alternatives
- 15 or additional actions:
- 16 (A) Appointment of a limited conservator, including the
- 17 specific powers and limitation on those powers the guardian ad
- 18 litem believes appropriate.
- 19 (B) A protective order under part 4 of this article. In the
- 20 report informing the court of the determinations under this
- 21 subdivision, the quardian ad litem shall include an estimate of the
- 22 amount of cash and property readily convertible into cash that is
- 23 in the individual's estate.
- (ii) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the
- 25 conservatorship petition might be resolved through court-ordered
- 26 mediation.
- 27 (iii) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the
- 28 hearing.
- 29 (iv) Whether the individual wishes to contest the petition.

- 1 (ν) Whether the individual wishes limits placed on the 2 conservator's powers.
- 3 (vi) Whether the individual objects to a particular person4 being appointed conservator.
- 5 ($v\ddot{u}$) If a conservator were appointed, whom the individual 6 would want to serve, in order of preference.
- 7 (viii) If a conservator were appointed, whom the individual 8 would not want to serve.
- 9 (6) Subject to subsection (7), a guardian ad litem appointed 10 for an individual alleged to need protection or protected 11 individual shall file a written report with the court and in the 12 form required by the state court administrative office.
- 13 (7) The guardian ad litem's report required under subsection 14 (6) must include, at least, all of the following:
- 15 (a) The date and time the guardian ad litem met with the 16 individual.
- 17 (b) The length of time the guardian ad litem met with the 18 individual.
- 19 (c) The location where the guardian ad litem met with the 20 individual.
- 21 (d) Whether the guardian ad litem was able to meaningfully 22 communicate with the individual and any barriers to communication.
- 23 (e) Who, if anyone, was present for the interview besides the individual.
- 25 (f) Whether the individual wishes to be present at the 26 hearing. If the individual wishes to be present at the hearing, the 27 guardian ad litem must include in the report both of the following:
- 28 (i) Whether the individual has identified a plan for how the 29 individual will attend.



- 1 (ii) Whether the individual has any barriers to attending court 2 at the place where it is usually held.
- 3 (iii) If the individual has a barrier to attending, whether the 4 barrier can be resolved by moving the location of the hearing or 5 using assistive technology, or both, or other support.
- 6 (g) Whether the individual has retained or plans to retain
 7 legal counsel or wishes for legal counsel to be appointed. If the
 8 individual has not indicated whether the individual wishes to be
 9 represented by legal counsel, the guardian ad litem shall include
 10 in the report a recommendation whether legal counsel should be
 11 appointed to represent the individual.
 - (h) Whether the individual has any of the following:
- (i) A power of attorney with or without limitations on purpose,
 authority, or time period.
 - (ii) A patient advocate designation.
- 16 (iii) A benefits payee, trustee, or other fiduciary.
 - (i) Whether the individual wishes to contest the petition.
- 18 (j) Whether a disagreement or dispute related to the petition 19 might be resolved through court-ordered mediation.
- 20 (k) Whether the appointment of a visitor with appropriate
 21 knowledge, training, and education such as a social worker, mental
 22 health professional, or medical professional could provide the
 23 court with the information on whether alternatives to
- 24 conservatorship or a limited conservatorship under section 5419 is 25 appropriate.
- 26 (l) If a conservator were appointed, whom the individual would 27 want to serve in order of preference.
- 28 (m) If a conservator were appointed, whom the individual would 29 not want to serve.



15

- 1 (n) Any other information the guardian ad litem determines 2 would be helpful to the court in ruling on the petition.
- 3 (8) A guardian ad litem shall file the report required under 4 subsection (6) with the court and serve it on all interested 5 persons at least 3 days before the date of the hearing. The court 6 may order the report to be filed and served less than 3 days before 7 the hearing only if the petition is made on an emergency basis
- 8 under section 5312.
- 9 (9) The court shall not order compensation of the guardian ad 10 litem unless the guardian ad litem states on the record or in the 11 guardian ad litem's report that the guardian ad litem has complied 12 with subsections (5) to (8).
- 13 (10) If an individual who is subject to a petition under this 14 part has not already secured legal counsel, the court shall appoint 15 legal counsel if any of the following apply:
- 16 (a) The individual requests legal counsel.
- 17 (b) The individual wishes to contest the petition, to have 18 limits placed on the conservator's powers, or to object to a 19 particular person being appointed conservator.
- 20 (c) The guardian ad litem determines it is in the individual's 21 best interest to have legal counsel.
- 22 (11) If the individual alleged to be in need of protection is 23 indigent, the state shall bear the expense of appointed legal 24 counsel under subsection (10).
- 25 (12) If the individual alleged to be in need of protection has 26 retained legal counsel or if legal counsel has been appointed under 27 subsection (10), the appointment of a guardian ad litem terminates.
- 28 (13) An individual alleged to be in need of protection has the 29 right to retain legal counsel of the individual's choice at any

- 1 stage, regardless of a finding regarding the individual's capacity.
- 2 Retained legal counsel shall file a substitution of legal counsel
- 3 or a motion to substitute if legal counsel has already been
- 4 appointed. Retained legal counsel is entitled to reasonable
- 5 attorney fees.
- 6 (14) (5) The individual to be protected is entitled to be
- 7 present at the hearing in person. If the individual wishes to be
- 8 present at the hearing, all practical steps must be taken to ensure
- 9 the individual's presence including, if necessary, moving the site
- 10 of the hearing. The individual is entitled to be represented by
- 11 legal counsel, to present evidence, to cross-examine witnesses,
- 12 including a court-appointed physician or other qualified person and
- 13 a visitor, and to trial by jury. The issue may be determined at a
- 14 closed hearing or without a jury if the individual to be protected
- 15 or legal counsel for the individual so requests.
- 16 (15) (6) Any person may request for permission to participate
- 17 in the proceeding, and the court may grant the request, with or
- 18 without hearing, upon on determining that the best interest of the
- 19 individual to be protected will be served by granting the request.
- 20 The court may attach appropriate conditions to the permission.
- 21 (16) (7)—After hearing, upon—on finding that a basis for a
- 22 conservator's appointment or another protective order is
- 23 established by clear and convincing evidence, the court shall make
- 24 the appointment or other appropriate protective order.
- 25 Sec. 5417. (1) Within Not later than 56 days after appointment
- 26 or within another time period specified by court rule, a
- 27 conservator shall prepare and file with the appointing court a
- 28 complete inventory of the estate subject to the conservatorship
- 29 together with an oath or affirmation that the inventory is believed

- 1 to be complete and accurate so far as information permits. The
- 2 conservator shall serve the inventory on interested persons and, on
- 3 reasonable request by the court or an interested person, shall make
- 4 account statements that reflect the value of depository and
- 5 investment accounts and that are dated not later than 30 days after
- 6 the inventory's date available for review by the court or
- 7 interested person at a time mutually convenient to the conservator
- 8 and interested person. The conservator shall provide a copy of the
- 9 inventory to the protected individual if the individual can be
- 10 located and is 14 years of age or older and to interested persons
- 11 as specified in the Michigan court rules.
- 12 (2) The conservator must keep suitable records of the
- 13 administration and exhibit those records on the request of an
- 14 interested person.
- 15 (3) The conservator must make reasonable efforts to identify
- 16 on the inventory under subsection (1) a reasonable number of items
- 17 of special personal or sentimental value, including, but not
- 18 limited to, family heirlooms, photo albums, or collections. To the
- 19 extent meaningful conversation permits, the conservator must make
- 20 an inquiry with the protected individual as to what items the
- 21 protected individual identifies as having special personal or
- 22 sentimental value. If the conservator is unable to locate an item
- 23 identified as having special personal or sentimental value at the
- 24 time of filing the inventory under subsection (1), the conservator
- 25 must state that on the inventory. The inventory must be signed by
- 26 the conservator and include an attestation that states, "I
- 27 represent this list is true and correct to the best of my
- 28 knowledge, information, and belief at the time of signing. I
- 29 understand that I must handle this property, like all of the

- 1 protected individual's property, consistent with my fiduciary
- 2 duties. This may include sale, disposal, or other actions to meet
- 3 my fiduciary duties. I am not responsible for storing any items at
- 4 my expense.". A conservator shall make all reasonable efforts to
- 5 identify and honor the protected individual's wishes to preserve
- 6 items of special personal or sentimental value in the overall
- 7 context of the protected individual's estate, including items
- 8 identified in the inventory and annual accounts, and shall take
- 9 reasonable steps to safeguard the property. The court may remove a
- 10 conservator that fails to comply with this subsection. This
- 11 subsection does not apply if the guardian has already satisfied
- 12 this requirement in accordance with section 5314(1)(b). This
- 13 subsection does not apply to a financial institution appointed as a
- 14 professional conservator. An interested person may petition the
- 15 court for a hearing regarding the sale or disposition of the ward's
- 16 property.
- 17 (4) The inventory under subsection (1) must list any
- 18 merchandise, funeral services, cemetery services, or prepaid
- 19 contracts for which the protected individual or conservator is the
- 20 contract buyer or contract beneficiary under the prepaid funeral
- 21 and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235. If the
- 22 conservatorship estate includes assets described in this
- 23 subsection, the conservator must file all of the following with the
- 24 inventory under subsection (1):
- 25 (a) A copy of any prepaid contract under the prepaid funeral
- 26 and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235.
- 27 (b) Proof that payments made under a prepaid contract are held
- 28 in escrow or under a trust agreement in compliance with the prepaid
- 29 funeral and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to

1 328.235.

- 2 (c) The most recent escrow statement issued concerning the 3 prepaid contract.
- 4 (d) Proof of any assignments of life policies or annuity
 5 contracts made to purchase merchandise, funeral services, or
 6 cemetery services under the prepaid funeral and cemetery sales act,
 7 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235, under subsection (1) must list
 8 property with reasonable detail and the type and amount of any
 9 encumbrance.
 - (5) The inventory under subsection (1) must be served on all interested persons. Any interested person may file an objection to the inventory with the court and serve the objection on all other interested persons. The court shall set the matter for hearing.
 - Sec. 5418. (1) A conservator shall account to the court for administration of the trust not less than annually unless the court directs otherwise, upon resignation or removal, and at other times as the court directs. On The conservator shall serve on interested persons, along with the account under this subsection, account statements with account numbers redacted that reflect the value of depository and investment accounts dated not later than 30 days after the inventory's date and receipts, invoices, or other documentation for expenses in excess of \$1,000.00. The account must be in the form as provided by the state court administrative office. The account must detail assets including those identified in the inventory under section 5417, debts, gross income, and expenses.
 - (2) Not later than 56 days after the termination of the protected individual's minority or disability, a conservator shall account to the court or to the formerly protected individual or

- 1 that individual's successors. Subject to appeal or vacation within
- 2 the time permitted, an order, after notice and hearing, allowing an
- 3 intermediate account of a conservator adjudicates as to liabilities
- 4 concerning the matters considered in connection with the accounts,
- 5 and an order, after notice and hearing, allowing a final account
- 6 adjudicates as to all previously unsettled liabilities of the
- 7 conservator to the protected individual or the protected
- 8 individual's successors relating to the conservatorship. The
- 9 conservator shall serve the account under this subsection on
- 10 interested persons and shall make an account statement reflecting
- 11 the value of depository and investment accounts covering the period
- 12 of the accounting and receipts, invoices, or other documentation
- 13 for expenses in excess of \$1,000.00 available for review by the
- 14 court or an interested person on reasonable request at a time
- 15 mutually convenient to the conservator and the interested person.
- 16 In connection with any account, the court may require a conservator
- 17 to submit to a physical check of the estate to be made in any
- 18 manner the court specifies.
- 19 (3) If the conservator has disposed of or sold any of the
- 20 items, the conservator must describe on the account under
- 21 subsection (1) how the conservator fulfilled the conservator's
- 22 duties under section 5417(3).
- 23 (4) If the protected individual's estate includes any
- 24 merchandise, funeral services, cemetery services, or prepaid
- 25 contracts for which the protected individual or conservator is the
- 26 contract buyer or contract beneficiary under the prepaid funeral
- 27 and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235, the
- 28 conservator must file all of the following with the account:
 - (a) A copy of any prepaid contract under the prepaid funeral

- 1 and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235.
- 2 (b) Proof that payments made under a prepaid contract are held
- 3 in escrow or under a trust agreement in compliance with the prepaid
- 4 funeral and cemetery sales act, 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to
- 5 328,235.
- 6 (c) The most recent escrow statement issued concerning the
- 7 prepaid contract.
- 8 (d) Proof of any assignments of life policies or annuity
- 9 contracts made to purchase merchandise, funeral services, or
- 10 cemetery services under the prepaid funeral and cemetery sales act,
- 11 1986 PA 255, MCL 328.211 to 328.235.
- 12 (5) $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$ The conservator shall provide a copy of an account to
- 13 the protected individual if the individual can be located and is 14
- 14 years of age or older and to interested persons as specified in the
- 15 Michigan court rules.
- 16 (6) If the protected individual objects to an account, the
- 17 court must appoint a guardian ad litem to visit the protected
- 18 individual in the same manner as specified in section 5406. The
- 19 court must appoint legal counsel to represent the protected
- 20 individual if any of the following are met:
- 21 (a) The protected individual requests legal counsel.
- 22 (b) The guardian ad litem believes that appointment of legal
- 23 counsel is in the best interest of the protected individual.
- 24 (c) The court otherwise believes it is necessary to protect
- 25 the interest of the protected individual.
- 26 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 365 days
- 27 after the date it is enacted into law.
- 28 Enacting section 2. This amendatory act does not take effect
- 29 unless all of the following bills of the 102nd Legislature are

- 1 enacted into law:
- 2 (a) House Bill No. 4909.
- **3** (b) House Bill No. 4911.
- 4 (c) House Bill No. 4912.

