

DRAFT
FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE ASSETS ACT

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS
ON UNIFORM STATE LAW

~~For February 4 – 6, 2011 Committee Meeting~~

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With Prefatory Note and Comments

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~~January 10~~March 7, 2011

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PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE ASSETS ACT

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PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE ASSETS ACT

PREFATORY NOTE

The Charitable Sector. [Importance of charitable sector in the U.S. and history of charitable sector in the U.S.-~~4.~~] American charities provide a wide range of services and benefits – from arts organizations, to hospitals, to the relief of poverty, to educational institutions, to environmental protections. American charities manage substantial funds in conjunction with carrying out their charitable purposes, holding some funds for current operating needs and others as endowments. [cite to recent data] Charities carry out important functions, lessening the role of government in some cases and improving the quality of life for many people.

Public confidence in charities will help maintain the vibrancy of the charitable sector. If potential donors worry that charities will misuse contributed funds, donors are unlikely to contribute. The good work charities do will suffer if reports of abuse, fraud, or other types of misbehavior reduce public confidence in the sector.

The regulation of charities remains minimal, and yet the importance of public confidence in the sector points to the need for some modicum of oversight. In the charitable sector, self-regulation has always been important and will continue to be important. [note third sector report] The Internal Revenue Service has begun to increase its role in charitable supervision, by expanding the information required under the Form 990 annual report that many charities must file. In order to protect the role of the states in ~~supervising charities~~protecting charitable assets, the role of the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General should be clarified.

Charity regulators in some states are more active than those in other states, but the committee has not seen evidence of overreaching by charitable regulators. Instead, the concern voiced by some observers of the sector is that many states should increase resources available to charity regulators, so they can do a better job of providing the appropriate level of ~~regulation-oversight and protection.~~ [A number of states have adopted legislation to elaborate on the common law. Many of these statutes are relative complex (cites), some require registration, as in the Uniform Supervision of Trustees for Charitable Purposes Act (1954) which this replaces. (cites). Other states with legislation include].

Goals of the Act. The Uniform ~~Oversight~~Protection of Charitable Assets Act will articulate and confirm the role of the state ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General in protecting charitable assets. The ~~attorney-general's~~Attorney General's oversight function exists in most states in the common law or by statute, but in some states the scope of the authority is unclear. The ~~attorney-general's~~Attorney General's authority is broad and this Act will not limit or narrow that authority.

The Act will ~~also make sure provide~~ the ~~attorney-general has the~~Attorney General with at least an inventory of basic information ~~needed to perform the oversight function,~~ without overburdening the charities or the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General with excessive reporting requirements. The Act specifies which transactions and legal proceedings require notice to the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General and provides for registration and annual reports for some

1 charities. It is based on a rather minimalist or basic platform, designed for those states that lack
2 any significant legislation, although all states can benefit from its concepts and clarity.

3
4 ~~—— The Act will replace the Uniform Supervision of Trustees for Charitable Purposes Act~~
5 ~~(1954). That Act has been adopted in a small number of states and is out of date.~~

6
7 The term “~~attorney general~~Attorney General” is used to mean the charity regulator in a
8 state. In many states, the Office of the Attorney General has a division called the Charity
9 Section or something similar. A lawyer in that section typically has the title Assistant Attorney
10 General, but the person in that role may have a different title.

11
12 It is useful to remember that the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General has an educational role
13 and a facilitative role as well as a regulative role. ~~The attorney general wants to~~ Attorneys
14 General now generally educate charities and work with charities to help them become more
15 efficient and more effective. The ~~attorney general~~Attorney General will be better able to
16 perform these roles with adequate information about the charities operating in the state.

17
18 ***Which Charities Does the Statute Cover?*** The ~~attorney general~~Attorney General has
19 ~~oversight~~ authority ~~overt~~ to protect all charitable assets in a state and oversight over all charities
20 registered in a state, so the Act logically applies broadly to charities. Certain sections of the Act
21 (registration, reporting, and notice) apply more narrowly. The Act does not cover governmental
22 entities and businesses, except to the extent that those non-charities hold charitable assets.

23
24 ***General Authority of the Attorney General.*** The Act states the broad duty of the
25 ~~attorney general~~Attorney General to represent the public interest in the protection of charitable
26 assets. The Act states that the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General may enforce the use of
27 charitable assets by a charity for the purposes for which the assets were given to the charity, may
28 take action to prevent or correct a breach of a fiduciary duty in connection with the
29 administration of a charity or charitable assets, and may intervene in an action brought to correct
30 a misapplication of charitable funds, a departure from the purpose of the charity, or a breach of a
31 fiduciary duty owed the charity.

32
33 ***Registration.*** A charity covered by the registration section must register with the
34 ~~attorney general~~Attorney General within a specified period of time after the charity receives
35 property. The charity must provide basic information about the charity (name, address, statutory
36 agent, ~~purpose~~federal identification number, and contact person) and a copy of the charity’s
37 organizing document (articles of incorporation or trust instrument). The Act includes a one-page
38 statutory form of registration.

39
40 ***Annual Reports.*** Charities with assets above a minimum amount will file an annual
41 report with the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General. The annual report will provide basic
42 information and will require that the charity attach a copy of any report the charity files with the
43 Internal Revenue Service (e.g., a Form 990 or a Form 990-EZ).

44
45 ***Notice of “Life Events.”*** One of the concerns the Drafting Committee sought to address
46 was the problem that occurs when an ~~attorney general~~Attorney General learns about the loss of

charitable assets after a charity has disposed of the assets. The Act requires a charity to file a notice of the following, a specified number of days [20, 30 or 60 days] before the event occurs. Events that require notice include the following:

- Any amendment to the charity's organizational document, if the amendment changes the purposes or results in a material change in the structure, governance, or activities of the charity.
- The intent to dissolve or terminate, with a copy of the charity's plan of dissolution. The charity cannot transfer assets until the earlier of receiving written consent from the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General, written notice that the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General will take no action, or the passage of time [20 days]. After dissolution, the charity must file with the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General a description of the assets transferred and a list of the names and addresses of those who received the assets, other than creditors. [this is not currently in the act – should it be?]
- The intent to sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its property, unless the transaction is in the regular course of the charity's activities or the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General waives this requirement.
- The intent to merge with any other entity. The notice must include a copy of the proposed plan of merger.
- A decision to file for bankruptcy (no later than the date of the filing).
- Receipt of a notice of revocation or modification of a federal, state, or local tax exemption (within a specified period of time after receipt).

In addition, the personal representative of an estate or the trustee of a trust that involves the distribution of property to a charity must send the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General a copy of the will or a description of the charitable interests in the trust.

Any person who asserts a claim in a proceeding involving a charity or charitable assets must give written notice to the attorney general if the value of the charitable assets involved is at least \$25,000. The notice must include a copy of the pleading. The proceedings that require notice are the following:

- An action against or on behalf of a charity seeking to enforce the use of charitable assets or the breach of a duty owed to the charity;
- A proceeding seeking instructions relating to the administration, use, or distribution of the charitable assets;
- A proceeding to construe a document under which charitable assets are held or to modify the terms under which charitable assets are held;
- A proceeding involving a trust or probate estate in which matters affecting charitable

1 assets may be decided; or

- 2
- 3 • A proceeding to remove or replace a trustee of a charitable trust.
- 4

5 ***Cooperation with Other Officials.*** The Act permits the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General
6 to cooperate with any official of the state, of another state, or of the United States. The ~~attorney~~
7 ~~general~~Attorney General can provide information or documents concerning an investigation or
8 proceeding to the other official in connection with the other official's role in the oversight of
9 charities and charitable assets. The ~~attorney general~~Attorney General can also acquire
10 information or documents from the other official.

PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE ASSETS ACT

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This [act] may be cited as the [Uniform][Model]

Protection of Charitable Assets Act.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. In this [act]:

(1) “Charitable asset” means property that is [irrevocably dedicated][legally committed
or held] for a charitable purpose.

(2) “Charitable purpose” means the relief of poverty, the advancement of education or religion, the promotion of health, the promotion of a governmental purpose, or any other purpose the achievement of which is beneficial to the community.

(3) “Person” means an individual, corporation, business trust, statutory trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(4) “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.

(5) “Responsible individual” means an individual who, with respect to a person holding charitable assets:

(A) is generally familiar with the affairs of the person; and

(B) participates, directly or indirectly, in the control or management of the person or, in the case of a person being formed, will participate in the control or management of the person; ~~and,~~

~~(C) is not participating in the control or management of the person as a nominee of another person solely for the purpose of satisfying the requirement of this [act] that the person designate a responsible individual.~~

(6) “State” means [get standard definition].

Comment

Subsection (1). Charitable Asset. The term property includes all interest in real or tangible or intangible personal property, including remainder interests and conservation or preservation easements or restrictions. ~~Property that a donor has pledged to a charity is not yet “irrevocably dedicated to a charitable purpose” unless state law considers the pledge binding.~~

Subsection (2). Charitable purposes. The definition of charitable purposes follows that of UTC § 405, Restatement (Third) of Trusts § 28 (2003), and UPMIFA § 2(1) (2006). This long-familiar standard derives from the English Statute of Charitable Uses, enacted in 1601.

Some 17 states have created statutory definitions of charitable purpose for various reasons. *See, e.g.*, 10 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 162.3 (2005) (defining charitable purpose within the Solicitation of Funds for Charitable Purposes Act to include “humane,” “patriotic,” “social welfare and advocacy,” and “civic” purposes). The definition in subsection (4) applies for purposes of this Act and does not affect other definitions of charitable purpose.

Subsection (3). Person. The Act uses as the definition of person the definition approved by the Uniform Law Commission. The definition includes individuals as well as entities. Charities are typically organized as nonprofit corporations or charitable trusts and both are included within this definition.

Subsection (4). Record. Record is defined, using the standard Uniform Law Commission standard definition, in order to use one word instead of several when the act deals with ~~papers, reports, instruments, and records, and to make clear that~~ traditional forms of paper, as well as information in electronic form ~~is included~~.

Subsection (5). Responsible Individual. This term describes someone the ~~attorney general~~ Attorney General could contact for information about the charity. Often the ~~attorney general~~ Attorney General will be able to resolve a question about a charity’s use of assets informally, and having someone identified as a contact person for the charity will make that informal discussion more efficient and effective. A responsible individual should be someone who is generally familiar with, among other things, how the charity is managed but the person need not be a director or trustee. The definition is based on one in the Uniform Law Enforcement Access to Entity Information Act (2009).

SECTION 3. AUTHORITY OF [ATTORNEY GENERAL] TO PROTECT CHARITABLE ASSETS.

(a) The [~~attorney general~~ Attorney General] represents the [public interest] [interest of the]

1 public] in the ~~oversight and~~ protection of ~~charities and~~ charitable assets.

2 (b) The [~~attorney general~~Attorney General] may:

3 (1) enforce the application ~~of~~ and prevent the misapplication or diversion of a
4 charitable asset in accordance with:

5 (A) the purposes or terms, if any, for which the asset was given; and

6 (B) the charitable purposes of a person holding charitable assets ~~for the~~
7 ~~charitable purposes for which the assets are held, given or committed; and; and~~

8 (2) act to prevent or remedy a breach of fiduciary or other legal duty ~~of a person~~
9 ~~holding a charitable asset.;~~

10 (e) ~~The [attorney general] may~~ (A) in the governance, management, or administration of
11 a charitable asset; or

12 (B) in the governance of a person organized primarily for charitable
13 purposes;

14 (3) seek declaratory, injunctive, or other equitable relief to determine that an
15 asset is a charitable asset;

16 (4) commence or intervene in an action to ~~enjoin;~~

17 (A) prevent, remedy, or obtain damages for a violation of this [act]; ~~or~~

18 (B) seek other remedy to enforce ~~a provision of this [act] or to prevent or~~
19 ~~remedy;~~.

20 (1) ~~a misapplication or diversion of charitable assets from use for the charitable~~
21 ~~purposes of a person holding the charitable assets;~~

22 (2) ~~a departure from the charitable purpose for which charitable assets were~~
23 ~~given;~~ or

~~(3) a breach of fiduciary or other legal duty in the governance of a person holding charitable assets.~~

~~(c) The [Attorney General] may conduct an investigation, including exercising administrative subpoena power, if the [Attorney General] has reason to believe the investigation is necessary to determine whether action may be advisable under this [act].~~

~~(d) This [act] does not limit or restrict the powers and duties of the [attorney generalAttorney General] under law of this state other than this [act].~~

Comment

One of the major goals of the Act is to articulate the ~~attorney general's oversight~~Attorney General's protection authority ~~to protect over~~ charitable assets. In most states, whether or not that function is embodied in a statute, the authority is inherent in the common law powers of the ~~[attorney generalAttorney General]~~. In at least a few states, however, it has been held that no such common law authority exists, and in some other states, whether it exists and what it consists of is not clear. The drafting committee intends that the Act clarify and articulate ~~[attorney generalAttorney General]~~ authority to protect charitable assets. At the same time, that authority is not unlimited. The ~~[attorney generalAttorney General]~~'s legitimate role is to correct abuses, but not to take over governance or to substitute the ~~[attorney generalAttorney General]~~'s judgment for the legitimate judgment of the charity's board or trustees; to protect the interests of the indefinite beneficiaries of charity, while recognizing that charitable assets are private, not quasi-public property; and to protect the donor's expressed intent and hold the charity to its expressed purposes.

~~Section (b)(1)(B). — Subsection (d) reflects the committee's desire to articulate that the statute does not replace any common law or other statutory powers the [attorney general] may have.~~

~~{add discussion of relator statutes and consider adding a legislative note for states with relator statutes}~~

~~The Act does not, either expressly or by implication, affect existing law concerning the rights of persons other than the [attorney general] to standing in connection with a matter involving a charity.~~

Although a charity's purposes need not be static, the terms of the organizing documents in effect at the time the charity receives assets constrain the use of those assets.

~~SECTION 4. INVESTIGATION BY [ATTORNEY GENERAL]. The [attorney general] may conduct an investigation, including exercising administrative subpoena power, if~~

1 ~~the [attorney general] has reasonable belief that:~~

2 ~~(1) an action may be advisable within the authority of the [attorney general] pursuant to~~

3 ~~Section 3;~~

4 ~~(2) a law or legal duty concerning the use or management of charitable assets has been~~
5 ~~violated; or~~

6 ~~(3) this [act] has been violated.~~

7 ***Legislative Note:*** ~~If a state does not provide through other law for the process the attorney~~
8 ~~general uses for civil investigative demands, the state should consider making the text of this~~
9 ~~section subsection (a) and enacting the following provisions as part of this section. A separate~~
10 ~~possible Section concerning enforcement is also set out for consideration of the states:~~

11 ~~{(b) The [attorney general] may sign and cause to be served on a person that is believed~~
12 ~~to have information, documentary material, or physical evidence relevant to the subject matter of~~
13 ~~an investigation pursuant to subsection (a) a civil investigative demand requiring the person to~~
14 ~~appear and testify, or to produce documentary material or physical evidence for examination, at~~
15 ~~a reasonable time and place stated in the demand. Service of a civil investigative demand, notice,~~
16 ~~or subpoena may be made by any person authorized by law to serve process or by any duly~~
17 ~~authorized employee of the [attorney general].~~

18 ~~(c) A civil investigative demand must:~~

19 ~~(1) state the general subject matter of the investigation and grounds for the~~
20 ~~alleged violation being investigated;~~

21 ~~(2) describe the class or classes of information, documentary material, or~~
22 ~~physical evidence to be produced, with reasonable specificity so as fairly to indicate the material~~
23 ~~demanded;~~

24 ~~(3) prescribe a return date by which the information, documentary material, or~~
25 ~~physical evidence is to be produced; and~~

26 ~~(4) identify the member of the [attorney general's] staff to whom the information,~~
27 ~~documentary material, or physical evidence requested is to be produced.~~

28 ~~(d) A civil investigative demand may not:~~

29 ~~(1) contain a requirement that would be unreasonable or improper if contained~~
30 ~~in a subpoena duces tecum issued by a court of this state; or~~

31 ~~(2) require the disclosure of information that would be privileged or, for any~~
32 ~~other reason, could not be required by a subpoena duces tecum issued by a court of this state.~~

~~(e) Service of a civil investigative demand, notice, or subpoena may be made by [state rules]:~~

~~(1) delivering a duly executed copy thereof to the person to be served, or to an officer or agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process on behalf of the person;~~

~~(2) delivering a duly executed copy thereof to the principal place of business or the residence in this state of the person to be served;~~

~~(3) mailing a duly executed copy thereof by registered or certified mail, addressed to the person to be served, to the principal place of business or the residence in this state of the person or, if the person has no place of business or residence in this state, to the principal office or place of business or the residence of the person; or~~

~~(4) mailing a duly executed copy thereof by registered or certified mail, requesting a return receipt signed by the addressee only, to the last known place of business, residence, or abode within or without this state of the person to be served.~~

~~(f) An individual may not refuse to answer a material question, produce documentary material, or testify in an investigation pursuant to this section on the ground that the testimony or documentary material may tend to incriminate the individual or subject the individual to a penalty. If the individual asserts a right against self incrimination, the individual may not be subjected to criminal prosecution or an action for a criminal penalty or forfeiture because of a transaction, matter, or thing about which the individual may testify or produce documentary material. An individual may assert the right against self incrimination on the record or make the assertion known to the [attorney general].~~

~~(g) Information, documentary material, or physical evidence demanded pursuant to a civil investigative demand must be produced during normal business hours at the principal office or place of business of the person served, or at such other time and place as may be agreed by the person served and the [attorney general].~~

~~(h) No information, documentary material, or physical evidence requested pursuant to a civil investigative demand shall, unless otherwise ordered by a court for good cause shown, be produced for or the contents thereof be disclosed to, any person other than the [attorney general] without the consent of the person that produced the information, documentary material, or physical evidence; provided, that under such reasonable terms and conditions as the [attorney general] shall prescribe, such information, documentary material or physical evidence shall be made available for inspection and copying by the person who produced such information, documentary material or physical evidence, or any duly authorized representative of the person.~~

~~(i) Material containing trade secrets must not be presented before any court except with the approval of the court in which the action is pending after adequate notice to the person furnishing the material or, in the case of disclosure to agencies of other states, the approval of the [court].~~

~~(j) At any time before the return date specified in a civil investigative demand or not~~

1 ~~later than 20 days after the demand has been served, whichever period is shorter, the person~~
2 ~~served with the demand may petition the [court] to extend the return date for, or to modify or set~~
3 ~~aside the demand, stating good cause.~~

4 ~~(k) A person on which a civil investigative demand is served shall comply with its terms~~
5 ~~unless otherwise provided by order of a court. A person that, with intent to avoid, evade, or in~~
6 ~~whole or in part prevent compliance with a civil investigative demand, removes from a place,~~
7 ~~conceals, withholds, destroys, mutilates, alters, or falsifies information, documentary material,~~
8 ~~or physical evidence in the possession, custody, or control of the person, which is the subject of~~
9 ~~the demand, is guilty of [XX]. The [attorney general] shall have original jurisdiction to enforce~~
10 ~~the provisions of this subsection.~~

11 ~~(l) If a person fails to comply with a civil investigative demand duly served on the person~~
12 ~~or the person refuses to surrender material when whenever satisfactory copying or reproduction~~
13 ~~of the material cannot be done, the [attorney general] may file, in the [trial court of general~~
14 ~~jurisdiction] in a county or judicial district in which the person resides, is found, or transacts~~
15 ~~business, and serve upon the person, a petition for an order of the court for enforcement of the~~
16 ~~demand. If the person transacts business in more than one county or judicial district the petition~~
17 ~~must be filed in the county or judicial district in which the person maintains the person's~~
18 ~~principal place of business, or in such other county or judicial district as may be agreed by the~~
19 ~~parties. When the petition is filed, the court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the~~
20 ~~matter presented, and to enter an order required to enforce the provisions of this [act]. A final~~
21 ~~order may be appealed to the [state supreme court]. Disobedience of a final order entered~~
22 ~~under this section may be punished as a contempt of court.~~

23
24 **~~SECTION ____.~~ ORDER TO STOP; ASSURANCE OF VOLUNTARY**
25 **~~COMPLIANCE.~~**

26 ~~(a) When it appears to the [attorney general] that a person has engaged in, is engaging~~
27 ~~in, or is about to engage in a misapplication of charitable assets, a breach of fiduciary duty, or a~~
28 ~~violation of this [act] or law of this state other than this [act] concerning the use or management~~
29 ~~of charitable assets, the [attorney general] may issue an order to stop, prohibiting the person~~
30 ~~and any other person that participated, is participating or is about to participate in the act, from~~
31 ~~engaging or continuing to engage in the act. The order must not be issued until the [attorney~~
32 ~~general] has given notice to each person that will be subject to the order of the nature of the~~
33 ~~alleged violation and the act that is the basis of the alleged violation and the time for the person~~
34 ~~to file an answer has expired. A person that will be subject to the order may file with the~~
35 ~~[attorney general] an answer to the notice not later than two business days after delivery of the~~
36 ~~notice.~~

37
38 ~~(b) An order issued by the [attorney general] under subsection (a) must be served on~~
39 ~~each person that is subject to the order in the manner provided [in Section 4 for service of a civil~~
40 ~~investigative demand]. The order expires 10 days after being served.~~

41
42 ~~(c) A person that has been duly served with an order issued under this section and~~

1 ~~willfully and knowingly violates a provision of the order while the order remains in effect, either~~
2 ~~as originally issued or as modified, is guilty of [XXX]. The [attorney general] may commence a~~
3 ~~criminal action for the violation.~~

4
5 ~~(d) The [attorney general] may accept an assurance of voluntary compliance with~~
6 ~~respect to an act that would be subject to an order to stop pursuant to subsection (a). The~~
7 ~~assurance of voluntary compliance must be in writing and must be filed with and approved by~~
8 ~~the [court] of the county in which the alleged violator resides or has its principal place of~~
9 ~~business. An assurance of voluntary compliance must not be considered for any purpose as an~~
10 ~~admission of violation. A person that violates the terms of an assurance of voluntary compliance~~
11 ~~shall pay to the state a civil penalty of not more than \$[] per violation. A [court] approving an~~
12 ~~assurance of voluntary compliance retains jurisdiction to award a civil penalty under this~~
13 ~~subsection, and the attorney general acting in the name of the state may petition for recovery of~~
14 ~~the civil penalty.]~~

15 **Comment**

16 ~~The Act articulates the attorney general's authority to undertake an investigation as a~~
17 ~~means of fulfilling the authority articulated in Section 3. The attorney general acts in the public~~
18 ~~interest to protect charitable assets. The Drafting Committee discussed the threshold for~~
19 ~~initiating an investigation. Some states (e.g., Massachusetts) require court approval before~~
20 ~~beginning a civil investigation. Others do not, and specify no particular threshold standard to~~
21 ~~justify commencing a civil investigation. The committee concluded that a less-demanding~~
22 ~~threshold standard is appropriate. Information often comes to the attorney general in a form~~
23 ~~much less formal than a sworn complaint; for example, information about abuses and misdeeds~~
24 ~~is often brought to light in newspaper stories. The committee was sensitive to the burden that an~~
25 ~~investigation can impose on a charity, but concluded that a reasonable amount of discretion and~~
26 ~~flexibility in the attorney general is more often likely to diminish the burden on charities than to~~
27 ~~justify inappropriate intrusion.~~

28
29 ~~General investigative authority. States that detail attorney generalAttorney General~~
30 ~~subpoena power in code sections dealing broadly with attorney generalAttorney General power~~
31 ~~will have no need for this section. States that provide in their codes for attorney generalAttorney~~
32 ~~General civil subpoena power specifically in connection with another attorney generalAttorney~~
33 ~~General function (such as consumer protection) can use that language in this section. The~~
34 ~~language used in this section is modeled on Missouri code sections concerning consumer~~
35 ~~protection. The language in subsection (b) that refers to Section 4 will have to be modified after~~
36 ~~a decision on how best to proceed with the language about civil investigative demands.~~

37
38 ~~Language specifying the attorney general's authority to issue an order to stop or to seek~~
39 ~~an assurance of voluntary compliance is provided in the Legislative Note following Section 4.~~
40 ~~States that provide for similar instruments to exercise attorney general authority elsewhere in the~~
41 ~~state code, for instance, in the consumer protection statutes, will want to coordinate the language~~
42 ~~here with that language. Some states may want to enact this material as a separate section.~~

43
44 ~~Subsection (c) of new Section in Legislative Note with any necessary adaptations. In~~
45 ~~many states the attorney generalAttorney General has civil jurisdiction but not criminal~~

jurisdiction. For example, in Connecticut the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General is the civil charitable regulator but if the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General wishes to initiate a criminal proceeding the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General must do so through the chief state's attorney. In other states (e.g. Maryland) the county state's attorney has general criminal jurisdiction. The committee also needs to determine whether the addition of a new crime in this subsection is appropriate. In some states crimes can only be created in the criminal code.

Subsection (d) reflects the committee's desire to articulate that the statute does not replace any common law or other statutory powers the [attorney general] may have.

[add discussion of relator statutes and consider adding a legislative note for states with relator statutes]

The Act does not, either expressly or by implication, affect existing law concerning the rights of persons other than the [Attorney General] to standing in connection with a matter involving a charity.

SECTION 54. REGISTRATION.

(a) The ~~[attorney general]~~Attorney General shall establish and maintain a registry of persons required to register under this section.

(b) A person ~~shall be~~is required to register under this section if:

~~(1)~~ the person holds or administers a charitable ~~asset~~assets in excess of \$5,000

and:

~~(A)(1)~~ is organized under the law of this state;

~~(B)- or if it is a trust~~ has its situs in this state;

(2) has its principal place of business in this state;

~~(C)(3)~~ holds charitable assets in this state other than assets held primarily for investment purposes ~~in this state;~~

~~(D)(4)~~ conducts activities in this state; or

~~(E)(5)~~ holds assets that are ~~specifically dedicated~~given or committed to the benefit of ~~persons in this state;~~

~~(2) and if the a person is not in this state.~~

~~(A) (c) The following are exempt from the requirement in subsection (b) to register:~~

~~(1) a government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, except to the extent that it holds charitable assets;~~

~~(B) a corporation sole or other religious organization which holds property for religious purposes; or any agency or organization affiliated with and directly supervised by such a religious organization; or an officer, director or trustee of any such religious organization who holds property in an official capacity for religious purposes;~~

~~(C) a person not organized primarily for charitable purposes except to the extent that it holds charitable assets;~~

~~(D)(2) an organization the primary purpose of which is to influence elections;~~

~~(E)(3) a financial institution, investment company, or storage facility that holds charitable assets that belong to another person; or~~

~~(F)(4) an individual holding a charitable asset other than in a fiduciary capacity;~~

~~(e) (5) a [personal representative] of a decedent's estate that holds a charitable asset, during the period of administration of the estate;~~

~~(6) a trustee of a revocable trust that becomes irrevocable because of the settlor's death, during a period of administration following the settlor's death not to exceed one year[.]; or]~~

Alternative A

1 [(7) a religious organization that holds property for religious purposes, an agency
2 or organization affiliated with and directly supervised by the religious organization, or an officer,
3 director, or trustee of the religious organization which holds property in an official capacity for
4 religious purposes.]

5 **Alternative B**

6 [(7) [religious organization as defined by Internal Revenue Code].]

7 **End of Alternatives**

8 (d) The following activities do not constitute conducting activities in this state within
9 the meaning of section (b)(~~4~~)(~~D4~~):

10 (1) maintaining, defending, mediating, arbitrating, or settling ~~any~~an action or
11 proceeding;

12 (2) holding ~~meetings~~a meeting of trustees, directors, or members;

13 (3) maintaining ~~bank accounts or~~ an account in a financial institution or an
14 investment ~~accounts~~account;

15 (4) owning, without more, real or personal property;

16 (5) conducting an isolated transaction that is completed ~~within~~in not more than
17 30 days and ~~that~~ is not ~~one~~ in the course of ~~repeated~~similar transactions ~~of a like nature; and;~~

18 (6) soliciting or accepting contributions~~;~~ and

19 ~~(d)~~(7) making a grant to a person in this state.

20 (e) A person required to register under this section shall register with the [~~attorney~~
21 ~~general~~]on or before the Attorney General] not later ~~of~~ than [~~three~~ three] months after the date the
22 person receives charitable assets in excess of ~~[\$\$]~~\$5,000].

23 ~~(e)~~(f) The registration required by subsection (b) must include:

1 (1) the name and address of the person;

2 (2) the name and address of the statutory agent of the person or ~~of~~ the individual

3 on whom service of process may be made;

4 (3) the name and address of a responsible individual of the person; [and]

5 ~~(4) a short statement of the person's primary activities;~~

6 (4) the federal employer identification number, if any, for the person[.];

7 [(5) a true if the person is organized primarily for charitable purposes, a copy of

8 ~~the current version of the~~ person's articles of incorporation and bylaws, trust instrument, or other

9 record, if any, that serves as the organizational document of the person; [and]

10 ~~(6) the federal employer identification number, if any, for the person.~~

11 ~~(f) The [attorney general] may collect a filing fee of [\$15.00] with the registration~~

12 ~~required by this section and a late fee of [\$25.00] per month up to a maximum of [\$200]. The~~

13 ~~funds collected will be used for services provided for under this [act]. The [attorney general]~~

14 ~~may extend the time for filing for good cause shown.~~

15 (6) if the person is not organized primarily for charitable purposes, a copy of the

16 portion of the person's articles of incorporation and bylaws, trust instrument, or other record, if

17 any, that relates to the use and administration of the charitable asset held by the person.]; and]

18 [(7) whether the person has registered under [the state's solicitation statute] and if

19 so, under what name and under what registration number, if any.]

20 (g) The registry established pursuant to subsection (a) and records filed with the

21 ~~[attorney general]~~Attorney General are public records, except that the ~~[attorney general]~~Attorney

22 General shall:

23 (1) withhold from public inspection a record or any part of a record filed with the

1 | ~~[attorney-general]~~Attorney General or with a governmental agency of this state, another state, or
2 | the United States, or any governmental subdivision thereof, which is required by law to be kept
3 | confidential; and

4 | (2) on the written request of a person required to register under this section,
5 | withhold from public inspection a record or any part of a record filed which does not relate to a
6 | charitable purpose or charitable assets and is not otherwise a public record.

7 | [(h) The [Attorney General] may collect a filing fee of \$[15.00] with the registration
8 | required by this section and a late fee of \$[100.00]. The funds collected will be used for services
9 | provided for under this [act]. The [Attorney General] may extend the time for filing for good
10 | cause shown.]

11 | **Comment**

12 | The main thrust of the 1954 Uniform Supervision of Trustees for Charitable Purposes Act
13 | was to provide a mechanism to facilitate the supervisory role of the Attorney General by
14 | providing for registration that would alert the Attorney General to the existence and
15 | administration of charitable trusts. This Act continues to incorporate that function. The Drafting
16 | Committee has opted to keep the registration obligation simple, so as to avoid overburdening
17 | either charitable organizations or ~~attorneys-general.~~Attorneys General. It is expected that the
18 | registration function will move to an electronic system, thereby reducing some of the burden.
19 | Electronic registration will be sufficient to meet the requirements of Section 5, and the Drafting
20 | Committee hopes that states will be able to accommodate electronic registration. While a large
21 | organization that operates in many states will likely have an obligation to register in multiple
22 | states, the committee hopes that the Act's move toward uniformity will minimize the burden of
23 | multiple registrations. The Act includes a statutory form of registration so that states can ease
24 | the burden on charities by adopting a requirement that is consistent across states.

25 |
26 | Registration is important for several reasons. First, the list of registered charities can
27 | serve as a quick resource of information for the ~~attorney-general.~~Attorney General and for the
28 | public. If the ~~attorney-general.~~Attorney General receives a question from a member of the public,
29 | the ~~attorney-general.~~Attorney General may be able to answer the question simply by reviewing
30 | the information provided in the registration. No further inquiry may be necessary, and both the
31 | ~~attorney-general.~~Attorney General and the charity will save time and expense.

32 |
33 | Also, a potential donor may consult the list of registered charities to determine whether a
34 | charity requesting a donation is current in its filings with the ~~attorney-general.~~Attorney General.
35 | If the charity is not registered, the donor will want to investigate further before making a

1 donation. If the charity has consistently made the required filings, that information suggests a
2 well-managed charity, with fiduciaries who comply with their duties.

3
4 Finally, the requirement to register serves as a reminder to someone organizing a charity
5 of the seriousness of the fiduciary role an individual undertakes when acting as a director or
6 trustee of a charity. If the individual does not want the responsibility of managing charitable
7 assets under the oversight of the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General, the individual can give the
8 assets to an existing charity or start a donor advised fund.

9
10 Subsection (b) sets forth which organizations will be required to register under the Act.
11 The registration requirement applies to entities of any legal form that hold or administer property
12 dedicated to or donated for charitable purposes. The scope of the requirement is broad enough to
13 take in not only organizations traditionally thought of as charitable, but also non-charitable
14 organizations that hold or administer assets dedicated to charitable purposes or that have been
15 donated for charitable purposes. The obligation to register is limited to organizations that have
16 significant contacts in the state. The Drafting Committee believes that the threshold strikes an
17 appropriate balance between the risk of overburdening charities that have little contact with a
18 particular state and the need for the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General to be alerted to the
19 existence of charitable organizations and assets in the state that might call for oversight. Simply
20 having a bank account or investment account in the state does not cause an entity to fall within
21 the definition, and financial institutions and investment companies are not included within the
22 definition by virtue of having accounts owned by charities, unless the institution serves as trustee
23 for a charity.

24
25 The term “principal place of business” is used to mean principal place of administration,
26 governance, activities, and operation. Although using the term “business” for charitable
27 activities sounds odd, the term is used to bring with it the substantial caselaw connected with the
28 term.

29
30 Although the types of contact listed in subsection (b) are not limited by the terms
31 “substantial” or “significant,” the intention is that a negligible level of activity or other contact
32 not be considered sufficient to cause an ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General to assert
33 ~~oversight~~protection powers. The state constitution will control the level of activity necessary for
34 ~~attorney-general-oversight~~Attorney General protection.

35
36 Subsection (b)(2)(A) excludes governments from the Act, but if a government accepts an
37 asset for charitable purposes, the Act will provide oversight for that asset. For example, a local
38 government might accept the donation of land for a public park or might accept a conservation
39 easement over land in the state.

40
41 Subsection (b)(2)(C) excludes persons not organized primarily for charitable purposes.
42 The Drafting Committee intends to exclude entities like benefit corporations and L3Cs even
43 though those entities may be established in part for charitable purposes. The committee also
44 intends to exclude labor organizations, social organizations, and trade associations.

45
46 Subsection (b)(2)(F) excludes individuals who may hold charitable assets as volunteers

1 but not in a fiduciary capacity. For example, a volunteer might hold assets in connection with a
2 school's PTO fundraiser. The PTO will register, but a volunteer who holds assets connected
3 with the fundraiser do not need to register.

4
5 Subsection (d) indicates that the threshold amount for filing is \$5,000. The Drafting
6 Committee chose this amount because it is the same as the amount that necessitates filing a Form
7 1023, Recognition of Exempt Status, with the Internal Revenue Service. The information
8 required to register with the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General is significantly less than the
9 information required to complete a Form 1023, so an organization should not face an undue
10 burden if required to register with the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General.

11
12 Legislative Note to Subsection (g) – if a state FOIA statute requires more here, then add.
13 In some states an amendment to FOIA may be necessary. Some states will delete.
14

15 SECTION 65. ANNUAL REPORT.

16 (a) A person required to register under Section ~~5~~shall file~~4~~ which holds charitable assets
17 valued in excess of \$[5,000] at the end of the person's most recent accounting period or has total
18 revenue in excess of \$[--] for the person's most recent accounting period shall file with the
19 [~~attorney general~~Attorney General], not later than ~~five~~5 months and ~~fifteen~~15 days after the end
20 of the person's accounting period, a report providing and certifying the accuracy of the
21 following:

22 ~~(1) a copy of the person's most recent federal information return, if any; and;~~

23 ~~(2) an annual report providing the following information:~~

24 ~~(A) a (1) a~~ current list of the ~~charity's directors, trustees, and~~
25 ~~officers~~names of the individuals responsible for the management of the person;

26 ~~(B)~~(2) the person's total revenue for its most recent accounting period;

27
28 ~~(C)~~(3) the person's total assets as of the last day of its most recent
29
30 accounting period;

31 ~~(D)~~(4) a description of ~~any~~the person's most significant program activities.

1 not exceeding three activities, during the accounting period;

2 (5) a copy of any amendment during the accounting period of the person's
3 articles of incorporation and bylaws, trust instrument, or other record that serves as the person's
4 organizational documents;

5 (6) whether during the accounting period the person:

6 (A) engaged in a reportable event under Section 6;

7 **Alternative A**

8 [(B) entered into a contract, loan, lease, or other financial transaction
9 during the accounting period between the person and any with an officer, director, trustee, or
10 other fiduciary, either directly or with an entity in which the officer, director, trustee, or other
11 fiduciary had a material financial interest;]

12 **(E)–Alternative B**

13 [(B) entered into a description financial transaction that materially benefits
14 an officer, director, trustee, or other fiduciary, other than a transaction related to the individual's
15 role as a fiduciary, or entered into a financial transaction that materially benefits an entity in
16 which the fiduciary had a material financial interest;]

17 **End of any Alternatives**

18 (C) became aware of a material embezzlement, theft, or diversion, ~~or~~
19 ~~misuse of the charity's person's~~ charitable assets ~~of which the person became aware during the~~
20 ~~accounting period;~~

21 ~~(F) a list of any instances of which the person~~

22 (D) became aware during the accounting period of use of ~~the person's~~
23 ~~funds~~ a charitable asset to pay any penalty, fine, or judgment;

1 ~~(G) a list of any instances of which the person~~
2 ~~(E) became aware during the accounting period~~ of the payment by ~~aan~~
3 officer, director, trustee, or other fiduciary of a penalty, fine, or judgment with respect to the
4 person; ~~and~~
5 ~~(H) a statement describing any change in the person's federal or state, tax~~
6 ~~exempt status during the accounting period;~~
7 ~~(I) a statement describing any use during the accounting period or of~~
8 ~~which the person~~
9 ~~(F) became aware during of the accounting period use~~ of restricted funds
10 for a purpose other than ~~those~~ the purpose specified in the restriction; ~~and~~ _____
11 ~~(J)-(7) an explanation of any affirmative answer reported under paragraph (6);~~
12 ~~and~~
13 ~~(8) a change to any information provided under Section 4.~~
14 (b) If the person is required to file a Form 990, Form 990-PF, or Form 990-EZ with the
15 Internal Revenue Service, then the person shall attach a description copy of the person's most
16 significant program activities, not to exceed three activities, during form to the accounting
17 period annual report.

Comment

Many charities will be able to meet the annual report requirement of Section 6 simply by filing a copy of the federal tax return the charity files. If the charity files a Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or a Form 990-PF, the charity may file a copy of that return and need not file an additional report. If the charity files Form 990-N, the charity will need to file an additional report, because the Form 990-N does not request a significant level of information. This draft states the requirement without reference to specific tax return numbers because the return numbers may change over time. The difficulty with stating the requirement in this way, however, is to convey the idea that a return that provides information similar to that required by this section (Form 990, Form 990-EZ, Form 990-PF) is sufficient but a return that provides only a minimal level of information (Form 990-N) is not. The committee will compare the requirements of Section 6 with the requirements of the tax returns and consider whether to require information beyond that

1 listed in the tax returns.

2
3 The Internal Revenue Code requires a private foundation to file a copy of its Form 990-
4 PF, IRC 6033(c)(2), with the state, so we should be able to exempt private foundations who
5 already file that form with the state. The committee needs to consider this exemption, but the
6 committee will likely be able to exempt private foundations from Section 6.

7
8 States that require annual reporting under a statute that regulates charitable solicitation
9 will want to coordinate the report required here with that required by the solicitation statute and
10 may find the reporting requirement in Section 6 duplicative and unnecessary.

11
12 The drafting committee did not reach consensus on the optimal threshold for the small
13 organization exception. Some committee members noted that the reporting requirement can
14 encourage good governance, and some members also noted that the small organizations are often
15 the ones that get into trouble. The ~~attorney general~~ Attorney General needs to receive information
16 in a timely fashion to be able to address problems before charitable assets are lost. The
17 registration and reporting requirements are important in promoting appropriate
18 ~~oversight~~ protection of charitable assets.

19
20 **SECTION ~~76~~. NOTICE TO [ATTORNEY GENERAL~~+~~] OF REPORTABLE**
21 **EVENT.**

22 (a) A person required to register under Section ~~54~~ shall give ~~written~~ notice in a record to
23 the [~~attorney general~~ Attorney General] not later than [20] [30] days before ~~any of the~~ reportable
24 event occurs.

25 (b) The following ~~occur~~are reportable events under this section:

26 (1) a dissolution of the person;

27 (2) a termination of the person~~;~~;

28 (3) a disposition by the person of all or substantially all of the person's ~~assets,~~
29 ~~unless the disposition occurs in the usual or regular course of the person's activities~~ charitable
30 assets;

31 (4) ~~the~~ consummation of a merger, conversion, or domestication;

32 (5) a ~~change in the situs~~ removal of the person from the jurisdiction of ~~the~~

~~principal place of business of the person~~this state; or

(6) a removal of significant charitable assets from this state.

~~(b) No(c) A transfer of a charitable assets may be transferred~~asset in connection with
~~any~~an event ~~that requires the provision of notice under section (a) by a person to the [attorney~~
~~general] until the earliest of:~~

~~(1) described in subsection (b) which occurs earlier than~~ [20] days after delivery
of the notice required by ~~this section has been delivered~~subsection (a) to the ~~[attorney general];~~

~~(2) Attorney General] shall be a violation of this [act] unless before the person's~~
~~receipt of transfer the [attorney general]'s person receives the~~ consent ~~in writing of the [Attorney~~
General] in a record to a proposed transfer; or

~~(3) the person's receipt of written~~person receives notice in a record that the
~~[attorney general]~~Attorney General will take no action regarding the transfer.

~~(e)(d) If a probated decedent's~~ estate opened by a court in this state involves, or may
involve, the distribution of property to a person holding or authorized to hold charitable assets,
~~unless the person authorized to hold charitable assets will distribute the assets to a specified~~
~~charity~~, the [personal representative], not later than ~~[30]~~ninety days after the date ~~of~~ the
[personal ~~representative's~~ appointment~~representative~~ is appointed], shall deliver to the ~~[attorney~~
~~general]~~a trueAttorney General a copy of the will; a copy of the petition for probate or
application for unsupervised probate; and a copy of the ~~will~~inventory, or if none is filed with the
court, then a statement of the estimated value of the estate, unless the distribution is a specific
devise with a value of less than \$100,000 to a named person holding charitable assets.

~~(d)(e) If a revocable trust administered~~having its principal place of administration in this
state becomes irrevocable [because of the settlor's death] and if ~~the distribution under the trust~~

1 ~~involves, or may involve,~~it provides for a distribution of property to a person holding or
2 authorized to hold charitable assets, ~~unless the person authorized to hold charitable assets will~~
3 ~~distribute the assets to a specified charity,~~ the trustee, not later than [~~30~~ninety] days after the date
4 of the settlor's death, shall deliver to the [~~attorney general~~Attorney General] a description of the
5 charitable interests:

6 ~~(e) A person who holds a charitable asset in this state shall give notice to the [attorney~~
7 ~~general] of a decision to file for bankruptcy not later than the date on which the charity files a~~
8 ~~bankruptcy petition under Title 11 and a statement of the United States Code, files a receivership~~
9 ~~under [state receivership statute] or any similar receivership statute of another state, makes an~~
10 ~~assignment for the benefit of creditors, or initiates any other insolvency proceeding. estimated~~
11 ~~value of the trust assets, unless the distribution is a specific distribution with a value of less than~~
12 ~~\$100,000 to a named person holding charitable assets.~~

13 (f) A person required to register ~~in this state~~under Section 4 shall give notice in a record
14 to the [~~attorney general~~Attorney General] not later than [20] days after:

15 ~~(1) receipt of any notice of revocation~~or, modification, or denial of its federal or
16 state [income] tax exemption;~~or.~~

17 ~~(2) adoption of any amendment to its articles of incorporation, trust instrument, or~~
18 ~~other record creating the person if the amendment changes the purposes of the person or results~~
19 ~~in a material change to the structure, governance, or activities of the person.~~

20 ~~(g) A notice required to be given under this section shall include the name of the person,~~
21 ~~an explanation of the event that causes the notice requirement to apply, and the approximate~~
22 ~~value of the charitable asset involved.~~

23 ~~(h) Failure to provide notice as required under this section [shall result in][will be~~

1 | ~~considered a breach of fiduciary duty.]~~

2 | **Comment**

3 | The Act requires notice to the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General of a variety of
4 | transactions and events that raise particular opportunities for misapplication of charitable assets,
5 | so that the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General has an opportunity to monitor the events in time to
6 | prevent problems in addition to correcting problems that have already arisen.

7 |
8 | **Subsection (a). Disposition or removal of all or significantly all assets.** If the charity
9 | will terminate or dispose of substantially all of its assets, the charity must notify the ~~attorney~~
10 | ~~general~~Attorney General before the charity gives up control of the assets. This notice provision
11 | gives the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General time to review the proposed transaction and
12 | recommend changes if necessary while the assets can still be reached. If the ~~attorney~~
13 | ~~general~~Attorney General objects to the proposed transaction, the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney
14 | General must deliver the objection to the charity in writing and then the charity cannot proceed
15 | with the transaction until the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General consents (presumably after
16 | negotiations between the charity and the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General) or a court approves
17 | the transaction. This subsection gives the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General the information
18 | needed to work with the charity on an appropriate plan of distribution or other transfer, and then
19 | provides for a court determination if the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General and the charity cannot
20 | reach agreement.

21 |
22 | **Subsection (c) Probate estate.** If a probate estate contains a gift to a charity, the
23 | personal representative must notify the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General of the distribution of an
24 | estate that may involve the distribution of charitable assets. This provision is necessary, because
25 | the public's interest in a charitable bequest may not be protected if an heir contests the will and
26 | the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General does not know that a charitable bequest existed.

27 |
28 | **Subsection (d). Revocable trust.** If a decedent's property will be distributed through a
29 | revocable trust rather than through probate, the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General should still get
30 | notice of any significant charitable gifts. The amount that is "significant" is left in brackets for
31 | states to consider. The Drafting Committee thought that gifts to charity worth at least \$25,000
32 | collectively represented a "significant" charitable interest.

33 |
34 | **Subsection (e). Bankruptcy.** The [~~attorney-general~~Attorney General] should be aware
35 | of a charity's decision to file for bankruptcy so that the [~~attorney~~Attorney general] can protect
36 | the public's interest in the charitable assets.- [Moved to Section 8]

37 |
38 | **Subsection (f)(1). Revocation of tax exemption.** The revocation of a federal or state
39 | tax exemption may signal problems with a charity that the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General
40 | should consider. This subsection requires provides for notification to the ~~attorney~~
41 | ~~general~~Attorney General of revocation or modification of a charity's exempt status for any tax
42 | purpose.

43 |
44 | **Subsection (f)(2). Amendment.** This subsection requires a charity to file with the

~~attorney general~~ Attorney General any amendment to its governing documents that changes the purpose of the charity or results in a material change to the structure, governance, or activities of the charity. For example, a charity should report a change in voting structure, either the elimination of a class of voting members or the creation of voting members. [Add examples of other “material” changes].

SECTION 87. NOTICE TO ATTORNEY GENERAL OF ACTION OR PROCEEDING ~~CONCERNING COVERED CHARITABLE OR CHARITABLE ASSETS~~.

(a) This section applies to:

(1) an action against or on behalf of a person holding a charitable asset ~~or an action~~ seeking to enforce ~~the terms governing the use or management~~ a term relating to a gift of a charitable asset;

(2) an action ~~against a person~~ concerning ~~an application~~ the use of a charitable ~~assets~~ asset or a breach of ~~fiduciary duty~~ or other ~~legal duty~~ obligation owed to a person holding a charitable asset;

(3) a proceeding by, against, or on behalf of a person holding a charitable ~~assets~~ asset for:

(A) instruction, injunction, or declaratory relief relating to the management, use, or distribution of a charitable ~~assets or income produced by charitable assets~~ asset;

(B) construction of a record under which a charitable ~~assets are~~ asset is held;

(C) modification, interpretation, or termination of the terms of a record under which a charitable ~~assets are~~ asset is held; or

(D) removal, appointment ~~of~~, or replacement of a trustee of a charitable

1 trust;

2 ~~(4)~~(E) a ~~proceeding relating challenge~~ to the administration of ~~a probate or~~
3 ~~a distribution from a decedent's~~ estate or ~~a~~ trust in which matters affecting ~~a~~ charitable
4 ~~assets~~asset may be decided; and

5 ~~(5) a proceeding to contest or set aside the probate of a will or establishment,~~
6 ~~funding or dissolution of a trust under which property is given for charitable purposes.~~ (F)
7 ~~bankruptcy under Title 11 of the United States Code, receivership under [state receivership~~
8 ~~statute] or a similar receivership statute of another state, or any other insolvency proceeding.~~

9 (b) When a person commences an action or proceeding to which this section applies, the
10 person shall give notice in a record to the ~~[attorney general]~~ if the ~~value of the charitable assets~~
11 ~~involved in the action or proceeding is at least \$[25,000].~~Attorney General. The notice must
12 include a copy of the initial pleading. ~~No~~An order, decree, or judgment rendered in ~~any~~an action
13 ~~as to~~in which notice is required ~~under~~by this section ~~shall be~~is not binding ~~upon~~on the ~~[attorney~~
14 ~~general]~~Attorney General if the ~~required~~ notice has not been given. ~~The statute of limitations for~~
15 ~~the [attorney general] to bring an action shall not commence until such time as the requisite~~
16 ~~notice has been given.~~

17 Comment

18 The list of kinds of proceedings that require notice to the ~~attorney general~~Attorney
19 General is adapted from provisions found in charitable corporation, trust, and probate sections of
20 various state codes, although no one state provides a model for the entire section. The Drafting
21 Committee concluded that the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General ought to be made aware of a
22 wide range of proceedings that might affect charitable assets or the structure or governance of a
23 charity. [Might include examples here, too. For example, changing the membership structure by
24 eliminating one or more classes of voting members, should require notification.]

25
26 ***Legislative Note:** In states where the ~~attorney general~~Attorney General is a necessary*
27 *party to any or all of the kinds of actions addressed in this section, parts or all of the section will*
28 *be unnecessary.*
29

~~**SECTION 9. PARTICIPATION BY [ATTORNEY GENERAL] IN PROCEEDING INVOLVING COVERED CHARITY.** The [attorney general] may commence an action pursuant to this [act] and may intervene in an action or proceeding listed in Section 8(a).~~

SECTION 8. EQUITABLE RELIEF. If a person required to register under Section 4, file an annual report under Section 5, provide notice of a reportable event under Section 7, or provide notice of an action or proceeding under Section 8 fails to do so, the [Attorney General] may seek appropriate equitable relief.

Comment

This section articulates ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General authority to bring an action or intervene in a proceeding brought by someone else. The committee intends to make the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General a proper party to a wide array of proceedings involving charities, charitable fiduciaries, or charitable assets, so that the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General may exercise the discretion to participate or refrain from participating in court proceedings that relate the ~~attorney-general~~Attorney General duty and authority under this Act.

SECTION 109. COOPERATION WITH OTHER OFFICIAL.

(a) The [~~attorney general~~Attorney General] may cooperate with an official of this state, another state, or the United States, or any political subdivision or agency ~~thereof~~of any of the foregoing, charged with ~~overseeing covered charities or~~ the protection of charitable assets.

(b) The ~~attorney general~~Attorney General may:

(1) notify an official described in subsection (a) of the commencement, status, or resolution of an investigation or proceeding pursuant to this [act];

(2) make available to the official ~~a statement, record, or other~~ information relating to a ~~covered charity~~charitable asset which is relevant to the official's ~~oversight~~protection of ~~covered charities and~~ charitable assets; or

(3) request from the official ~~a statement, record, or other~~ information relevant to an investigation pursuant to Section ~~43~~.

Comment

This section authorizes cooperation between a state ~~attorney general~~Attorney General and relevant officials of other states and the federal government.

SECTION ~~11~~10. 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 ~~in~~among the states that ~~adopt~~enact it.

SECTION ~~12~~11. 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 ~~13~~12. REPEALS. The following ~~acts and parts of acts~~ are repealed:

SECTION ~~14~~13. EFFECTIVE DATE. This [act] takes effect