

26100459D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 133**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 3, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-291.7, 54.1-2982, 54.1-2983, 54.1-2984, 59.1-481, 64.2-100, 64.2-403,*  
5 *64.2-404, 64.2-407, and 64.2-450 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in*  
6 *Chapter 4 of Title 64.2 an article numbered 7, consisting of sections numbered 64.2-459 through*  
7 *64.2-468, relating to electronic execution of estate planning documents; Uniform Electronic Wills Act.*

8 Patron—Simon

9 Committee Referral Pending

10 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**11 **1. That §§ 32.1-291.7, 54.1-2982, 54.1-2983, 54.1-2984, 59.1-481, 64.2-100, 64.2-403, 64.2-404, 64.2-407,**  
12 **and 64.2-450 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is**  
13 **amended by adding in Chapter 4 of Title 64.2 an article numbered 7, consisting of sections numbered**  
14 **64.2-459 through 64.2-468, as follows:**15 **§ 32.1-291.7. Refusal to make anatomical gift; effect of refusal.**

16 A. An individual may refuse to make an anatomical gift of the individual's body or part by:

17 1. A record signed by:

18 a. The individual; or

19 b. Subject to subsection B, another individual acting at the direction of the individual if the individual is  
20 physically unable to sign;21 2. The individual's will, whether or not the will is admitted to probate or invalidated after the individual's  
22 death; or23 3. Any form of communication made by the individual during the individual's terminal illness or injury  
24 addressed to at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness.

25 B. A record signed pursuant to subdivision A 1 b shall:

26 1. Be *either* (i) witnessed by at least two adults, at least one of whom is a disinterested witness, who have  
27 signed at the request of the individual *or* (ii) acknowledged before a notary public; and28 2. State that it has been signed and *either* witnessed *or* notarized as provided in subdivision 1.

29 C. An individual who has made a refusal may amend or revoke the refusal:

30 1. In the manner provided in subsection A for making a refusal;

31 2. By subsequently making an anatomical gift pursuant to § 32.1-291.5 that is inconsistent with the  
32 refusal; or33 3. By destroying or canceling the record evidencing the refusal, or the portion of the record used to make  
34 the refusal, with the intent to revoke the refusal.35 D. Except as otherwise provided in subsection H of § 32.1-291.8, in the absence of an express, contrary  
36 indication by the individual set forth in the refusal, an individual's unrevoked refusal to make an anatomical  
37 gift of the individual's body or part bars all other persons from making an anatomical gift of the individual's  
38 body or part.39 **§ 54.1-2982. Definitions.**

40 As used in this article:

41 "Advance directive" means (i) a ~~witnessed written document~~ writing or other record, voluntarily executed  
42 by the declarant in accordance with the requirements of § 54.1-2983 or (ii) a witnessed oral statement, made  
43 by the declarant subsequent to the time he is diagnosed as suffering from a terminal condition and in  
44 accordance with the provisions of § 54.1-2983.45 "Agent" means an adult appointed by the declarant under an advance directive, executed or made in  
46 accordance with the provisions of § 54.1-2983, to make health care decisions for him. The declarant may also  
47 appoint an adult to make, after the declarant's death, an anatomical gift of all or any part of his body pursuant  
48 to Article 2 (§ 32.1-291.1 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 32.1.49 "Attending physician" means the primary physician who has responsibility for the health care of the  
50 patient.51 "Capacity reviewer" means a licensed physician or clinical psychologist who is qualified by training or  
52 experience to assess whether a person is capable or incapable of making an informed decision.53 "Declarant" means an adult who makes an advance directive, as defined in this article, while capable of  
54 making and communicating an informed decision.55 "Durable Do Not Resuscitate Order" means a written physician's order issued pursuant to § 54.1-2987.1 to  
56 withhold cardiopulmonary resuscitation from a particular patient in the event of cardiac or respiratory arrest.

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HB133

59 For purposes of this article, cardiopulmonary resuscitation shall include cardiac compression, endotracheal  
60 intubation and other advanced airway management, artificial ventilation, and defibrillation and related  
61 procedures. As the terms "advance directive" and "Durable Do Not Resuscitate Order" are used in this article,  
62 a Durable Do Not Resuscitate Order is not and shall not be construed as an advance directive.

63 *"Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical,  
64 electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.*

65 "Health care" means the furnishing of services to any individual for the purpose of preventing, alleviating,  
66 curing, or healing human illness, injury or physical disability, including but not limited to, medications;  
67 surgery; blood transfusions; chemotherapy; radiation therapy; admission to a hospital, nursing home, assisted  
68 living facility, or other health care facility; psychiatric or other mental health treatment; and life-prolonging  
69 procedures and palliative care.

70 "Health care provider" shall have the same meaning as provided in § 8.01-581.1.

71 "Incapable of making an informed decision" means the inability of an adult patient, because of mental  
72 illness, intellectual disability, or any other mental or physical disorder that precludes communication or  
73 impairs judgment, to make an informed decision about providing, continuing, withholding or withdrawing a  
74 specific health care treatment or course of treatment because he is unable to understand the nature, extent or  
75 probable consequences of the proposed health care decision, or to make a rational evaluation of the risks and  
76 benefits of alternatives to that decision. For purposes of this article, persons who are deaf, dysphasic or have  
77 other communication disorders, who are otherwise mentally competent and able to communicate by means  
78 other than speech, shall not be considered incapable of making an informed decision.

79 "Life-prolonging procedure" means any medical procedure, treatment or intervention which (i) utilizes  
80 mechanical or other artificial means to sustain, restore or supplant a spontaneous vital function, or is  
81 otherwise of such a nature as to afford a patient no reasonable expectation of recovery from a terminal  
82 condition and (ii) when applied to a patient in a terminal condition, would serve only to prolong the dying  
83 process. The term includes artificially administered hydration and nutrition. However, nothing in this act shall  
84 prohibit the administration of medication or the performance of any medical procedure deemed necessary to  
85 provide comfort care or to alleviate pain, including the administration of pain relieving medications in excess  
86 of recommended dosages in accordance with §§ 54.1-2971.01 and 54.1-3408.1. For purposes of  
87 §§ 54.1-2988, 54.1-2989, and 54.1-2991, the term also shall include cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

88 *"Notary public" has the same meaning as provided in § 47.1-2 and includes an "electronic notary public"  
89 and "electronic notary" as defined in § 47.1-2.*

90 "Patient care consulting committee" means a committee duly organized by a facility licensed to provide  
91 health care under Title 32.1 or Title 37.2, or a hospital or nursing home as defined in § 32.1-123 owned or  
92 operated by an agency of the Commonwealth that is exempt from licensure pursuant to § 32.1-124, to consult  
93 on health care issues only as authorized in this article. Each patient care consulting committee shall consist of  
94 five individuals, including at least one physician, one person licensed or holding a multistate licensure  
95 privilege under Chapter 30 (§ 54.1-3000 et seq.) to practice professional nursing, and one individual  
96 responsible for the provision of social services to patients of the facility. At least one committee member  
97 shall have experience in clinical ethics and at least two committee members shall have no employment or  
98 contractual relationship with the facility or any involvement in the management, operations, or governance of  
99 the facility, other than serving on the patient care consulting committee. A patient care consulting committee  
100 may be organized as a subcommittee of a standing ethics or other committee established by the facility or  
101 may be a separate and distinct committee. Four members of the patient care consulting committee shall  
102 constitute a quorum of the patient care consulting committee.

103 "Persistent vegetative state" means a condition caused by injury, disease or illness in which a patient has  
104 suffered a loss of consciousness, with no behavioral evidence of self-awareness or awareness of surroundings  
105 in a learned manner, other than reflex activity of muscles and nerves for low level conditioned response, and  
106 from which, to a reasonable degree of medical probability, there can be no recovery.

107 "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth of Virginia or in the  
108 jurisdiction where the health care is to be rendered or withheld.

109 "Qualified advance directive facilitator" means a person who has successfully completed a training  
110 program approved by the Department of Health for providing assistance in completing and executing a  
111 written advance directive, including successful demonstration of competence in assisting a person in  
112 completing and executing a valid advance directive and successful passage of a written examination.

113 *"Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or  
114 other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.*

115 *"Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record, (i) to execute or adopt a tangible  
116 symbol or (ii) to attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic sound, symbol, or process.*

117 "Terminal condition" means a condition caused by injury, disease or illness from which, to a reasonable  
118 degree of medical probability a patient cannot recover and (i) the patient's death is imminent or (ii) the patient  
119 is in a persistent vegetative state.

120 "Witness" means any person over the age of 18, including a spouse or blood relative of the declarant.

121 Employees of health care facilities and physician's offices, who act in good faith, shall be permitted to serve  
 122 as witnesses for purposes of this article.

**123 § 54.1-2983. Procedure for making advance directive; notice to physician.**

124 Any adult capable of making an informed decision may, at any time, make a ~~written~~ *an advance directive*  
 125 *in a writing or other record* to address any or all forms of health care in the event the declarant is later  
 126 determined to be incapable of making an informed decision. A ~~written~~ *Such advance directive shall be (i) a*  
 127 *writing signed by the declarant in the presence of two subscribing witnesses and or (ii) a writing or other*  
 128 *record signed by the declarant and acknowledged before a notary public. Such advance directive may (i) (a)*  
 129 *specify the health care the declarant does or does not authorize; (ii) (b) appoint an agent to make health care*  
 130 *decisions for the declarant; and (iii) (c) specify an anatomical gift, after the declarant's death, of all of the*  
 131 *declarant's body or an organ, tissue, or eye donation pursuant to Article 2 (§ 32.1-291.1 et seq.) of Chapter 8*  
 132 *of Title 32.1. A ~~written~~ *An advance directive in a writing or other record* may be submitted to the Advance*  
 133 *Health Care Directive Registry, pursuant to Article 9 (§ 54.1-2994 et seq.). An individual may create a*  
 134 *certified paper copy of an advance directive that the declarant signed by attaching or logically associating*  
 135 *an electronic sound, symbol, or process by affirming that the paper copy of such advance directive is a*  
 136 *complete, true, and accurate copy of such advance directive.*

137 Further, any adult capable of making an informed decision who has been diagnosed by his attending  
 138 physician as being in a terminal condition may make an oral advance directive (i) directing the specific  
 139 health care the declarant does or does not authorize in the event the declarant is incapable of making an  
 140 informed decision; and (ii) appointing an agent to make health care decisions for the declarant under the  
 141 circumstances stated in the advance directive if the declarant should be determined to be incapable of making  
 142 an informed decision. An oral advance directive shall be made in the presence of the attending physician and  
 143 two witnesses.

144 An advance directive may authorize an agent to take any lawful actions necessary to carry out the  
 145 declarant's decisions, including, but not limited to, granting releases of liability to medical providers,  
 146 releasing medical records, and making decisions regarding who may visit the patient.

147 It shall be the responsibility of the declarant to provide for notification to his attending physician that an  
 148 advance directive has been made. If an advance directive has been submitted to the Advance Health Care  
 149 Directive Registry pursuant to Article 9 (§ 54.1-2994 et seq.), it shall be the responsibility of the declarant to  
 150 provide his attending physician, legal representative, or other person with the information necessary to access  
 151 the advance directive. In the event the declarant is comatose, incapacitated or otherwise mentally or  
 152 physically incapable of communication, any other person may notify the physician of the existence of an  
 153 advance directive and, if applicable, the fact that it has been submitted to the Advance Health Care Directive  
 154 Registry. An attending physician who is so notified shall promptly make the advance directive or a copy of  
 155 the advance directive, if ~~written~~ *in a writing or other record*, or the fact of the advance directive, if oral, a part  
 156 of the declarant's medical records.

157 In the event that any portion of an advance directive is invalid or illegal, such invalidity or illegality shall  
 158 not affect the remaining provisions of the advance directive.

**159 § 54.1-2984. Suggested form of written advance directives.**

160 An advance directive executed pursuant to this article may, but need not, be in the following form:

**161 ADVANCE MEDICAL DIRECTIVE**

162 I, \_\_\_\_\_, willingly and voluntarily make known my wishes in the event that I am incapable of  
 163 making an informed decision, as follows:

164 I understand that my advance directive may include the selection of an agent as well as set forth my  
 165 choices regarding health care. The term "health care" means the furnishing of services to any individual for  
 166 the purpose of preventing, alleviating, curing, or healing human illness, injury or physical disability,  
 167 including but not limited to, medications; surgery; blood transfusions; chemotherapy; radiation therapy;  
 168 admission to a hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility, or other health care facility; psychiatric or  
 169 other mental health treatment; and life-prolonging procedures and palliative care.

170 The phrase "incapable of making an informed decision" means unable to understand the nature, extent and  
 171 probable consequences of a proposed health care decision or unable to make a rational evaluation of the risks  
 172 and benefits of a proposed health care decision as compared with the risks and benefits of alternatives to that  
 173 decision, or unable to communicate such understanding in any way.

174 The determination that I am incapable of making an informed decision shall be made by my attending  
 175 physician and a capacity reviewer, if certification by a capacity reviewer is required by law, after a personal  
 176 examination of me and shall be certified in writing. Such certification shall be required before health care is  
 177 provided, continued, withheld or withdrawn, before any named agent shall be granted authority to make  
 178 health care decisions on my behalf, and before, or as soon as reasonably practicable after, health care is  
 179 provided, continued, withheld or withdrawn and every 180 days thereafter while the need for health care  
 180 continues.

181 If, at any time, I am determined to be incapable of making an informed decision, I shall be notified, to the  
 182 extent I am capable of receiving such notice, that such determination has been made before health care is

183 provided, continued, withheld, or withdrawn. Such notice shall also be provided, as soon as practical, to my  
184 named agent or person authorized by § 54.1-2986 to make health care decisions on my behalf. If I am later  
185 determined to be capable of making an informed decision by a physician, in writing, upon personal  
186 examination, any further health care decisions will require my informed consent.

187 (SELECT ANY OR ALL OF THE OPTIONS BELOW.)

188 **OPTION I: APPOINTMENT OF AGENT (CROSS THROUGH OPTIONS I AND II BELOW IF YOU  
189 DO NOT WANT TO APPOINT AN AGENT TO MAKE HEALTH CARE DECISIONS FOR YOU.)**

190 I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ (primary agent), of \_\_\_\_\_ (address and telephone  
191 number), as my agent to make health care decisions on my behalf as authorized in this document. If  
192 \_\_\_\_\_ (primary agent) is not reasonably available or is unable or unwilling to act as my agent,  
193 then I appoint \_\_\_\_\_ (successor agent), of \_\_\_\_\_ (address and telephone number), to  
194 serve in that capacity.

195 I hereby grant to my agent, named above, full power and authority to make health care decisions on my  
196 behalf as described below whenever I have been determined to be incapable of making an informed decision.  
197 My agent's authority hereunder is effective as long as I am incapable of making an informed decision.

198 In exercising the power to make health care decisions on my behalf, my agent shall follow my desires and  
199 preferences as stated in this document or as otherwise known to my agent. My agent shall be guided by my  
200 medical diagnosis and prognosis and any information provided by my physicians as to the intrusiveness, pain,  
201 risks, and side effects associated with treatment or nontreatment. My agent shall not make any decision  
202 regarding my health care which he knows, or upon reasonable inquiry ought to know, is contrary to my  
203 religious beliefs or my basic values, whether expressed orally or in writing. If my agent cannot determine  
204 what health care choice I would have made on my own behalf, then my agent shall make a choice for me  
205 based upon what he believes to be in my best interests.

206 **OPTION II: POWERS OF MY AGENT (CROSS THROUGH ANY LANGUAGE YOU DO NOT  
207 WANT AND ADD ANY LANGUAGE YOU DO WANT.)**

208 The powers of my agent shall include the following:

209 A. To consent to or refuse or withdraw consent to any type of health care, treatment, surgical procedure,  
210 diagnostic procedure, medication and the use of mechanical or other procedures that affect any bodily  
211 function, including, but not limited to, artificial respiration, artificially administered nutrition and hydration,  
212 and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This authorization specifically includes the power to consent to the  
213 administration of dosages of pain-relieving medication in excess of recommended dosages in an amount  
214 sufficient to relieve pain, even if such medication carries the risk of addiction or of inadvertently hastening  
215 my death;

216 B. To request, receive, and review any information, verbal or written, regarding my physical or mental  
217 health, including but not limited to, medical and hospital records, and to consent to the disclosure of this  
218 information;

219 C. To employ and discharge my health care providers;

220 D. To authorize my admission to or discharge (including transfer to another facility) from any hospital,  
221 hospice, nursing home, assisted living facility or other medical care facility. If I have authorized admission to  
222 a health care facility for treatment of mental illness, that authority is stated elsewhere in this advance  
223 directive;

224 E. To authorize my admission to a health care facility for the treatment of mental illness for no more than  
225 10 calendar days provided I do not protest the admission and a physician on the staff of or designated by the  
226 proposed admitting facility examines me and states in writing that I have a mental illness and I am incapable  
227 of making an informed decision about my admission, and that I need treatment in the facility; and to  
228 authorize my discharge (including transfer to another facility) from the facility;

229 F. To authorize my admission to a health care facility for the treatment of mental illness for no more than  
230 10 calendar days, even over my protest, if a physician on the staff of or designated by the proposed admitting  
231 facility examines me and states in writing that I have a mental illness and I am incapable of making an  
232 informed decision about my admission, and that I need treatment in the facility; and to authorize my  
233 discharge (including transfer to another facility) from the facility. [My physician or licensed clinical  
234 psychologist hereby attests that I am capable of making an informed decision and that I understand the  
235 consequences of this provision of my advance directive: \_\_\_\_\_];

236 G. To authorize the specific types of health care identified in this advance directive [specify cross-  
237 reference to other sections of directive] even over my protest. [My physician or licensed clinical psychologist  
238 hereby attests that I am capable of making an informed decision and that I understand the consequences of  
239 this provision of my advance directive: \_\_\_\_\_];

240 H. To continue to serve as my agent even in the event that I protest the agent's authority after I have been  
241 determined to be incapable of making an informed decision;

242 I. To authorize my participation in any health care study approved by an institutional review board or  
243 research review committee according to applicable federal or state law that offers the prospect of direct

244 therapeutic benefit to me;

245 J. To authorize my participation in any health care study approved by an institutional review board or  
246 research review committee pursuant to applicable federal or state law that aims to increase scientific  
247 understanding of any condition that I may have or otherwise to promote human well-being, even though it  
248 offers no prospect of direct benefit to me;

249 K. To make decisions regarding visitation during any time that I am admitted to any health care facility,  
250 consistent with the following directions: \_\_\_\_\_; and

251 L. To take any lawful actions that may be necessary to carry out these decisions, including the granting of  
252 releases of liability to medical providers. Further, my agent shall not be liable for the costs of health care  
253 pursuant to his authorization, based solely on that authorization.

254 **OPTION III: HEALTH CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

255 (CROSS THROUGH PARAGRAPHS A AND/OR B IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO GIVE  
256 ADDITIONAL SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT YOUR HEALTH CARE.)

257 A. I specifically direct that I receive the following health care if it is medically appropriate under the  
258 circumstances as determined by my attending physician: \_\_\_\_\_.

259 B. I specifically direct that the following health care not be provided to me under the following  
260 circumstances (you may specify that certain health care not be provided under any circumstances):  
261 \_\_\_\_\_.

262 **OPTION IV: END OF LIFE INSTRUCTIONS**

263 (CROSS THROUGH THIS OPTION IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT  
264 YOUR HEALTH CARE IF YOU HAVE A TERMINAL CONDITION.)

265 If at any time my attending physician should determine that I have a terminal condition where the  
266 application of life-prolonging procedures - including artificial respiration, cardiopulmonary resuscitation,  
267 artificially administered nutrition, and artificially administered hydration - would serve only to artificially  
268 prolong the dying process, I direct that such procedures be withheld or withdrawn, and that I be permitted to  
269 die naturally with only the administration of medication or the performance of any medical procedure deemed  
270 necessary to provide me with comfort care or to alleviate pain.

271 **OPTION: LIFE-PROLONGING PROCEDURES DURING PREGNANCY.** (If you wish to provide  
272 additional instructions or modifications to instructions you have already given regarding life-prolonging  
273 procedures that will apply if you are pregnant at the time your attending physician determines that you have a  
274 terminal condition, you may do so here.)

275 If I am pregnant when my attending physician determines that I have a terminal condition, my decision  
276 concerning life-prolonging procedures shall be modified as follows:  
277 \_\_\_\_\_  
278 \_\_\_\_\_  
279 \_\_\_\_\_  
280 \_\_\_\_\_.

281 **OPTION: OTHER DIRECTIONS ABOUT LIFE-PROLONGING PROCEDURES.** (If you wish to  
282 provide your own directions, or if you wish to add to the directions you have given above, you may do so  
283 here. If you wish to give specific instructions regarding certain life-prolonging procedures, such as artificial  
284 respiration, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, artificially administered nutrition, and artificially administered  
285 hydration, this is where you should write them.) I direct that:  
286 \_\_\_\_\_  
287 \_\_\_\_\_  
288 \_\_\_\_\_  
289 \_\_\_\_\_.

290 **OPTION: My other instructions regarding my care if I have a terminal condition are as follows:**  
291 \_\_\_\_\_  
292 \_\_\_\_\_  
293 \_\_\_\_\_  
294 \_\_\_\_\_.

295 In the absence of my ability to give directions regarding the use of such life-prolonging procedures, it is  
296 my intention that this advance directive shall be honored by my family and physician as the final expression  
297 of my legal right to refuse health care and acceptance of the consequences of such refusal.

298 **OPTION V: APPOINTMENT OF AN AGENT TO MAKE AN ANATOMICAL GIFT OR ORGAN,  
299 TISSUE OR EYE DONATION (CROSS THROUGH IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO APPOINT AN AGENT  
300 TO MAKE AN ANATOMICAL GIFT OR ANY ORGAN, TISSUE OR EYE DONATION FOR YOU.)**

301 Upon my death, I direct that an anatomical gift of all of my body or certain organ, tissue or eye donations  
302 may be made pursuant to Article 2 (§ 32.1-289.2 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 32.1 and in accordance with  
303 my directions, if any. I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as my agent, of \_\_\_\_\_ (address and  
304 telephone number), to make any such anatomical gift or organ, tissue or eye donation following my death. I  
305 further direct that: \_\_\_\_\_ (declarant's directions concerning anatomical gift or organ, tissue or

306 eye donation).

307 This advance directive shall not terminate in the event of my disability.

308 **AFFIRMATION AND RIGHT TO REVOKE:** By signing below, I indicate that I am emotionally and  
309 mentally capable of making this advance directive and that I understand the purpose and effect of this  
310 document. I understand I may revoke all or any part of this document at any time (i) with a signed, dated  
311 writing; (ii) by physical cancellation or destruction of this advance directive by myself or by directing  
312 someone else to destroy it in my presence; or (iii) by my oral expression of intent to revoke.

313 a \_\_\_\_\_

314 b (Date) \_\_\_\_\_

315 (Signature of Declarant)

316 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

317 Signature of Declarant: \_\_\_\_\_

318 The declarant signed the foregoing advance directive in my presence.

319 (Witness) \_\_\_\_\_

320 (Witness) \_\_\_\_\_

321 [OR]

322 **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

323 **AT-LARGE**

324 *The foregoing advance directive was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by*  
325 \_\_\_\_\_

326 *Notary Public: \_\_\_\_\_*

327 *Notary Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_*

328 *My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_*

329 **§ 59.1-481. Scope.**

330 (a) A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) B, this chapter applies to electronic records and  
331 electronic signatures relating to a transaction.

332 (b) B. This chapter does not apply to a transaction to the extent it is governed by:

333 (1) 1. A law governing the creation and execution of wills, codicils, or testamentary trusts, *including*  
334 Article 7 (§ 64.2-459 *et seq.*) of Chapter 4 of Title 64.2; and

335 (2) 2. Title 8.1A except § 8.1A-306, Title 8.3A, Title 8.4, Title 8.4A, Title 8.5A, Title 8.7, Title 8.8A,  
336 Title 8.9A, Title 8.10, and Title 8.11.

337 (c) C. This chapter applies to an electronic record or electronic signature otherwise excluded from the  
338 application of this chapter under subsection (b) B to the extent it is governed by law other than those specified  
339 in subsection (b) B.

340 (d) D. A transaction subject to this chapter is also subject to other applicable substantive law.

341 **§ 64.2-100. Definitions.**

342 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

343 "Bona fide purchaser" means a purchaser of property for value who has acted in the transaction in good  
344 faith. Notice of a seller's marital status, or notice of the existence of a premarital or marital agreement, does  
345 not affect the status of a bona fide purchaser. A "purchaser" is one who acquires property by sale, lease,  
346 discount, negotiation, mortgage, pledge, or lien or who otherwise deals with property in a voluntary  
347 transaction, other than a gift. A purchaser gives "value" for property acquired in return for a binding  
348 commitment to extend credit to the transferor or another as security for or in total or partial satisfaction of a  
349 pre-existing claim, or in return for any other consideration sufficient to support a simple contract.

350 "Fiduciary" includes a guardian, committee, trustee, executor, conservator, or personal representative.

351 "Personal representative" includes the executor under a will or the administrator of the estate of a  
352 decedent, the administrator of such estate with the will annexed, the administrator of such estate  
353 unadministered by a former representative, whether there is a will or not, any person who is under the order  
354 of a circuit court to take into his possession the estate of a decedent for administration, and every other  
355 curator of a decedent's estate, for or against whom suits may be brought for causes of action that accrued to or  
356 against the decedent.

357 "Trustee" means a trustee under a probated will or an inter vivos trust instrument.

358 "Will" includes any testament, codicil, exercise of a power of appointment by will or by a writing in the  
359 nature of a will, or any other testamentary disposition, *including an electronic will within the meaning of*  
360 Article 7 (§ 64.2-459 *et seq.*) of Chapter 4.

361 **§ 64.2-403. Execution of wills; requirements.**

362 A. No will shall be valid unless it is in writing and signed by the testator, or by some other person in the  
363 testator's presence and by his direction, in such a manner as to make it manifest that the name is intended as a  
364 signature.

365 B. A will wholly in the testator's handwriting is valid without further requirements, provided that the fact  
366 that a will is wholly in the testator's handwriting and signed by the testator is proved by at least two  
367 disinterested witnesses.

368 C. A will not wholly in the testator's handwriting is not valid unless the signature of the testator is made,

368 or the will is acknowledged by the testator, in the presence of at least two competent witnesses who are  
369 present at the same time and who subscribe the will in the presence of the testator. No form of attestation of  
370 the witnesses shall be necessary.

371 *D. No will executed electronically shall be valid unless it is an electronic will within the meaning of*  
372 *Article 7 (§ 64.2-459 et seq.). For the purposes of this subsection, "electronic" means the same as that term is*  
373 *defined in § 64.2-459.*

374 **§ 64.2-404. Writings intended as wills.**

375 A. Although a document, or a writing added upon a document, or a record was not executed in  
376 compliance with § 64.2-403 or 64.2-462, as applicable, the document or, writing, or record shall be treated  
377 as if it had been executed in compliance with § 64.2-403 or 64.2-462, as applicable, if the proponent of the  
378 document or, writing, or record establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the decedent intended the  
379 document or, writing, or record to constitute (i) the decedent's will, (ii) a partial or complete revocation of the  
380 will, (iii) an addition to or an alteration of the will, or (iv) a partial or complete revival of his the decedent's  
381 formerly revoked will or of a formerly revoked portion of the will. *For the purposes of this subsection,*  
382 *"record" means the same as that term is defined in § 64.2-459.*

383 B. The remedy granted by this section (i) may not be used to excuse compliance with any requirement for  
384 a testator's signature, except in circumstances where two persons mistakenly sign each other's will, or a  
385 person signs the self-proving certificate to a will instead of signing the will itself and (ii) is available only in  
386 proceedings brought in a circuit court under the appropriate provisions of this title, filed within one year from  
387 the decedent's date of death and in which all interested persons are made parties.

388 **§ 64.2-407. Validity of other wills.**

389 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 64.2-403, the a will of a person domiciled out of the Commonwealth  
390 at the time of his death shall be valid as to personal property and real property in the Commonwealth if the  
391 will is executed according to the law of the state or country in which the person was so domiciled in  
392 compliance with the law of the jurisdiction where the testator is (i) physically located when the will is  
393 executed or (ii) domiciled or resides when the will is executed or when the testator dies. This section shall not  
394 apply to a will executed electronically, which shall be governed by § 64.2-461. For purposes of this section,  
395 "electronic" means the same as that term is defined in § 64.2-459.

396 **§ 64.2-450. Probate of copy of will proved outside the Commonwealth; authenticated copy.**

397 When a will relative to an estate within the Commonwealth has been proved in another jurisdiction, an  
398 authenticated copy of the will and the certificate of probate of the will may be offered for probate in the  
399 Commonwealth, and there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the will was duly executed and admitted to  
400 probate as a will of personal estate in the jurisdiction of the testator's domicile and the circuit court, or the  
401 clerk of such court, where it is offered shall admit such copy to probate as a will of personal estate and real  
402 estate in the Commonwealth. If such copy indicates that the will was admitted to probate in a court of another  
403 jurisdiction and was so executed as to be a valid will of real estate in the Commonwealth by the law of the  
404 Commonwealth, such copy may be admitted to probate as a will of real estate. An authenticated copy of any  
405 will which that has been self-proved under the laws of another state shall, when offered with its authenticated  
406 certificate of probate, be admitted to probate as a will of personal estate and real estate.

407 *Article 7.*

408 *Uniform Electronic Wills Act.*

409 **§ 64.2-459. Definitions.**

410 *For the purposes of this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

411 *"Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical,*  
412 *electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.*

413 *"Electronic presence" means the relationship of two or more individuals in different locations*  
414 *communicating in real time to the same extent as if the individuals were physically present in the same*  
415 *location.*

416 *"Electronic will" means a will executed electronically in compliance with § 64.2-462.*

417 *"Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or*  
418 *other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.*

419 *"Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record, to (i) execute or adopt a tangible*  
420 *symbol or (ii) attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol or process.*

421 *"State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin*  
422 *Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. "State" includes*  
423 *a federally recognized Indian tribe.*

424 **§ 64.2-460. Law applicable to electronic will; principles of equity.**

425 *An electronic will is a will for all purposes of the laws of the Commonwealth. The laws of the*  
426 *Commonwealth applicable to wills and principles of equity apply to an electronic will, except as modified by*  
427 *this article.*

428 **§ 64.2-461. Choice of law regarding execution.**

429 *Notwithstanding the provisions of § 64.2-403, a will executed electronically but not in compliance with*

430    § 64.2-462 is an electronic will under this chapter as to personal property and real property in the  
431    Commonwealth if executed in compliance with the law of the jurisdiction where the testator is (i) physically  
432    located when the testator signs the will or (ii) domiciled or resides when the testator signs the will or when  
433    the testator dies.

434    **§ 64.2-462. Execution of electronic will.**

435    A. Except as provided in § 64.2-463, an electronic will shall be:

436    1. A record that is readable as text at the time of signing;

437    2. Signed by the testator or by some other person in the testator's physical presence and at the testator's  
438    direction;

439    3. Signed in the physical or electronic presence of the testator by at least two competent witnesses, each of  
440    whom is a resident of a state and physically located in a state at the time of signing, after witnessing the  
441    testator's signature under subdivision 2 or the testator's acknowledgement of the signing of the will under  
442    subdivision 2 or the acknowledgement of the will, and each of whom is in the physical or electronic presence  
443    of the other; and

444    4. Acknowledged by the testator and the attesting witnesses before and in the physical or electronic  
445    presence of an electronic notary public, as defined in § 47.1-2, or other individual authorized by law to  
446    notarize records electronically, in the manner set forth in § 64.2-465.

447    B. The intent of a testator pursuant to subdivision B 1 of § 64.2-464 be the testator's electronic will may  
448    be established by extrinsic evidence.

449    **§ 64.2-463. Harmless error.**

450    The provisions of § 64.2-404 shall apply to an electronic will.

451    **§ 64.2-464. Revocation.**

452    A. An electronic will may revoke all or part of a previous will.

453    B. All or part of an electronic will is revoked by:

454    1. A subsequent will that revokes all or part of the electronic will expressly or by inconsistency; or

455    2. A physical act, as it is established by a preponderance of the evidence that the testator, with the intent  
456    of revoking all or part of the will, performed the act or directed another individual who performed the act in  
457    the testator's presence.

458    **§ 64.2-465. Electronic will attested and made self-proved at time of execution.**

459    An electronic will shall be made self-proved at the time of its execution by either the acknowledgment  
460    thereof by the testator and the affidavits of the attesting witnesses or the acknowledgment thereof by the  
461    testator and the attesting witnesses, each (i) made before an electronic notary public, as defined in § 47.1-2,  
462    or other individual authorized by law to notarize records electronically and (ii) (a) evidenced by the  
463    electronic notary public's electronic notarial certificate, as defined in § 47.1-2, or such other individual's  
464    electronic notarial certificate attached, annexed to, or logically associated with the electronic will and (b)  
465    bearing the electronic notary public's electronic notary seal, as defined in § 47.1-2, or such other individual's  
466    electronic notary seal. The electronic notarial certificate shall be substantially as follows in form and  
467    content:

468    COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

469    CITY/COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

470    Before me, the undersigned electronic notary public, or other individual authorized by law to notarize  
471    records electronically, on this day appeared \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, known  
472    to me to be the testator and the witnesses, respectively, whose names are signed to the attached or foregoing  
473    instrument and, all of these persons being by me first duly sworn, \_\_\_\_\_, the testator, declared to  
474    me and to the witnesses in my physical or electronic presence that said instrument is his last will and  
475    testament and that he had willingly signed or directed another to sign the same for him in his physical  
476    presence and executed it in the physical or electronic presence of said witnesses as his free and voluntary act  
477    for the purposes therein expressed; that said witnesses stated before me that the foregoing will was executed  
478    and acknowledged by the testator as his last will and testament in the physical or electronic presence of said  
479    witnesses who, in his physical or electronic presence and at his request, and in the physical or electronic  
480    presence of each other, did sign their names thereto as attesting witnesses on the day of the date of said will;  
481    that the testator, at the time of the execution of said will, was over the age of 18 years and of sound and  
482    disposing mind and memory; and that each of said witnesses is a resident of a state and was physically  
483    located in a state at the time they signed their names to said will.

484    In the case of an electronic will made self-proved by the acknowledgment of the testator and the affidavits  
485    of the attesting witnesses, the signatures of the testator and the attesting witnesses and the jurat of the  
486    electronic notary public or other individual authorized by law to notarize records electronically shall be  
487    substantially as follows in form and content:

488    Testator: \_\_\_\_\_

489    Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

490    Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

491    Signed, sworn, and acknowledged before me by \_\_\_\_\_, the testator, and signed and

492 sworn before me by \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, witnesses, this \_\_\_\_\_  
 493 day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D., \_\_\_\_\_.  
 494 SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

495 Electronic Notary Public

496 Or

497 [Official Capacity of Other Individual

498 Authorized by Law to Notarize Records Electronically]

499 In the case of an electronic will made self-proved by the acknowledgment of the testator and the attesting  
 500 witnesses, the jurat of the electronic notary public or other individual authorized by law to notarize records  
 501 electronically shall be substantially as follows in form and content:

502 Sworn and acknowledged before me by \_\_\_\_\_, the testator, and \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 503 \_\_\_\_\_, witnesses, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D., \_\_\_\_\_.  
 504 SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_

505 Electronic Notary Public

506 Or

507 [Official Capacity of Other Individual

508 Authorized by Law to Notarize Records Electronically]

509 The affidavits of any such witnesses taken as provided by this section shall be accepted by the court as if  
 510 they had been taken ore tenus before such court, notwithstanding that the officer did not attach or affix his  
 511 official seal thereto. Any codicil that is self-proved under the provisions of this section that, by its terms,  
 512 expressly confirms, ratifies, and republishes a will except as altered by the codicil shall have the effect of  
 513 self-proving the will whether or not the will was so executed originally.

514 **§ 64.2-466. Certification of paper copy; probate.**

515 A. The testator may create a certified paper copy of an electronic will at any time, and any other  
 516 individual may create a certified paper copy of an electronic will after the death of the testator, in either case  
 517 by affirming under oath that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, such paper copy of the electronic will is  
 518 a complete, true, and accurate copy of the electronic will. A certified paper copy of an electronic will shall be  
 519 in writing, signed and dated by the person making the certification, with such signature made by executing or  
 520 adopting a tangible symbol, as opposed to an electronic symbol or process, and shall include a paper copy of  
 521 any electronic notarial certificate and any self-proved affidavit made with respect to the electronic will.

522 B. A certified paper copy of an electronic will made in accordance with subsection A may be offered for  
 523 probate in the circuit court having jurisdiction under § 64.2-443, and the circuit court and the clerk of such  
 524 court, or any duly qualified deputy of such clerk, may admit to probate such certified paper copy in the same  
 525 manner and with like effect as other wills, provided that a certified paper copy of an electronic will created  
 526 after the death of the testator shall be offered for probate within 60 days of its creation. At the time a certified  
 527 copy of an electronic will is offered for probate, the circuit court or the clerk of such court shall require the  
 528 proponent to take an oath in writing before the court or clerk, as the case may be, that, to the best of the  
 529 proponent's knowledge and belief, such certified paper copy has not been admitted to probate by any other  
 530 court or clerk in the Commonwealth. A certified paper copy of an electronic will that has been admitted to  
 531 probate shall constitute the will for all purposes of this title.

532 **§ 64.2-467. Uniformity of application and construction.**

533 In applying and construing this article, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of  
 534 the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

535 **§ 64.2-468. Transitional provision.**

536 This article applies to an electronic will of a decedent who dies on or after July 1, 2026.