

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 3128

By: Mize

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to banking; providing certain powers and authorities for authorized signers on deposit accounts; allowing for certain additional powers; providing for additional authorization document; stating content requirements for certain document; providing for granting of certain additional powers; providing certain form for additional powers; amending 6 O.S. 2011, Section 901, which relates to deposits in the name of two or more persons; modifying requirements for certain beneficiaries for Payable on Death deposit accounts; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 908 of Title 6, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Unless the deposit account agreement states otherwise, an authorized signer on a deposit account shall have the following powers, regardless of whether the account is a consumer or commercial account:

1 1. Sign checks;

2 2. Make deposits of checks payable to the account owner into
3 the account;

4 3. Make cash deposits into the account;

5 4. Obtain an account balance;

6 5. View copies of checks he or she has signed; and

7 6. Obtain deposit slips when making a deposit.

8 B. If additional authority is not expressly granted in the
9 deposit account agreement, additional powers may be granted in
10 writing by the owner of the account. If the account is an
11 individual account, the owner may execute an additional
12 authorization document. It must be dated and in writing and may be
13 revoked or amended at any time by the account owner. If there are
14 multiple owners, all must execute the additional authorization
15 document. If the account is owned by an entity, the entity must
16 approve the grant of additional powers in the same manner as it
17 appoints authorized signers.

18 C. A customer may initial next to the additional powers to be
19 granted and line through those that are not being granted, pursuant
20 to subsection D of this section.

21 D. Form for Additional Powers for Authorized Signer:

22 I, the undersigned account owner or duly empowered
23 representative of the account owner, hereby grant and approve the
24 following additional powers for authorized signer(s) on account

1 # _____. Bank name _____.
2 _____ Obtain and use a debit card or automated teller
3 machine card
4 _____ Obtain copies of statements on the account from the
5 bank
6 _____ Order checks
7 _____ Obtain copies of checks or other transactions on
8 the account
9 _____ Authorize or terminate automated clearing house
10 debits to the account
11 _____ Complete affidavits of forgery
12 _____ Initiate a change of address for the account
13 _____ Withdraw cash up to \$_____
14 _____ Dispute a card transaction on the account
15 _____ Report a lost or stolen card on the account
16 _____ Use online banking to view transactions on the
17 account
18 _____ Set up online bill payments
19 _____ Use the mobile app to access information about the
20 account.

21 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 6 O.S. 2011, Section 901, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 901. A. When a deposit has been made or shall
24 hereafter be made in any bank in the names of two or more persons,

1 payable to any of them or payable to any of them or the survivor,
2 such deposit, or any part thereof, or any interest thereon, may be
3 paid to either of the persons, whether one of such persons shall be
4 a minor or not, and whether the other be living or not; and the
5 receipt or acquittance of the person so paid shall be valid and
6 sufficient release and discharge to the bank for any payment so
7 made.

8 B. 1. When a deposit has been made or shall hereafter be made
9 in any bank using the terms "Payable on Death" or "P.O.D.", such
10 deposits shall be payable on the death of the account owner to one
11 or more designated P.O.D. beneficiaries, or to an individual or
12 individuals named beneficiary if living and if not living, to the
13 named estate of the beneficiary, notwithstanding any provision to
14 the contrary contained in Sections 41 through 57 of Title 84 of the
15 Oklahoma Statutes. Each designated P.O.D. beneficiary shall be a
16 trust, an individual, or a nonprofit organization exempt from
17 taxation pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, 26
18 U.S.C., Section 501(c) (3).

19 2. A deposit account with a P.O.D. designation shall constitute
20 a contract between the account owner, (or owners, if more than one)
21 and the bank that upon the death of the last surviving owner of the
22 account, and after payment of account proceeds to any secured party
23 with a valid security interest in the account, the bank will hold
24 the funds for or pay them to the named primary beneficiary or

1 beneficiaries if living. If ~~any named~~ a primary beneficiary is ~~not~~
2 ~~living~~ predeceases the account owner, the share of that primary
3 beneficiary shall ~~instead be held for or paid to the estate of that~~
4 ~~deceased beneficiary unless contingent beneficiaries have been~~
5 ~~designated by the account owner as allowed by~~ be distributed
6 pursuant to either paragraph 4 or 5 of this subsection, whichever is
7 applicable.

8 3. Each P.O.D. beneficiary designated on a deposit account
9 shall be a primary beneficiary unless specifically designated as a
10 contingent beneficiary.

11 4. If there is only one primary P.O.D. beneficiary on a deposit
12 account and that beneficiary is an individual, the account owner may
13 designate one or more contingent beneficiaries for whom the funds
14 shall be held or to whom the funds shall be paid if the primary
15 beneficiary is not living when the last surviving owner of the
16 account dies. If there is more than one primary P.O.D. beneficiary
17 on a deposit account, contingent beneficiaries shall not be allowed
18 on that account.

19 5. If the ~~only~~ sole primary P.O.D. beneficiary is not living
20 and one or more contingent beneficiaries have been designated as
21 allowed by paragraph 4 of this subsection, the funds shall be held
22 for or paid to the contingent beneficiaries who are alive at the
23 time of the account owner's death in equal shares, and shall not
24 belong to the estate of the deceased primary beneficiary. If ~~the~~

~~only primary beneficiary is not living, and a contingent beneficiary or contingent beneficiaries have been designated as allowed by paragraph 4 of this subsection, but one or more designated contingent beneficiaries are also not living, the share that otherwise would belong to any deceased contingent beneficiary shall instead be held for or paid to the estate of that deceased contingent beneficiary~~ neither the primary beneficiary nor any contingent beneficiary is living at the time of the account owner's death, the funds shall be paid to the account owner's estate.

6. In order to designate multiple primary P.O.D. beneficiaries for a deposit account, the account should be styled as follows:

"(Name of Account Owner), payable on death (or P.O.D.) to (Name of Beneficiary), (Name of Beneficiary), and (Name of Beneficiary, in equal shares.)"

7. If only one primary P.O.D. beneficiary has been designated on a deposit account, the account owner may add the following, or words of similar meaning, in the style of the account or in the account agreement:

"If the designated P.O.D. beneficiary is deceased, then payable on the death of the account owner to (Name of Beneficiary), (Name of Beneficiary), and (Name of Beneficiary), as contingent beneficiaries, in equal share."

8. Adjustments may be made in the styling, depending upon the number of owners of the account, to allow for survivorship rights,

1 and the number of beneficiaries. It is to be understood that each
2 beneficiary is entitled to a proportionate share of the account
3 proceeds only after the death of the last surviving account owner,
4 and after payment of account proceeds to any secured party with a
5 valid security interest in the account. ~~In the event of the death~~
6 ~~of a beneficiary prior to the death of the account owner, the share~~
7 ~~of that beneficiary shall go to the estate of that beneficiary.~~
8 ~~Unless one or more contingent beneficiaries have been designated to~~
9 ~~take the place of that beneficiary as provided in paragraph 4 of~~
10 ~~this subsection.~~ All designated primary P.O.D. beneficiaries shall
11 have equal shares. All designated contingent P.O.D. beneficiaries
12 shall have equal shares as if the sole primary beneficiary is
13 deceased. In the event of the death of a beneficiary prior to the
14 death of the account owner, the share of that beneficiary shall be
15 divided among any surviving beneficiaries or distributed to
16 contingent beneficiaries pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 5 of this
17 subsection, if applicable. If no beneficiaries are alive at the
18 time of the account owner's death, the funds should be held for, or
19 paid to, the estate of the deceased account owner.

20 9. A bank may require the owner of an account to provide an
21 address for any primary or contingent P.O.D. beneficiary. If the
22 P.O.D. account is an interest-bearing account and the funds are not
23 claimed by the P.O.D. beneficiary or beneficiaries within sixty (60)
24 days after the death of the last surviving account holder, or after

1 the bank has notice of the death of the last surviving account
2 holder, whichever is later, the bank has the right to convert the
3 account to a non-interest-bearing account.

4 10. No change in the designation of a named beneficiary shall
5 be valid unless executed by the owner of the fund and in the form
6 and manner prescribed by the bank; however, this section shall be
7 subject to the provisions of Section 178 of Title 15 of the Oklahoma
8 Statutes.

9 11. The receipt or acquittance of the named beneficiary so
10 paid, or of the legal representative of ~~such named beneficiary's~~ the
11 account owner's estate, ~~if the beneficiary is deceased and there is~~
12 ~~no contingent beneficiary designated to take the place of that~~
13 ~~beneficiary~~ in the event the beneficiaries predeceased the account
14 owner, shall be valid and sufficient release and discharge to the
15 bank for any payment so made, unless, prior to such payment, the
16 bank receives notice in the form and manner required in Section 905
17 of this title.

18 12. Subsequent to the effective date of this act, a bank shall
19 provide a customer creating a P.O.D. account with a written notice
20 that the distribution of the proceeds in the P.O.D. account shall be
21 consistent with the provisions of Section 901 of Title 6 of the
22 Oklahoma Statutes.

23 C. The provisions of this section shall apply to all forms of
24 deposit accounts, including, but not limited to, transaction

1 accounts, savings accounts, certificates of deposits, negotiable
2 order of withdrawal (N.O.W.) accounts, and M.M.D.A. accounts.

3 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2020.

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