

FOR APPROVAL

UNIFORM UNSWORN FOREIGN DECLARATIONS ACT

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS
ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

MEETING IN ITS ONE-HUNDRED-AND-SEVENTEENTH YEAR
BIG SKY, MONTANA
JULY 18 - 25, 2008

UNIFORM UNSWORN FOREIGN DECLARATIONS ACT

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SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This [act] may be cited as the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. In this [act]:

(1) “Boundaries of the United States” means the geographic boundaries of the United States, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(2) “Law” includes the federal or a state constitution, a federal or state statute, a judicial decision or order, a rule of court, an executive order, and an administrative rule, regulation, or order.

(3) “Record” means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

(4) “Sign” means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record:

(A) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(B) to attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.

(5) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

(6) “Sworn declaration” means a declaration in a signed record given under oath. The term includes a sworn statement, verification, certificate, and affidavit.

(7) “Unsworn declaration” means a declaration in a signed record that is not given under oath, but is given under penalty of perjury.

SECTION 3. APPLICABILITY. This [act] applies to an unsworn declaration by a declarant who at the time of making the declaration is physically located outside the boundaries of the United States whether or not that location is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. This [act] does not apply to a declaration by a declarant who is physically located on property that is within the boundaries of the United States and subject to the jurisdiction of another country.

SECTION 4. VALIDITY OF UNSWORN DECLARATION.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), if a law of this State requires or permits the use of a sworn declaration, an unsworn declaration meeting the requirements of this [act] has the same effect as a sworn declaration.

(b) This [act] does not apply to:

- (1) a deposition;
- (2) an oath of office;
- (3) an oath required to be given before a specified official other than a notary public;
- (4) a declaration to be recorded pursuant to [insert appropriate section of State's real estate law]; or
- (5) an oath required by [insert appropriate section of State's law relating to self-proved wills].

Legislative Note: *Enacting states will need to ensure that the perjury laws of the enacting state include unsworn declarations.*

SECTION 5. REQUIRED MEDIUM. If a law of this State requires that a sworn declaration be presented in a particular medium, an unsworn declaration must be presented in that medium.

SECTION 6. FORM OF UNSWORN DECLARATION. An unsworn declaration under this [act] must be in substantially the following form:

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of [insert name of enacting state] that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am physically located outside the geographic boundaries of the United States, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, and any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Executed on the ____ day of _____, _____, at _____.
(month) (year) (city or other location, and state) (country)

(printed name)

(signature)

Legislative Note: *Enacting states will need to ensure that the perjury laws of the enacting state include unsworn declarations.*

SECTION 7. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION. In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

SECTION 8. RELATION TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMERCE ACT. This [act] modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001, et seq., but does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7003(b).

SECTION 9. REPEALS. The following acts and parts of acts are repealed:

_____.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This [act] takes effect [date].