

## SENATE BILL No. 412

By Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance

1-28

1 AN ACT concerning the probate code; relating to guardians and  
2 conservators; imposing the duty to notify nonparties to a  
3 conservatorship of any court order commanding performance or  
4 safekeeping of the conservatee's estate assets; amending K.S.A. 59-  
5 30,176 and repealing the existing section.

6

7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 59-30,176 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
9 59-30,176. (a) A conservator is a fiduciary and has duties of prudence,  
10 loyalty, reasonable care and diligence to the individual subject to  
11 conservatorship.

12 (b) A conservator shall promote the self-determination of the  
13 individual subject to conservatorship and, to the extent feasible, encourage  
14 the individual to participate in decisions, act on the individual's own  
15 behalf, and develop or regain the capacity to manage the individual's  
16 personal affairs. A conservator shall strive to assure that the personal, civil  
17 and human rights of the individual subject to conservatorship are  
18 protected.

19 (c) In making a decision for an individual subject to conservatorship,  
20 the conservator shall make the decision that the conservator reasonably  
21 believes the individual would make if able, unless doing so would fail to  
22 preserve the resources needed to maintain the individual's well-being and  
23 lifestyle or otherwise unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or  
24 personal or financial interests of the individual. To determine the decision  
25 the individual would make if able, the conservator shall consider the  
26 individual's prior or current directions, preferences, opinions, values and  
27 actions, to the extent actually known or reasonably ascertainable by the  
28 conservator.

29 (d) If a conservator cannot make a decision under subsection (c)  
30 because the conservator does not know and cannot reasonably determine  
31 the decision the individual subject to conservatorship probably would  
32 make if able, or the conservator reasonably believes the decision the  
33 individual would make would fail to preserve resources needed to  
34 maintain the individual's well-being and lifestyle or otherwise  
35 unreasonably harm or endanger the welfare or personal or financial  
36 interests of the individual, the conservator shall act in accordance with the

1 best interest of the individual. In determining the best interest of the  
2 individual, the conservator shall consider:

3 (1) Information received from professionals and persons that  
4 demonstrate sufficient interest in the welfare of the individual;

5 (2) other information the conservator believes the individual would  
6 have considered if the individual were able to act; and

7 (3) other factors a reasonable person in the circumstances of the  
8 individual would consider, including consequences for others.

9 (e) Except when inconsistent with the conservator's duties under  
10 subsections (a) through (d), a conservator shall invest and manage the  
11 conservatorship estate as a prudent investor would, by considering:

12 (1) The circumstances of the individual subject to conservatorship  
13 and the conservatorship estate;

14 (2) general economic conditions;

15 (3) the possible effect of inflation or deflation;

16 (4) the expected tax consequences of an investment decision or  
17 strategy;

18 (5) the role of each investment or course of action in relation to the  
19 conservatorship estate as a whole;

20 (6) the expected total return from income and appreciation of capital;

21 (7) the need for liquidity, regularity of income and preservation or  
22 appreciation of capital; and

23 (8) the special relationship or value, if any, of specific property to the  
24 individual subject to conservatorship.

25 (f) The propriety of a conservator's investment and management of  
26 the conservatorship estate is determined in light of the facts and  
27 circumstances existing when the conservator decides or acts and not by  
28 hindsight.

29 (g) A conservator shall make a reasonable effort to verify facts  
30 relevant to the investment and management of the conservatorship estate.

31 (h) A conservator that has special skills or expertise, or is named  
32 conservator in reliance on the conservator's representation of special skills  
33 or expertise, has a duty to use the special skills or expertise in carrying out  
34 the conservator's duties.

35 (i) In investing, selecting specific property for distribution, and  
36 invoking a power of revocation or withdrawal for the use or benefit of the  
37 individual subject to conservatorship, a conservator shall consider any  
38 estate plan of the individual known or reasonably ascertainable to the  
39 conservator and may examine the will or other donative, nominative or  
40 appointive instrument of the individual.

41 (j) A conservator shall maintain insurance on the insurable real and  
42 personal property of the individual subject to conservatorship, unless the  
43 conservatorship estate lacks sufficient funds to pay for insurance or the

1 court finds:

2 (1) The property lacks sufficient equity; or

3 (2) insuring the property would unreasonably dissipate the  
4 conservatorship estate or otherwise not be in the best interest of the  
5 individual.

6 (k) A conservator has access to and authority over a digital asset of  
7 the individual subject to conservatorship to the extent provided by the  
8 revised uniform fiduciary access to digital assets act or court order.

9 (l) A conservator for an adult shall notify the court immediately if the  
10 condition of the adult has changed so that the adult is capable of exercising  
11 rights previously removed.

12 (m) *A conservator shall notify nonparties to a conservatorship,  
13 including financial institutions, of any court order commanding  
14 performance or safekeeping of the conservatee's estate assets.*

15 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 59-30,176 is hereby repealed.

16 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
17 publication in the statute book.