

**Council of the District of Columbia
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004**

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OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY**

ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC HEARING ON

**BILL 22-0012, THE "REVISION OF GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS AND CREATION OF
SUPPLEMENTAL NEEDS TRUSTS ACT OF 2017"**

BILL 22-0020, THE "CONSUMER DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2017"

BILL 22-0049, THE "UNIFORM POWER OF ATTORNEY AMENDMENT ACT OF 2017"

BILL 22-0169, THE "ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017"

BILL 22-0198, THE "UNIFORM PARTITION OF HEIRS' PROPERTY ACT OF 2017"

**BILL 22-0199, THE "UNIFORM FIDUCIARY ACCESS TO DIGITAL ASSETS ACT OF
2017"**

**Thursday, June 1, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
Room 412, John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004**

On Thursday, June 1, 2017, Councilmember Charles Allen, Chairperson of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, will hold a public hearing on Bill 22-0012, the "Revision of Guardianship of Minors and Creation of Supplemental Needs Trusts Act of 2017"; Bill 22-0020, the "Consumer Disclosure Act of 2017"; Bill 22-0049, the "Uniform Power of Attorney Amendment Act of 2017"; Bill 22-0169, the "Electronic Signature Authorization Act of 2017"; Bill 22-0198, the "Uniform Partition of Heirs' Property Act of 2017"; and Bill 22-0199, the "Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act of 2017". The hearing will take place in Room 412 of the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., at 9:30 a.m.

The stated purpose of B22-0012, the "Revision of Guardianship of Minors and Creation of Supplemental Needs Trusts Act of 2017", is to amend Titles 21 and 16 of the District of Columbia

Code to revise and update the laws relating to guardianships of minor children and protection of property of minor children.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0020, the “Consumer Disclosure Act of 2017”, is to require that the transfer of structured settlement payment rights be approved by a court or responsible administrative authority; and to require disclosure of a contract clause that causes the contract to automatically renew.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0049, the “Uniform Power of Attorney Amendment Act of 2017”, is to enact the Uniform Power of Attorney Act, to provide clear statutory guidance to individuals creating powers of attorney and to agents acting under powers of attorney, to clarify the fiduciary duties of agents to their principals, to protect individuals creating powers of attorney against fraud or other abuse by agents, to protect third parties who deal with agents exercising powers of attorney, and to provide a statutory form power of attorney that is easy to use, comprehensive, and legally effective.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0169, the “Electronic Signature Authorization Act of 2017”, is to amend Chapters 1 and 7 of Title 18 of the District of Columbia Official Code to authorize the use of electronic signatures for testamentary documents and provide a method of authentication for electronic signatures; and to amend Chapters 11 and 13 of Title 19 to authorize the use of electronic signatures and provide a method of authentication for an electronic signature.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0198, the “Uniform Partition of Heirs' Property Act of 2017”, is to enact the Uniform Partition of Heirs' Property Act, to require in the event that a co-tenant requests a partition, that the co-tenant give notice to other cotenants, that the property's fair market value be determined by a court-ordered appraisal, that the other co-tenants be given a right of first refusal, that, if no other co-tenant elects to purchase, the court order a partition-in-kind, unless the court determines that partition-in-kind will result in great prejudice to the cotenants as a group, and, if the court determines that a partition-in-kind is inappropriate and orders a partition-by-sale, that the property must be offered for sale on the open market at a price no lower than the court-determined value for a reasonable period of time and in a commercially reasonable manner.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0199, the “Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act of 2017”, is to amend Title 21 of the District of Columbia Official Code to enact the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act to allow holders of accounts with digital assets to give access to these accounts to fiduciaries, including executors, agents, conservators, and trustees; to provide default rules governing access by fiduciaries to these accounts; and to provide immunity from liability for custodians of accounts that comply with a fiduciary's apparent authorized request for access.

The Committee invites the public to testify or to submit written testimony. Anyone wishing to testify at the hearing should contact the Committee via email at judiciary@dccouncil.us or at (202) 727-8275, and provide their name, telephone number, organizational affiliation, and title (if any), by **close of business Friday, May 26**. Representatives of organizations will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Witnesses are encouraged to bring **twenty single-sided copies** of their written testimony

and, if possible, also submit a copy of their testimony electronically in advance to judiciary@dccouncil.us.

For witnesses who are unable to testify at the hearing, written statements will be made part of the official record. Copies of written statements should be submitted to the Committee at judiciary@dccouncil.us or to Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 5, Washington, D.C. 20004. **The record will close at the end of the business day on June 15.**