## STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3962 By: Echols

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AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to trusts; enacting the Oklahoma Trust Reform Act of 2024; providing for directed trusts; defining terms; providing that a trust instrument may provide trust advisor or trust protector with powers and immunities of trustee; providing liability limits of excluded fiduciary; providing relief from obligations for excluded fiduciary; providing burden of proof in action against excluded fiduciary; providing for actions of an excluded fiduciary in the event of the death of a grantor; providing quideline for a trust advisor as a fiduciary; providing liability for an excluded fiduciary for loss if trust protector appointed; providing powers and discretions of a trust protector; providing for court and the effect on trust advisor or trust protector; clarifying powers of trust protector when incorporated by reference in will or trust instrument; providing that a trust instrument may provide for a person to act as an investment trust advisor or a distribution trust advisor; providing powers and discretions of investment trust advisor; providing powers and discretions of distribution trust advisor; providing powers and discretions of family advisor; providing when notice of the existence of trust is required to be given to qualified beneficiaries; providing when certain notices are required; defining terms for qualified dispositions into trust; defining trust instrument; defining qualified person; providing requirements to be considered a qualified person; providing for persons and entities not to be considered a qualified person; providing for the appointment, removal, or replacement of co-trustee, trust advisor, or trust protector; providing who may serve as an investment trust advisor; providing that

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a transferor may not serve as a fiduciary; providing for successor qualified person; providing for disposition to more than one trustee; providing that for dispositions to more than one trustee, a qualified disposition may not be treated as other than a qualified disposition solely because not all of the trustees are qualified persons; providing powers and rights of a transferor and its effect on a qualified disposition; limiting actions of creditors to transfers with the intent to defraud; providing requirements for bringing claim for fraudulent transfer of settlor's assets; providing for disposition by transferor who is a trustee; prohibiting certain actions against a trustee, advisor, or trust preparer; prohibiting an action against trustee, advisor, or preparer of trust prohibited if action by creditor in certain circumstances; providing court jurisdiction; providing for the collection attorneys' fees and costs in certain circumstances; providing for when multiple qualified dispositions in same trust instrument; providing certain exceptions to application of this act under certain events and circumstances; providing for avoidance of a qualified disposition; providing for discretionary interest; providing that the rules against perpetuities shall not apply to trusts; providing intent to allow trust to have perpetual durations; providing for noncodification; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be

codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

This act shall be known and cited as the "Oklahoma Trust Reform

23 Act of 2024".

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SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1201 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. Sections 2 through 15 of this act create and govern directed trusts.
  - B. As used in sections 2 through 15 of this act:

- 1. "Custodial account" means an account, established by a party with a bank as defined in 26 U.S.C. 408(n), as of January 1, 2006, or with another person approved by the Internal Revenue Service as satisfying the requirements to be a nonbank trustee or a nonbank passive trustee set forth in U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated under 26 U.S.C. 408, that is governed by an instrument concerning the establishment or maintenance, or both, of an individual retirement account, qualified retirement plan, Archer medical savings account, health savings account, Coverdell education savings account, or any similar retirement or savings vehicle permitted under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as of January 1, 2006;
- 2. "Custodial account owner" means any party who establishes a custodial account; or has the power to designate the beneficiaries or appoint the custodian of the custodial account; or otherwise is the party who possesses the power to direct the investment, disposition, or retention of any assets in the custodial account or name an authorized designee to effect the same;

- 3. "Distribution trust advisor" means a fiduciary, given authority by the instrument to exercise all or any portions of the powers and discretions set forth in section 13 of this act;
- 4. "Excluded fiduciary" means any fiduciary excluded from exercising certain powers under the instrument which powers may be exercised by the grantor, custodial account owner, trust advisor, trust protector, trust committee, or other persons designated in the instrument;
- 5. "Family advisor" means any person whose appointment is provided for in the governing instrument or by court order who is authorized to consult with or advise a fiduciary with regard to fiduciary or nonfiduciary matters and actions, and who may also be authorized by the governing instrument or court order to otherwise act in a nonfiduciary capacity.
- 6. "Fiduciary" means a trustee or custodian under any instrument, an executor, administrator, or personal representative of a decedent's estate, or any other party, including a trust advisor, a trust protector, or a trust committee, who is acting in a fiduciary capacity for any person, trust, or estate;
- 7. "Instrument" means any revocable or irrevocable trust document created inter vivos or testamentary or any custodial account agreement whether such document or agreement was created prior to, on, or after the effective date of this act;

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1 8. "Investment trust advisor" means a fiduciary, given
2 authority by the instrument to exercise all or any portions of the
3 powers and discretions set forth in section 11 of this act;
4 9. "Trust advisor" means either an investment trust advisor or
5 a distribution trust advisor or, in the case of a custodial account,

a custodial account owner or the owner's designee;

10. "Trust protector" means any person whose appointment as protector is provided for in the instrument. Such person may not be considered to be acting in a fiduciary capacity except to the extent the governing instrument provides otherwise. However, a protector shall be considered acting in a fiduciary capacity to the extent that the person exercises the authority of an investment trust advisor or a distribution trust advisor;

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1202 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Any governing instrument providing for a trust advisor or trust protector may also provide such trust advisor or trust protector with some, none, or all of the rights, powers, privileges, benefits, immunities, or authorities available to a trustee under Oklahoma law or under the governing instrument. Unless the governing instrument provides otherwise, a trust advisor or trust protector has no greater liability to any person than would a trustee holding or benefiting from the rights, powers, privileges, benefits,

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immunities, or authority provided or allowed by the governing instrument to such trust advisor or trust protector.

A new section of law to be codified SECTION 4. NEW LAW in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1203 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- An excluded fiduciary is not liable, either individually or as a fiduciary, for any of the following:
- 1. Any loss that results from compliance with a direction of the trust advisor, including any loss from the trust advisor breaching fiduciary responsibilities or acting beyond the trust advisor's scope of authority;
- 2. Any loss that results from a failure to take any action proposed by an excluded fiduciary that requires a prior authorization of the trust advisor if that excluded fiduciary timely sought but failed to obtain that authorization;
- Any loss that results from any action or inaction, except for gross negligence or willful misconduct, when an excluded fiduciary is required, pursuant to the trust agreement or any other reason, to assume the role of trust advisor or trust protector;
- Any loss that results from relying upon any trust advisor for valuation of trust assets; or
- Any loss that results from any tax filing made or tax position taken based on the recommendations or instructions received

from a tax preparer or professional used by the excluded fiduciary at the direction of the grantor or of another trust fiduciary.

- B. Any excluded fiduciary is also relieved from any obligation to independently value trust assets, to review or evaluate any direction from a distribution trust advisor, or to perform investment or suitability reviews, inquiries, or investigations or to make recommendations or evaluations with respect to any investments to the extent the trust advisor had authority to direct the acquisition, disposition, or retention of the investment. If the excluded fiduciary offers such communication to the trust advisor, trust protector, or any investment person selected by the investment trust advisor, such action does not constitute an undertaking by the excluded fiduciary to monitor or otherwise participate in actions within the scope of the advisor's authority or to constitute any duty to do so.
- C. Any excluded fiduciary is also relieved of any duty to communicate with or warn or apprise any beneficiary or third party concerning instances in which the excluded fiduciary would or might have exercised the excluded fiduciary's own discretion in a manner different from the manner directed by the trust advisor or trust protector.
- D. Absent contrary provisions in the governing instrument, the actions of the excluded fiduciary (such as any communications with the trust advisor and others and carrying out, recording, and

reporting actions taken at the trust advisor's direction) pertaining to matters within the scope of authority of the trust advisor or trust protector constitute administrative actions taken by the excluded fiduciary solely to allow the excluded fiduciary to perform those duties assigned to the excluded fiduciary under the governing instrument, and such administrative actions do not constitute an undertaking by the excluded fiduciary to monitor, participate, or otherwise take any fiduciary responsibility for actions within the scope of authority of the trust advisor or trust protector.

- E. Nothing in paragraph 2 of subsection A of this section imposes an obligation or liability with respect to a custodian of a custodial account.
- F. In an action against an excluded fiduciary pursuant to the provisions of this section, the burden to prove the matter by clear and convincing evidence is on the person seeking to hold the excluded fiduciary liable.
- SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1204 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

An excluded fiduciary may continue to follow the direction of the trust advisor upon the incapacity or death of the grantor if the instrument so allows.

SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1205 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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If one or more trust advisors are given authority by the terms of a governing instrument to direct, consent to, or disapprove a fiduciary's investment or distribution decisions, or proposed investment or distribution decisions, such trust advisors shall be considered to be fiduciaries when exercising such authority. For investment decisions, so long as there is at least one fiduciary exercising the authority of the investment advisor pursuant to section 12 of this act for the investment, except in the cases of willful misconduct or gross negligence by the fiduciary investment advisor in the selection or monitoring of the nonfiduciary trust advisors, the governing instrument may provide that such other trust advisors acting pursuant to this section are not acting in a fiduciary capacity. Similarly, for distribution decisions, so long as there is at least one fiduciary exercising the authority of the distribution advisor pursuant to section 13 of this act for the distribution, except in the case of willful misconduct or gross negligence by the fiduciary distribution advisor in the selection or monitoring of the nonfiduciary trust advisors, the governing instrument may provide that such other trust advisors acting pursuant to this section are not acting in a fiduciary capacity.

SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1206 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

If an instrument appoints a trust protector, the excluded fiduciary is not liable for any loss resulting from any action taken upon such trust protector's direction.

SECTION 8. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1207 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The powers and discretions of a trust protector are as provided in the governing instrument and may be exercised or not exercised, in the best interests of the trust, in the sole and absolute discretion of the trust protector and are binding on all other persons. The powers and discretion may include the following:

- 1. Modify or amend the trust instrument to achieve favorable tax status or respond to changes in the Internal Revenue Code, state law, or the rulings and regulations thereunder;
- 2. Increase or decrease the interests of any beneficiaries to the trust;
- 3. Modify the terms of any power of appointment granted by the trust. However, a modification or amendment may not grant a beneficial interest to any individual or class of individuals not specifically provided for under the trust instrument;

4. Remove and appoint a trustee, a fiduciary provided for in
the governing trust instrument, trust advisor, investment committee
member, or distribution committee member;

5. Terminate the trust;

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- 6. Veto or direct trust distributions;
- 7. Change situs or governing law of the trust, or both;
- 8. Appoint a successor trust protector;
- 9. Interpret terms of the trust instrument at the request of the trustee;
  - 10. Advise the trustee on matters concerning a beneficiary;
- 11. Amend or modify the trust instrument to take advantage of laws governing restraints on alienation, distribution of trust property, or the administration of the trust;
- 12. Add to the trust an individual beneficiary or beneficiaries from a class of individuals identified in the governing instrument;
- 13. Add to the trust a charitable beneficiary or beneficiaries from a class of charities identified in the trust instrument;
- 14. Provide other powers and discretions in the governing instrument;
  - 15. Remove a representative;
  - 16. Appoint a representative; and
  - 17. Act as a representative.
- B. In addition to the powers and discretions granted to the trust protector in the governing instrument, the trust protector may Reg. No. 9501

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also exercise any of the powers and discretions granted to a trust protector under section 14 of this act to the extent such exercise is not prohibited under the terms of the governing instrument.

SECTION 9. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1208 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

By accepting an appointment to serve as a trust advisor or trust protector of a trust that is subject to the laws of this State, the trust advisor or the trust protector submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state even if investment advisory agreements or other related agreements provide otherwise, and the trust advisor or trust protector may be made a party to any action or proceeding if issues relate to a decision or action of the trust advisor or trust protector.

SECTION 10. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1209 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Any of the powers enumerated in section 8 of this act as they exist at the time of the signing of a will by a testator or at the time of the signing of a trust instrument by a trustor, may be, by appropriate reference made thereto, incorporated in whole or in part in such will or trust instrument, by a clearly expressed intention of a testator of a will or trustor of a trust instrument.

SECTION 11. A new section of law to be codified NEW LAW in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1210 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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A trust instrument governed by the laws of Oklahoma may provide for a person to act as an investment trust advisor or a distribution trust advisor, respectively, with regard to investment decisions or discretionary distributions. Unless otherwise provided or restricted by the terms of the governing instrument, any person may simultaneously serve as a trust advisor and a trust protector.

SECTION 12. A new section of law to be codified NEW LAW in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1211 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The powers and discretions of an investment trust advisor shall be as provided in the trust instrument and may be exercised or not exercised, in the best interests of the trust, in the sole and absolute discretion of the investment trust advisor and are binding on any other person and any other interested party, fiduciary, and excluded fiduciary. In addition to the powers and discretions granted to the investment trust advisor in the governing instrument, the investment trust advisor may also exercise any of the following powers and discretions to the extent such exercise is not prohibited under the terms of the governing instrument:

1. Direct the trustee with respect to the retention, purchase, sale, exchange, tender, or other transaction affecting the ownership

thereof or rights therein of trust investments. These powers include the pledge or encumbrance of trust property, lending of trust assets, either secured or unsecured, at terms defined by the investment trust advisor to any party including beneficiaries of the trust and the investment and reinvestment of principal and income of the trust;

2. Vote proxies for securities held in trust;

- 3. Select one or more investment advisers, managers, or counselors, including the trustee, and delegate to them any of its powers;
- 4. Direct the trustee with respect to any additional powers and discretions over investment and management of trust assets provided in the governing instrument; and
- 5. Direct the trustee as to the value of nonpublicly traded trust investments;
  - 6. Direct the trustee as to any investment or management power;
- 7. Exercise the powers granted to an investment trust advisor by section 15 of this act.

SECTION 13. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1212 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

The powers and discretions of a distribution trust advisor over any discretionary distributions of income or principal, including distributions pursuant to an ascertainable standard or other

1 criteria and appointments shall be provided in the trust instrument 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 10 11 12 SECTION 14. NEW LAW 13

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and may be exercised or not exercised, in the best interests of the trust, in the sole and absolute discretion of the distribution trust advisor and are binding on any other person and any other interested party, fiduciary, and excluded fiduciary. Unless the terms of the governing instrument provide otherwise, then, in addition to the powers and discretions granted to the distribution trust advisor in the trust instrument, the distribution trust advisor shall direct the trustee with regard to all discretionary distributions to beneficiaries and may exercise any of the powers and discretions granted to a distribution trust advisor in Section 15 of this act.

A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1213 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- The powers and discretions of a family advisor are as provided in the governing instrument or by court order and may be exercised or not exercised, in the best interests of the trust, in the sole and absolute discretion of the family advisor. The powers and discretions may only include the following:
- Remove and appoint a trustee, a fiduciary provided for in the governing trust instrument, trust advisor, investment committee member, or distribution committee member;
  - Appoint a trust protector, or a family advisor;

3. Advise the trustee on matters concerning any beneficiary; receive trust accountings, investment reports, and other information from the trustee or to which a beneficiary is entitled; attend meetings whether in person or by any other means with the trustee, investment trust advisors, distribution trust advisors, or other advisors whether in person or by any means, electronic or otherwise; and to consult with a fiduciary regarding both fiduciary and nonfiduciary matters or actions, all without any power or discretion to take any action as a fiduciary; or

- 4. Provide direction regarding notification of qualified beneficiaries pursuant to Section 15 of this act.
- B. A family advisor is not required to exercise any powers or discretions under any circumstances. Every action or inaction by a family advisor is a nonfiduciary action or inaction and a family advisor is absolutely excluded from liability to any other person for an action or inaction as a family advisor. A court may review a family advisor's exercise of the powers described in paragraphs 1, 2, and 4, of subsection A of this section, only if the family advisor acts dishonestly or with an improper motive but may not review a family advisor's failure to exercise any powers. A reasonableness standard may not be applied to any action or inaction of a family advisor. Other than for the two circumstances listed above, a court has no jurisdiction to review a family advisor's action or inaction.

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C. A family advisor is entitled to compensation as provided in the governing instrument. If the governing instrument does not provide for or establish compensation, a family advisor is entitled to reasonable compensation for the exercise of the powers and discretions granted to the family advisor pursuant to this title.

SECTION 15. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1214 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- 1. Except as otherwise provided by the terms of a trust instrument governing a revocable trust a trustee has no duty to notify the qualified beneficiaries of the trust's existence.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided by the terms of a trust instrument governing an irrevocable trust or otherwise directed in writing by the trustor, trust advisor, or trust protector, the trustee shall:
  - a. notify the qualified beneficiaries of the trust's existence and of the right of the qualified beneficiary to request a copy of the trust instrument pertaining to the qualified beneficiary's interest in the trust within sixty (60) days after the trustee has accepted trusteeship of the trust, or within sixty (60) days after the date the trustee acquires knowledge that a formerly revocable trust has become irrevocable;

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- promptly furnish to the qualified beneficiary a copy b. of the trust instrument upon request by the qualified beneficiary; and
- promptly respond to a qualified beneficiary's request C. for information related to the administration of the trust, unless the request is unreasonable under the circumstances.
- The trustor, trust advisor, or trust protector, may, by the terms of the governing instrument, or by providing written directions to the trustee, expand, restrict, eliminate, or otherwise modify the rights of beneficiaries to information relating to a trust. Unless otherwise stated in the governing instrument, the direction of the trustor controls in the event of a conflict among written directions provided to the trustee pursuant to this section. The trustee incurs no liability for a loss or otherwise for relying upon the written directions, including an instance when the governing instrument of an irrevocable trust does not expressly authorize an expansion, restriction, or other modification of the rights of beneficiaries to information relating to a trust.

The terms of a trust instrument governing an irrevocable trust or written directions provided pursuant to this section may expand, restrict, eliminate, or otherwise vary the right of a beneficiary to be informed of the beneficiary's interest in a trust indefinitely or for a period of time, for example:

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a. a period of time related to the age of a beneficiary;

- b. a period of time related to the lifetime of either a trustor or spouse of a trustor, or both;
- c. a period of time related to a term of years or specific date; and
- d. a period of time related to a specific event that is certain to occur.
- 4. The terms of the governing instrument or written directions provided pursuant to this section may authorize either the trustor, trust advisor, or trust protector to appoint a representative for the purpose of being informed, on behalf of the beneficiary, of the beneficiary's interest in a trust for the period of time that the right of a beneficiary to be informed about a beneficiary's interest is restricted or eliminated pursuant to this section.
- 5. The written directions of the trustor, whether made in the governing instrument or by separate written directions made pursuant to the governing instrument or this section, control and remain in effect upon the death of the trustor until or unless modified or revoked by a trust advisor or trust protector as permitted by the governing instrument or the trustor's written directions in effect at the time of the trustor's death. Subject to paragraph 3 of this section, the written directions of a trust advisor or trust protector remain in effect until or unless a trust advisor or trust

protector revokes the written directions by providing a writing to that effect to the trustee.

- 6. Any beneficiary may waive the right to the notice or information otherwise required to be furnished under this section and, with respect to future reports and other information, may withdraw a waiver previously given.
- 7. Before providing information to any qualified beneficiary, a fiduciary may require that any such qualified beneficiary or beneficiaries be bound by the same duty of confidentiality that binds the fiduciary. If trust information is sought through service of a subpoena on a fiduciary, the fiduciary may petition the court for an order that makes disclosure of trust information contingent upon the receiving party being bound by reasonable conditions to ensure the protection of confidentiality of trust information by the receiving party.
- 8. The change in the identity of a trustee, occurring as the result of a mere name change or a merger, consolidation, combination, or reorganization of a trustee, does not require notice.
- 9. For the purposes of this section, the term, qualified beneficiary, means a beneficiary that is an entity then in existence or an individual who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older and who, on the date the beneficiary's qualification is determined:

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- a. is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal;
- b. would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal if the interests of the distributees terminated on that date; or
- c. would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal if the trust terminated on that date.

However, if the distributee is then unknown because a person holds a power to change the distributee, the trustee shall give notice only to the holder of the power.

SECTION 16. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1301 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. As used in Sections 17 through 33 of this act:
- 1. "Claim" means a right to payment, whether or not the right is reduced to judgment liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent, matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal, equitable, secured, or unsecured;
- 2. "Creditor" means with respect to a transferor, a person who has a claim;
  - 3. "Debt" means liability on a claim;
- 4. "Disposition" means a transfer, conveyance, or assignment of property, including a change in the legal ownership of property

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occurring upon the substitution of one trustee for another or the addition of one or more new trustees, or the exercise of a power so as to cause a transfer of property to a trustee or trustees. The term does not include the release or relinquishment of an interest in property that theretofore was the subject of a qualified disposition;

- 5. "Property" means real property, personal property, and interests in real or personal property;
- 6. "Qualified disposition" means a disposition by or from a transferor to a qualified person or qualified persons, without consideration or for less than fair market value, by means of a trust instrument;
- 7. "Spouse" and "former spouse" means only persons to whom the transferor was married at, or before, the time the qualified disposition is made; and
- 8. "Transferor" means any person as an owner of property as a holder of a power of appointment which authorizes the holder to appoint in favor of the holder, the holder's creditors, the holder's estate, or the creditors of the holder's estate or as a trustee, directly or indirectly, makes a disposition or causes a disposition to be made.
- B. The terms transferor and beneficiary may be any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint stock company, business trust, trust, unincorporated

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organization, or two or more persons having a joint or common nterest.

SECTION 17. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1302 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. For the purposes of Sections 16 through 33 of this act, a crust instrument is an instrument appointing a qualified person or qualified persons for the property that is the subject of a disposition, which instrument:
- 1. Expressly incorporates the law of this state to govern the validity, construction, and administration of the trust;
- 2. Is irrevocable, but a trust instrument may not be deemed revocable on account of its inclusion of one or more of the following:
  - a transferor's power to veto a distribution from the trust,
  - an inter vivos power of appointment, other than an inter vivos power exercisable solely by the transferor in favor of the transferor, the transferor's creditors, the transferor's estate, or the creditors of the transferor's estate,
  - c. a testamentary power of appointment,

- d. the transferor's potential or actual receipt of income, including rights to such income retained in the trust instrument,
- e. the transferor's potential or actual receipt of income or principal from a charitable remainder unitrust or charitable remainder annuity trust as such terms are defined in Section 664 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. Section 664, as of January 1, 2009; the transferor's receipt each year of a percentage of the value as determined from time to time pursuant to the trust instrument, but not exceeding the amount that may be defined as income under Section 643(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. Section 643(b), as of January 1, 2009,
- f. the transferor's potential or actual receipt or use of principal if the potential or actual receipt or use of principal would be the result of a qualified person, including a qualified person acting at the direction of a trust advisor described in this section, acting either in the qualified person's sole discretion or pursuant to an ascertainable standard contained in the trust instrument,
- g. the transferor's right to remove a trustee, protector, or trust advisor and to appoint a new trustee,

protector, or trust advisor, other than a trustee who is a related or subordinate party with respect to the transferor within the meaning of Section 672(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. Section 672(c), as of January 1, 2009,

- h. the transferor's potential or actual use of real property held under a qualified personal residence trust within the meaning of such term as described in the regulations promulgated under Section 2702(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. Section 2702(c), as of January 1, 2009,
- i. a pour back provision that pours back to the transferor's will or revocable trust all or part of the trust assets,
- j. the transferor's potential or actual receipt of income or principal to pay, in whole or in part, income taxes due on income of the trust if the potential or actual receipt of income or principal is pursuant to a provision in the trust instrument that expressly provides for the payment of the taxes and if the potential or actual receipt of income or principal would be the result of a qualified person's acting in the qualified person's discretion or pursuant to a mandatory direction in the trust instrument or acting

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at the direction of an advisor described in Section 19 of this act,

- k. the ability, whether pursuant to discretion, direction, or the grantor's exercise of a testamentary power of appointment, of a qualified person to pay, after the death of the transferor, all or any part of the debts of the transferor outstanding at the time of the transferor's death, the expenses of administering the transferor's estate, or any estate or inheritance tax imposed on or with respect to the transferor's estate,
- 1. a transferor's service as a noncontrolling member of a distribution committee that functions as a distribution trust advisor, which is a fiduciary, given authority by the instrument to exercise all or any portions of the powers and discretions over any discretionary distributions of income or principal, or
- m. a transferor's enjoyment of a power to reacquire the trust corpus by substituting other property of an equivalent value within the meaning of Section675(4)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. Section675(4)(C), as of January 1, 2021, and
- 3. Provides that the interest of the transferor or other beneficiary in the trust property or the income from the trust

property may not be transferred, assigned, pledged, or mortgaged, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, before the qualified person distributes the property or income from the property to the beneficiary, and such provision of the trust instrument constitutes a restriction on the transfer of the transferor's beneficial interest in the trust that is enforceable under applicable nonbankruptcy law within the meaning of Section541(c)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. Section541(c)(2), as of January 1, 2009.

- B. A disposition by a trustee that is not a qualified person to a trustee that is a qualified person may not be treated as other than a qualified disposition solely because the trust instrument fails to meet the requirements of paragraph 1 of this section.
- SECTION 18. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1303 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- A. For the purposes of Sections 16 through 33 of this act, a qualified person is:
- 1. An individual who, except for brief intervals, military service, attendance at an educational or training institution, or for absences for good cause shown, resides in this state, whose true and permanent home is in this state, who does not have a present intention of moving from this state, and who has the intention of returning to this state when away;

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2. A trust company that is organized under Oklahoma state law
or under federal law and that has its principal place of business in
this state; or

- 3. A bank or savings association that possesses and exercises trust powers, has its principal place of business in this state, and the deposits of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.
- B. Furthermore, a qualified person must meet the requirements as provided in Section 19 of this act.
- SECTION 19. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1304 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
- A. Except as expressly provided by the terms of a governing instrument or by a court order, a general law, or a state jurisdiction provision stating that the laws of this state govern is valid, effective, and conclusive for the trust if all of the following are true:
- 1. Some or all of the trust assets are deposited in this state or physical evidence of such assets is held in this state and the trust is being administered by a qualified person in this subdivision, deposited in this state, includes being held in a checking account, time deposit, certificate of deposit, brokerage account, trust company fiduciary account, or other similar account

or deposit that is located in this state including Oklahoma investments;

- 2. A trustee is a qualified person who is designated as a trustee under the governing instrument, a successor trusteeship, or designated by a court having jurisdiction over the trust; and
- 3. The administration, for example, physically maintaining trust records in this state and preparing or arranging for the preparation of, on an exclusive basis or a nonexclusive basis, an income tax return that must be filed by the trust, occurs wholly or partly in this state.
- B. The State of Oklahoma and its courts have jurisdiction over a trust created in a foreign jurisdiction if the administration of the trust meets the three requirements set forth in this section.
- C. Nothing in this section may be construed to be the exclusive means of providing a valid effective and conclusive state jurisdiction provision.

SECTION 20. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1305 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Neither the transferor nor any other natural person who is a nonresident of this state nor an entity that is not authorized by the law of this state to act as a trustee or whose activities are not subject to supervision as provided in Section 18 of this act may be considered a qualified person. However, nothing in this chapter

precludes a transferor from appointing, removing, or replacing one
or more co-trustees, trust advisors, or trust protectors, regardless
of whether or not such trust advisor or trust protector is a
fiduciary.

SECTION 21. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1306 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Any person may serve as an investment trust advisor, notwithstanding that the person is the transferor of the qualified disposition, but a transferor may not otherwise serve as a fiduciary under a trust instrument except as stated in paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 17 of this act. While serving as an investment trust advisor of the trust, the person may have all powers authorized by statute or by the trust instrument, including the power to vote by proxy any stock owned by the trust.

SECTION 22. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1307 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

If a qualified person of a trust ceases to meet the requirements of Section 18 of this act, and there remains no trustee that meets such requirements, such qualified person shall be deemed to have resigned as of the time of such cessation, and thereupon the successor qualified person provided for in the trust instrument shall become a qualified person of the trust, or in the absence of Req. No. 9501

any successor qualified person provided for in the trust instrument,
the circuit court shall, upon application of any interested party,
appoint a successor qualified person.

SECTION 23. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1308 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

In the case of a disposition to more than one trustee, a disposition that is otherwise a qualified disposition may not be treated as other than a qualified disposition solely because not all of the trustees are qualified persons.

SECTION 24. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1309 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A qualified disposition is subject to Section 25 through Section 30 of this act, notwithstanding a transferor's retention of any or all of the powers and rights described in paragraph 2 of Section 17 of this act and the transferor's service as trust advisor pursuant to Section 21 of this act. The transferor has only such powers and rights as are conferred by the trust instrument. Except as permitted by Section 17 and Section 21 of this act, a transferor has no rights or authority with respect to the property that is the subject of a qualified disposition or the income therefrom, and any agreement or understanding purporting to grant or permit the retention of any greater rights or authority is void.

SECTION 25. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1310 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no action of any kind, including an action to enforce a judgment entered by a court or other body having adjudicative authority, may be brought at law or in equity for an attachment or other provisional remedy against property that is the subject of a qualified disposition or for avoidance of a qualified disposition unless the settlor's transfer of property was made with the intent to defraud that specific creditor. This protection, however, only applies to qualified dispositions totaling up to, but not exceeding, Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

SECTION 26. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1311 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. A cause of action or claim for relief with respect to a fraudulent transfer of a settlor's assets under Section 25 of this act is extinguished unless the action under Section 25 of this act is brought by a creditor of the settlor who meets one of the following requirements:
- 1. Is a creditor of the settlor before the settlor's assets are transferred to the trust, and the action under Section 25 of this act is brought within the later of:

- a. two (2) years after the transfer is made, or
- b. six (6) months after the transfer is or reasonably could have been discovered by the creditor if the creditor:
  - (1) can demonstrate that the creditor asserted a specific claim against the settlor before the transfer, or
  - (2) files another action, other than an action under Section 25 of this act, against the settlor that asserts a claim based on an act or omission of the settlor that occurred before the transfer, and the action described in this subparagraph is filed within two (2) years after the transfer;
- Becomes a creditor subsequent to the transfer into trust,
   and the action under Section 25 of this act is brought within two
   (2) years after the transfer is made;
- 3. In any action described in Section 25 of this act, the burden to prove the matter by clear and convincing evidence is upon the creditor;
- 4. A person is deemed to have discovered a transfer at the time a public record of the transfer is made, including the conveyance of an interest in real property that is recorded in the appropriate public filing office where the property is located, the filing of a

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financing statement, or the filing of a bill of sale or other transfer instrument regarding personal property; or

- 5. The filing of a bill of sale or other transfer instrument which conveys personal property to a trust which is governed by this chapter shall be filed in the applicable public filing office determined as follows:
  - if the transferor is a natural person and is a resident of this state, the personal property transfer instrument shall be recorded in the county in this state where the transferor maintains the transferor's principal residence, and
  - b. in all other cases, the personal property transfer instrument shall be recorded in the county in this state where the trustee of the trust maintains a principal residence or principal place of business.
- В. This section and Section 25, Section 27, Section 28, and Section 29 are inseparably interwoven with substantive rights that a deprivation of legal rights would result if another jurisdiction's laws and regulations to the contrary are applied to a claim or cause of action described therein.
- SECTION 27. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1312 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1 A qualified disposition that is made by means of a disposition by a transferor who is a trustee is deemed to have been made as of the time, whether before, on, or after the effective date of this act, the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition was originally transferred to the transferor, or any predecessor trustee, making the qualified disposition in a form that meets the requirements of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Section 17 of this act. Further, the provisions of this section apply to determine the date the transfer is deemed to have been made, notwithstanding that the original transfer was to a trust originally within or outside of the jurisdiction of Oklahoma.

If property transferred to a spendthrift trust is conveyed to the settlor or to a beneficiary for the purpose of obtaining a loan secured by a mortgage or deed of trust on the property and then reconveyed to the trust within one hundred eighty (180) days of recording the mortgage or deed of trust, for purposes of paragraph 1 of subsection A of Section 26 of this act, the transfer is disregarded and the reconveyance relates back to the date the property was originally transferred to the trust. The mortgage or deed of trust on the property is enforceable against the trust.

NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified SECTION 28. in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1313 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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1 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a creditor, including a 2 creditor whose claim arose before or after a qualified disposition, 3 or any other person has only such rights with respect to a qualified 4 disposition as are provided in Section 25 through Section 32 of this 5 act, and no such creditor nor any other person has any claim or 6 cause of action against the trustee or advisor, described in Section 7 20 of this act, of a trust that is the subject of a qualified 8 disposition, or against any person involved in the counseling, 9 drafting, preparation, execution, or funding of a trust that is the 10 subject of a qualified disposition. In addition to the provisions 11 of Section 33 of this act, at no time is a qualified person 12 personally liable to a creditor of a transferor or any other person 13 for distributions made by the qualified person, before the creditor 14 or person notified the qualified person, in writing, that a claim or 15 cause of action existed. This applies regardless of whether the 16 distributions are made to or for the benefit of the transferor or a 17 18 19 SECTION 29. NEW LAW 20 21 22

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beneficiary during the period in which a creditor or other person could make a claim as provided in Section 26 of this act. A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1314 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no action of any kind, including an action to enforce a judgment entered by a court or other body having adjudicative authority, may be brought at law Req. No. 9501 Page 36 or in equity against the trustee or advisor described in Section 20 of this act, of a trust that is the subject of a qualified disposition, or against any person involved in the counseling, drafting, preparation, execution, or funding of a trust that is the subject of a qualified disposition, if, as of the date such action is brought, an action by a creditor with respect to such qualified disposition would be barred under Section 25 through Section 28 of this act. A court of this state has exclusive jurisdiction over an action brought under a claim for relief that is based on a transfer of property to a trust that is the subject of this section. A court of this state may award attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party in such an action. In any action described in this section, the burden to prove the matter by clear and convincing evidence is upon the creditor.

SECTION 30. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1315 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

If more than one qualified disposition is made by means of the same trust instrument:

1. The making of a subsequent qualified disposition shall be disregarded in determining whether a creditor's claim with respect to a prior qualified disposition is extinguished as provided in Section 26 of this act; and

2. Any distribution to a beneficiary is deemed to have been made from the latest such qualified disposition.

SECTION 31. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1316 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 25 through Section 30 of this act, but subject to paragraph 2 of this section, Sections 16 through 33 of this act do not apply in any respect to any person to whom at the time of transfer the transferor is indebted on account of an agreement or order of court for the payment of support or alimony in favor of the transferor's spouse, former spouse, or children, or for a division or distribution of property in favor of the transferor's spouse or former spouse, to the extent of the debt.
- 2. If the transferor is married at the time of the transfer, the provisions of Section 25 through Section 30 of this act, apply to:
  - a. any of the transferor's separate property transferred to the trust, and
  - b. any marital property transferred to the trust if the spouse or former spouse was provided with notice in the form set forth in paragraph 3 of this section, or executed a written consent to the transfer after being provided the information set forth in the notice.

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3. For purposes of the application of this section, a notice of transfer of property to a trust subject to Sections 16 through 33 of this act:

- shall also contain the following language in capital letters, at or near the top of the notice: SPOUSE IS CREATING A PERMANENT TRUST INTO WHICH PROPERTY IS BEING TRANSFERRED. YOUR RIGHTS TO THIS PROPERTY MAY BE AFFECTED DURING YOUR MARRIAGE, UPON DIVORCE (INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT OR ALIMONY OR A DIVISION OR DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY IN A DIVORCE), OR AT THE DEATH OF YOUR SPOUSE. YOU HAVE A VERY LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME TO OBJECT TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY INTO THIS TRUST. YOU MAY, UPON REQUEST TO THE TRUSTEE AT THE ADDRESS BELOW, BE FURNISHED A COPY OF THE TRUST DOCUMENT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SEEK INDEPENDENT LEGAL ADVICE. YOU FAIL TO OBJECT WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME PERIOD, YOU WILL HAVE CONSENTED TO THE TRANSFER OF PROPERTY INTO THIS TRUST,
- b. shall contain a description of the property being transferred to the trust and the name of the trust,
- c. may require that any person who is eligible to receive information pursuant to this section be bound by the

duty of confidentiality that binds the trustee before receiving such information from the trustee, and

- d. shall be provided by the transferor, the transferor's agent, the trustee, or other fiduciary of the trust.
- 4. If a notice is provided under this section before the property is transferred, the period to commence an action under Section 26 of this act shall commence running on the date of the transfer. If a notice is provided after the date the property is transferred, the period to commence an action pursuant to Section 26 of this act commences running on the date the notice is provided.
- 5. The exception contained in paragraph 1 of this section does not apply to any claim for forced heirship or legitime.

SECTION 32. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1317 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A qualified disposition is avoided only to the extent necessary to satisfy the transferor's debt to the creditor at whose instance the disposition had been avoided, together with such costs, including attorney fees, as the court may allow. If any qualified disposition is avoided as provided in this section, then:

1. If the court is satisfied that a qualified person has not acted in bad faith in accepting or administering the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition:

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a. such qualified person has a first and paramount lien against the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition in an amount equal to the entire cost, including attorney fees, properly incurred by such qualified person in the defense of the action or proceedings to avoid the qualified disposition. It is presumed that such qualified person did not act in bad faith merely by accepting such property, and

- b. the qualified disposition is avoided subject to the proper fees, costs, preexisting rights, claims, and interests of such qualified person, and of any predecessor qualified person that has not acted in bad faith, and
- 2. If the court is satisfied that a beneficiary of a trust has not acted in bad faith, the avoidance of the qualified disposition is subject to the right of such beneficiary to retain any distribution made upon the exercise of a trust power or discretion vested in the qualified person or qualified persons of such trust, which power or discretion was properly exercised prior to the creditor's commencement of an action to avoid the qualified disposition. It is presumed that the beneficiary, including a beneficiary who is also a transferor of the trust, did not act in bad faith merely by creating the trust or by accepting a distribution made in accordance with the terms of the trust.

1 SECTION 33. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1318 of Title 60, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- The following provisions apply only to discretionary interests:
- A discretionary interest is neither a property interest nor an enforceable right. It is a mere expectancy;
- 2. No creditor may force a distribution with regard to a discretionary interest. No creditor may require the trustee to exercise the trustee's discretion to make a distribution with regard to a discretionary interest;
- 3. A court may review a trustee's distribution discretion only if the trustee:
  - acts dishonestly,

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- acts with an improper motive, or b.
- fails, if under a duty to do so, to act.
- A reasonableness standard may not be applied to the exercise of discretion by the trustee with regard to a discretionary interest. Other than for the three circumstances listed in this subdivision, a court has no jurisdiction to review the trustee's discretion or to force a distribution.
- C. Absent express language to the contrary, in the event that the distribution language in a discretionary interest permits unequal distributions between beneficiaries or distributions to the

1 exclusion of other beneficiaries, the trustee may distribute all of 2 the accumulated, accrued, or undistributed income and principal to 3 one beneficiary in the trustee's discretion. 4 D. Regardless of whether a beneficiary has any outstanding 5 creditor, a trustee of a discretionary interest may directly pay any 6 expense on behalf of such beneficiary and may exhaust the income and 7 principal of the trust for the benefit of such beneficiary. No trustee is liable to any creditor for paying the expenses of a 9 beneficiary of a discretionary interest. 10 A new section of law to be codified SECTION 34. NEW LAW 11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1401 of Title 60, unless there 12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: 13 For all trusts created under this title, the rules against 14 perpetuities shall not apply, it being the intent that trusts 15 created in Oklahoma may have perpetual duration if a timing 16 provision or limit is not specified in the trust document. 17 SECTION 35. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024. 18 19 59-2-9501 JL 01/16/24 20 2.1 22 23 24