SENATE BILL NO. 60

INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK

IN THE SENATE

January 7, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Judiciary.
January 23, 1985	Committee recommend bill do pass as amended. Report adopted.
January 24, 1985	Bill printed and placed on members' desks.
January 25, 1985	Second reading, do pass.
January 26, 1985	Considered correctly engrossed.
January 28, 1985	Third reading, passed. Ayes, 48; Noes, 0.
	Transmitted to House.

IN THE HOUSE

January 29, 1985	Introduced and referred to Committee on Judiciary.
March 8, 1985	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
March 9, 1985	Second reading, concurred in.
March 12, 1985	Third reading, concurred in.
	Returned to Senate.

IN THE SENATE

March 13, 1985

Received from House.

Sent to enrolling.

Reported correctly enrolled.

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1	SENATE BILL NO. 60
2	INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK
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4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REPLACE THE UNIFORM
5	GIFTS TO MINORS ACT WITH THE UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS
6	ACT; REPEALING TITLE 72, CHAPTER 26, PARTS 1 THROUGH 4, MCA;
7	AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE."
8	
9	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
10	Section 1. Short title. [This act] may be cited as the
11	"Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act".
12	Section 2. Uniformity of application and construction.
13	[This act] must be applied and construed to effectuate its
14	general purpose to make uniform the law with respect to the
15	subject of [this act] among states enacting it.
16	Section 3. Definitions. As used in [this act], unless
17	the context requires otherwise, the following definitions
18	apply:
19	(1) "Adult" means an individual who has attained the
20	age of 21 years.
21	(2) "Benefit plan" means an employer's plan for the
22	benefit of an employee or partner.

(3) "Broker" means a person lawfully engaged in the

business of effecting transactions in securities or

commodities for the person's own account or for the account

- 1 of others.
- 2 (4) "Conservator" means a person appointed or
- 3 qualified by a court to act as general, limited, or
- 4 temporary guardian of a minor's property or a person legilly
- 5 authorized to perform substantially the same functions.
- (5) "Court" means district court.
 - (6) "Custodial property" means:
- 8 (a) any interest in property tra: .erred to a
- 9 custodian under [this act]; and
- 10 (b) the income from and proceeds of that interest in
- 11 property.
- 12 (7) "Custodian" means a person so designated under
- 13 [section 11] or a successor or substitute custodian
- 14 designated under [section 20].
- 15 (8) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust
- 16 company, savings institution, or credit union chartered and
- 17 supervised under state or federal law.
- 18 (9) "Legal representative" means an individual's
- 19 personal representative or conservator.
- 20 (10) "Member of the minor's family" means the minor's
- 21 parent, stepparent, spouse, grandparent, brother, sister,
- 22 uncle, or aunt, whether of the whole or half blood or by
- 23 adoption.
- 24 (11) "Minor" means an individual who has not attained
- 25 the age of 21 years.

LC 0187/01 LC 0187/01

(12) "Person" means an individual, corporation, organization, or other legal entity.

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- (13) "Personal representative" means an executor, administrator, successor personal representative, or special administrator of a decedent's estate or a person legally authorized to perform substantially the same functions.
- (14) "State" includes any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession subject to the legislative authority of the United States.
- (15) "Transfer" means a transaction that creates custodial property under (section 11).
- (16) "Transferor" means a person who makes a transfer under [this act].
 - (17) "Trust company" means a financial institution, corporation, or other legal entity authorized to exercise general trust powers.
 - Section 4. Scope and jurisdiction. (1) [This act] applies to a transfer that refers to [this act] in the designation under [section 11(1)] by which the transfer is made if at the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the custodian is a resident of this state or the custodial property is located in this state. The custodianship so created remains subject to [this act] despite a subsequent change in residence of a transferor,

- the minor, or the custodian or the removal of custodial
 property from this state.
- 3 (2) A person designated as custodian under [this act]
 4 is subject to personal jurisdiction in this state with
 5 respect to any matter relating to the custodianship.
- of (3) A transfer that purports to be made and which is valid under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act, or a substantially similar act of another state is governed by the law of the designated state and may be executed and is enforceable in this state if at the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the custodian is a resident of the designated state or the custodial property is located in the designated state.
- 14 Section 5. Nomination of custodian. (1) A person 15 having the right to designate the recipient of property 16 transferable upon the occurrence of a future event may revocably nominate a custodian to receive the property for a 17 minor beneficiary upon the occurrence of the event by naming 18 19 the custodian, followed in substance by the words: "as 20 custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act". The nomination may name 21 one or more persons as substitute custodians to whom the 22 23 property must be transferred, in the order named, if the 24 first nominated custodian dies before the transfer or is 25 unable, declines, or is ineligible to serve. The nomination

- may be made in a will, a trust, a deed, an instrument
 exercising a power of appointment, or in a writing
 designating a beneficiary of contractual rights that is
 registered with or delivered to the payor, issuer, or other
 obligor of the contractual rights.
- 6 (2) A custodian nominated under this section must be a
 7 person to whom a transfer of property of that kind may be
 8 made under {section 11(1)}.

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- (3) The nomination of a custodian under this section does not create custodial property until the nominating instrument becomes irrevocable or a transfer to the nominated custodian is completed under [section 11]. Unless the nomination of a custodian has been revoked, upon the occurrence of the future event the custodianship becomes effective and the custodian shall enforce a transfer of the custodial property pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 6. Transfer by gift or exercise of power of appointment. A person may make a transfer by irrevocable gift to or the irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 7. Transfer authorized by will or trust. (1) A personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable transfer pursuant to [section 11] to a custodian for the benefit of a minor as authorized in the governing will or

l trust.

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2 (2) If the testator or settlor has nominated a 3 custodian under [section 5] to receive the custodial 4 property, the transfer must be made to that person.

(3) If the testator or settlor has not nominated a

- custodian under {section 5} or all persons so nominated as custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or are ineligible to serve, the personal representative or the trustee, as the case may be, shall designate the custodian from among those eligible to serve as custodian for property
- Section 8. Other transfer by fiduciary. (1) Subject to subsection (3), a personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to
- 16 [section 11], in the absence of a will or under a will or
- 17 trust that does not contain an authorization to do so.

of that kind under [section 11(1)].

- 18 (2) Subject to subsection (3), a conservator may make
 19 an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as
 20 custodian for the benefit of the minor pursuant to [section
 21 11].
- 22 (3) A transfer under subsection (1) or (2) may be made 23 only if:
- 24 (a) the personal representative, trustee, or 25 conservator considers the transfer to be in the best

interest of the minor:

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- (b) the transfer is not prohibited by or inconsistent with provisions of the applicable will, trust agreement, or other governing instrument: and
- 5 (c) the transfer is authorized by the court if it 6 exceeds \$10.000 in value.
 - Section 9. Transfer by obligor. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a person not subject to [section 7 or 8] who holds property of or owes a liquidated debt to a minor not having a conservator may make an irrevocable transfer to a custodian for the benefit of the minor pursuant to [section 11].
- 13 (2) If a person having the right to do so under [section 5] has nominated a custodian under that section to receive the custodial property, the transfer must be made to that person.
 - (3) If no custodian has been nominated under [section 5] or all persons so nominated as custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or are ineligible to serve, a transfer under this section may be made to an adult member of the minor's family or to a trust company unless the property exceeds \$10,000 in value.
 - Section 10. Receipt for custodial property. A written acknowledgment of delivery by a custodian constitutes a sufficient receipt and discharge for custodial property

- transferred to the custodian pursuant to [this act].
- Section 11. Manner of creating custodial property and effecting transfer -- designation of initial custodian -control. (1) Custodial property is created and a transfer is made whenever:
- (a) an uncertificated security or a certificated security in registered form is either:
- (i) registered in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in 10 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act"; 11 1.2 or
- 13 (ii) delivered if in certificated form, or any document necessary for the transfer of an uncertificated security is 14 15 delivered, together with any necessary endorsement to an 16 adult other than the transferor or to a trust company as custodian, accompanied by an instrument in substantially the 17 18 form set forth in subsection (2);
 - (b) money is paid or delivered to a broker or financial institution for credit to an account in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";

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(c) the ownership of a life or endowment insurance 25

LC 0187/01 LC 0187/01

policy or annuity contract is either:

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- (i) registered with the issuer in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act"; or
- (ii) assigned in a writing delivered to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company whose name in the assignment is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
- (d) an irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment or an irrevocable present right to future payment under a contract is the subject of a written notification delivered to the payor, issuer, or other obligor that the right is transferred to the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, whose name in the notification is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
- (e) an interest in real property is recorded in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";

- 1 (f) a certificate of title issued by a department or 2 agency of a state or of the United States which evidences 3 title to tangible personal property is either:
- 4 (i) issued in the name of the transferor, an adult
 5 other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in
 6 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of
 7 minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Acc";
 8 or
- 9 (ii) delivered to an adult other than the transferor or
 10 to a trust company, endorsed to that person, followed in
 11 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of
 12 minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 13 or
- 14 (g) an interest in any property not described in 15 subsections (1)(a) through (1)(f) is transferred to an adult 16 other than the transferor or to a trust company by a written 17 instrument in substantially the form set forth in subsection 18 (2).
- 19 (2) An instrument in the following form satisfies the 20 requirements of subsections (1)(a)(ii) and (1)(g):
- 21 "TRANSFER UNDER THE MONTANA UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS ACT
- 22 I, (name of transferor or name and 23 representative capacity if a fiduciary) hereby transfer to 24 (name of custodian), as custodian for
- 25 (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to

LC 0187/01

- 1 Minors Act, the following: (insert a description of the 2 custodial property sufficient to identify it). 3 Dated: 5 (Signature) 6 (name of custodian) acknowledges receipt of 7 the property described above as custodian for the minor named above under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors 8 9 Act. 10 Dated: 11 (Signature of Custodian)" 12
- Section 12. Single custodianship. A transfer may be made only for one minor, and only one person may be the custodian. All custodial property held under [this act] by the same custodian for the benefit of the same minor constitutes a single custodianship.

of the custodial property as soon as practicable.

(3) A transferor shall place the custodian in control

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- 20 Section 13. Validity and effect of transfer. (1) The 21 validity of a transfer made in a manner prescribed in [this 22 act] is not affected by:
- 23 (a) failure of the transferor to comply with [section 24 11(3)] concerning possession and control;
- 25 (b) designation of an ineligible custodian, except

- designation of the transferor in the case of property for
- 2 which the transferor is ineligible to serve as custodian
- 3 under [section 11(1)]; or
- 4 (c) death or incapacity of a person nominated under 5 [section 5] or designated under [section 11] as custodian or 6 the disclaimer of the office by that person.
- 7 (2) A transfer made pursuant to [section 11] is 8 irrevocable, and the custodial property is indefeasibly 9 vested in the minor, but the custodian has all the rights, 10 powers, duties, and authority provided in [this act], and 11 neither the minor nor the minor's legal representative has
- 12 any right, power, duty, or authority with respect to the
- custodial property except as provided in [this act].
- 14 (3) By making a transfer, the transferor incorporates
 15 in the disposition all the provisions of [this act] and
 16 grants to the custodian, and to any third person dealing
 17 with a person designated as custodian, the respective
 18 powers, rights, and immunities provided in [this act].
- 19 Section 14. Care of custodial property. (1) A
 20 custodian shall:
- 21 (a) take control of custodial property;
- 22 (b) register or record title to custodial property if 23 appropriate; and
- 24 (c) collect, hold, manage, invest, and reinvest
 25 custodial property.

(2) In dealing with custodial property, a custodian shall observe the standard of care that would be observed by a prudent person dealing with property of another and is not limited by any other statute restricting investments by fiduciaries. If a custodian has a special skill or expertise or is named custodian on the basis of representations of a special skill or expertise, the custodian shall use that skill or expertise. However, a custodian, in the custodian's discretion and without liability to the minor or the minor's estate, may retain any custodial property received from a transferor.

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- (3) A custodian may invest in or pay premiums on life insurance or endowment policies on:
- (a) the life of the minor only if the minor or the minor's estate is the sole beneficiary; or
- (b) the life of another person in whom the minor has an insurable interest only to the extent that the minor, the minor's estate, or the custodian, in the capacity of custodian, is the irrevocable beneficiary.
- (4) A custodian at all times shall keep custodial property separate and distinct from all other property in a manner sufficient to identify it clearly as custodial property of the minor. Custodial property consisting of an undivided interest is so identified if the minor's interest is held as a tenant in common and is fixed. Custodial

- property subject to recordation is so identified if it is 1 2
- recorded, and custodial property subject to registration is
- so identified if it is either registered or held in an 3
- account designated in the name of the custodian, follow in
- substance by the words: "as a custodian for (name 5
- of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors
- Act". 7
- (5) A custodian shall keep records of all transactions
- 9 with respect to custodial property, including information
- 10 necessary for the preparation of the minor's tax returns.
- 11 and shall make them available for inspection at reasonable
- intervals by a parent or legal representative of the minor 12
- or by the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 13
- 14 vears.
- Section 15. Powers of custodian. (1) A custodian, 15
- acting in a custodial capacity, has all the rights, powers, 16
- and authority over custodial property that unmarried adult 17
- 18 owners have over their own property, but a custodian may
- exercise those rights, powers, and authority in that 19
- capacity only. 20
- (2) This section does not relieve a custodian from 21
- 22 liability for breach of [section 14].
- Section 16. Use of custodial property. (1) A custodian 23
- may deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's 24
- 25 benefit so much of the custodial property as the custodian

LC 0187/01

considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor, without court order and without regard to:

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- (a) the duty or ability of the custodian personally or of any other person to support the minor; or
- (b) any other income or property of the minor which may be applicable or available for that purpose.
 - (2) On petition of an interested person or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years, the court may order the custodian to deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's benefit so much of the custodial property as the court considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor.
 - (3) A delivery, payment, or expenditure under this section is in addition to, not in substitution for, and does not affect any obligation of a person to support the minor.
 - Section 17. Custodian's expenses, compensation, and bond. (1) A custodian is entitled to reimbursement from custodial property for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the custodian's duties.
 - (2) Except for one who is a transferor under [section 6], a custodian has a noncumulative election during each calendar year to charge reasonable compensation for services performed during that year.
- 24 (3) Except as provided in [section 20(6)], a custodian 25 need not give a bond.

Section 18. Exemption of third person from liability.

A third person in good faith and without court order may act

on the instructions of or otherwise deal with any person

purporting to make a transfer or purporting to act in the

capacity of a custodian and, in the absence of knowledge, is

not responsible for determining:

- 7 (1) the validity of the purported custodian's 8 designation;
- 9 (2) the propriety of or the authority under [this act]
 .0 for any act of the purported custodian;
- 11 (3) the validity or propriety under [this act] of any 12 instrument or instructions executed or given either by the 13 person purporting to make a transfer or by the purported 14 custodian; or
- 15 (4) the propriety of the application of any property 16 of the minor delivered to the purported custodian.
- Section 19. Liability to third persons. (1) A claim
 may be asserted against the custodial property by proceeding
 against the custodian in the custodial capacity, whether or 1
 not the custodian or the minor is personally liable therefor
- 22 (a) a contract entered into by a custodian acting in a 23 custodial capacity;

when it is based on:

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24 (b) an obligation arising from the ownership or 25 control of custodial property; or

LC 0187/01

(c) a tort committed during the custodianship.

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- (3) A custodian is not personally liable:
- (a) on a contract properly entered into in the custodial capacity unless the custodian fails to reveal that capacity and to identify the custodianship in the contract; or
- (b) for an obligation arising from control of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the custodian is personally at fault.
- (3) A minor is not personally liable for an obligation arising from ownership of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the minor is personally at fault.
- Section 20. Renunciation, resignation, death, or removal of custodian designation of successor custodian.

 (1) A person nominated under [section 5] or designated under [section 11] as custodian may decline to serve by delivering a valid disclaimer to the person who made the nomination or to the transferor or the transferor's legal representative. If the event giving rise to a transfer has not occurred and no substitute custodian able, willing, and eligible to serve was nominated under [section 5], the person who made the nomination may nominate a substitute custodian under [section 5]; otherwise the transferor or the transferor's legal representative shall designate a substitute custodian

- at the time of the transfer, in either case from among the persons eligible to serve as custodian for that kind of property under [section 11(1)]. The custodian so designated has the rights of a successor custodian.
- (2) A custodian at any time may designate a trust 5 company or an adult other than a transferor under [section 6] as successor custodian by executing and dating an 7 instrument of designation before a subscribing witness other 8 than the successor. If the instrument of designation does 9 not contain or is not accompanied by the resignation of the 10 custodian, the designation of the successor does not take 11 effect until the custodian resigns, dies, becomes 12 13 incapacitated, or is removed.
- 14 (3) A custodian may resign at any time by delivering
 15 written notice to the minor if the minor has attained the
 16 age of 14 years and to the successor custodian and by
 17 delivering the custodial property to the successor
 18 custodian.
- 19 (4) If a custodian is ineligible, dies, or becomes
 20 incapacitated without having effectively designated a
 21 successor and the minor has attained the age of 14 years,
 22 the minor may designate as successor custodian, in the
 23 manner prescribed in subsection (2), an adult member of the
 24 minor's family, a conservator of the minor, or a trust
 25 company. If the minor has not attained the age of 14 years

or fails to act within 60 days after the ineligibility,
death, or incapacity, the conservator of the minor becomes
successor custodian. If the minor has no conservator or the
conservator declines to act, the transferor, the legal
representative of the transferor or of the custodian, an
adult member of the minor's family, or any other interested
person may petition the court to designate a successor
custodian.

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- (5) A custodian who declines to serve under subsection (1) or resigns under subsection (3) or the legal representative of a deceased or incapacitated custodian, as soon as practicable, shall put the custodial property and records in the possession and control of the successor custodian. The successor custodian by action may enforce the obligation to deliver custodial property and records and becomes responsible for each item as received.
- (6) A transferor, the legal representative of a transferor, an adult member of the minor's family, a guardian of the person of the minor, the conservator of the minor, or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years may petition the court to remove the custodian for cause and to designate a successor custodian other than a transferor under [section 6] or to require the custodian to give appropriate bond.
- 25 Section 21. Accounting by and determination of

- liability of custodian. (1) A minor who has attained the age
- of 14 years, the minor's guardian of the person or legal
- 3 representative, an adult member of the minor's family, a
- transferor, or a transferor's legal representative may
- petition the court:
- 6 (a) for an accounting by the custodian or the 7 custodian's legal representative; or
- 8 (b) for a determination of responsibility, as between
- 9 the custodial property and the custodian personally, for
- 10 claims against the custodial property unless the
- ll responsibility has been adjudicated in an action under
- 12 [section 19] to which the minor or the minor's legal
- 13 representative was a party.
- 14 (2) A successor custodian may petition the court for
- 15 an accounting by the predecessor custodian.
- 16 (3) The court, in a proceeding under [this act] or in
- 17 any other proceeding, may require or permit the custodian or
- 18 the custodian's legal representative to account.
- 19 (4) If a custodian is removed under [section 20(6)],
- 20 the court shall require an accounting and order delivery of
- 21 the custodial property and records to the successor
- 22 custodian and the execution of all instruments required for
- 23 transfer of the custodial property.
- 24 Section 22. Termination of custodianship. The
- 25 custodian shall transfer in an appropriate manner the

- custodial property to the minor or to the minor's estate upon the earlier of:
- 3 (1) the minor's attainment of 21 years of age with 4 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 6 5 or 7]:
- 6 (2) the minor's attainment of 18 years of age with
 7 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 8
 8 or 9]; or
- 9 (3) the minor's death.

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- 10 Section 23. Applicability. This act applies to a
 11 transfer within the scope of [section 4] made after October
 12 1. 1985, if:
- 13 (1) the transfer purports to have been made under the 14 provisions of Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4 15 (repealed by [section 25]);
 - (2) the instrument by which the transfer purports to have been made uses in substance the designation "as custodian under the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act" or "as custodian under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act" of any other state, and the application of this act is necessary to validate the transfer.
- 22 Section 24. Effect on existing custodianships. (1) Any 23 transfer of custodial property as now defined in [this act] 24 made before October 1, 1985, is validated notwithstanding 25 that there was no specific authority in Title 72, chapter

- 1 26, parts 1 through 4 (repealed by [section 25]), for the
- 2 coverage of custodial property of that kind or for a
- 3 transfer from that source at the time the transfer was made.
- 4 (2) [This act] applies to all transfers made before
- 5 October 1, 1985, in a manner and form prescribed in Title
- 6 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4, except insofar as the
- 7 application impairs constitutionally vested rights or
- 8 extends the duration of custodianships in existence on
- 9 October 1, 1985.
- 10 (3) [Sections 3 and 22] with respect to the age of a
- 11 minor for whom custodial property is held under [this act]
- 12 do not apply to custodial property held in a custodianship
- 13 that terminated because of the minor's attainment of the age
- 14 of 18 before October 1, 1985.
- 15 Section 25. Repealer. Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1
- 16 through 4, MCA, are repealed.
- 17 Section 26. Severability. If a part of this act is
- 18 invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid
- 19 part remain in effect. If a part of this act is invalid in
- 20 one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect
- 21 in all valid applications that are severable from the
- 22 invalid applications.

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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19	(1) "Adult" means an individual who has attained the
20	age of 21 18 years.
21	(2) "Benefit plan" means an employer's plan for the
22	benefit of an employee or partner.
23	(3) "Broker" means a person lawfully engaged in the
24	business of effecting transactions in securities or
25	commodities for the person's own account or for the account

- 2 (4) "Conservator" means a person appointed or 3 qualified by a court to act as general, limited, or 4 temporary guardian of a minor's property or a person legally 5 authorized to perform substantially the same functions.
 - (5) "Court" means district court.
- 7 (6) "Custodial property" means:
- 8 (a) any interest in property transferred to a
 9 custodian under [this act]; and
- 10 (b) the income from and proceeds of that interest in 11 property.
- 12 (7) "Custodian" means a person so designated under
 13 [section 11] or a successor or substitute custodian
 14 designated under [section 20].
- 15 (8) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust
 16 company, savings institution, or credit union chartered and
 17 supervised under state or federal law.
- 18 (9) "Legal representative" means an individual's
 19 personal representative or conservator.
- 20 (10) "Member of the minor's family" means the minor's 21 parent, stepparent, spouse, grandparent, brother, sister, 22 uncle, or aunt, whether of the whole or half blood or by
- 23 adoption.
- 24 (11) "Minor" means an individual who has not attained 25 the age of $\frac{2}{2}$ $\frac{18}{2}$ years.

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(12) "Person" means an individual, corporation, organization, or other legal entity.

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- (13) "Personal representative" means an executor, administrator, successor personal representative, or special administrator of a decedent's estate or a person legally authorized to perform substantially the same functions.
- (14) "State" includes any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession subject to the legislative authority of the United States.
- 11 (15) "Transfer" means a transaction that creates
 12 custodial property under [section 11].
- 13 (16) "Transferor" means a person who makes a transfer
 14 under (this act).
- 15 (17) "Trust company" means a financial institution, 16 corporation, or other legal entity authorized to exercise 17 general trust powers.
 - section 4. Scope and jurisdiction. (1) [This act. applies to a transfer that refers to [this ot] in the designation under [section 11(1)] by which the transfer is made if at the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the custodian is a resident of this state or the custodial property is located in this state. The custodianship so created remains subject to [this act] despite a subsequent change in residence of a transferor,

the minor, or the custodian or the removal of custodial property from this state.

- (2) A person designated as custodian under [this act] is subject to personal jurisdiction in this state with respect to any matter relating to the custoff of g.
- (3) A transfer that purports to be made and while is valid under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act, or a substantially similar act of another state is governed by the law of the designated state and may be executed and is enforceable in this state if at the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the custodian is a reside of the designated state or the custodial property is local din the designated state.
- 13 Section 5. Nomination of custodian. (1) A person 14 having the right to designate the recipient of property 15 transferable upon the occurrence of a future event may 16 revocably nominate a custodian to receive the property for a 17 minor beneficiary upon the occurrence of the event by naming 18 the custodian, followed in substance by the words: "as 19 custodian for (name " minor) under the Montana 20 Uniform Transfers to Minors Act". The nomination may na 21 one or more persons as substitute custodians to whom the 22 property must be transferred, in the order named, if the 23 first nominated custodian dies before the transfer or is 24 unable, declines, or is ineligible to serve. The nomination

-4-

SB 0060/02 SB 0060/02

may be made in a will, a trust, a deed, an instrument exercising a power of appointment, or in a writing designating a beneficiary of contractual rights that is registered with or delivered to the payor, issuer, or other obligor of the contractual rights.

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- (2) A custodian nominated under this section must be a person to whom a transfer of property of that kind may be made under [section 11(1)].
- (3) The nomination of a custodian under this section does not create custodial property until the nominating instrument becomes irrevocable or a transfer to the nominated custodian is completed under [section 11]. Unless the nomination of a custodian has been revoked, upon the occurrence of the future event the custodianship becomes effective and the custodian shall enforce a transfer of the custodial property pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 6. Transfer by gift or exercise of power of appointment. A person may make a transfer by irrevocable gift to or the irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 7. Transfer authorized by will or trust. (1) A
 personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable
 transfer pursuant to [section 11] to a custodian for the
 benefit of a minor as authorized in the governing will or

-5-

trust.

- 2 (2) If the testator or settlor has nominated a
 3 custodian under [section 5] to receive the custodial
 4 property, the transfer must be made to that person.
- 5 (3) If the testator or settlor has not nominated a 6 custodian under [section 5] or all persons so nominated as 7 custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or 8 are ineligible to serve, the personal representative or the 9 trustee, as the case may be, shall designate the custodian from among those eligible to serve as custodian for property of that kind under [section 11(1)].
- Section 8. Other transfer by fiduciary. (1) Subject to subsection (3), a personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to [section 11], in the absence of a will or under a will or trust that does not contain an authorization to do so.
- 18 (2) Subject to subsection (3), a conservator may make
 19 an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as
 20 custodian for the benefit of the minor pursuant to [section
 21 11].
- 22 (3) A transfer under subsection (1) or (2) may be made only if:
- 24 (a) the personal representative, trustee, or 25 conservator considers the transfer to be in the best

SB 0060/02 SB 0060/02

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1 interest of the minor;

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- (b) the transfer is not prohibited by or inconsistent 2 3 with provisions of the applicable will, trust agreement, or 4 other governing instrument; and
- (c) the transfer is authorized by the court if it 5 exceeds \$10,000 in value. 6
- 7 Section 9. Transfer by obligor. (1) Subject to 8 subsections (2) and (3), a person not subject to [section 7] or 8] who holds property of or owes a liquidated debt to a 9 10 minor not having a conservator may make an irrevocable transfer to a custodian for the benefit of the minor 11 pursuant to [section 11]. 12
 - (2) If a person having the right to do so under [section 5] has nominated a custodian under that section to receive the custodial property, the transfer must be made to that person.
 - (3) If no custodian has been nominated under (section 5] or all persons so nominated as custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or are ineligible to serve, a transfer under this section may be made to an adult member of the minor's family or to a trust company unless the property exceeds \$10,000 in value.
- Section 10. Receipt for custodial property. A written 23 acknowledgment of delivery by a custodian constitutes a 24 25 sufficient receipt and discharge for custodial property

-7-

transferred to the custodian pursuant to [this act].

Section 11. Manner of creating custodial property and 2 effecting transfer -- designation of initial custodian --4 control. (1) Custodial property is created and a transfer is made whenever:

- (a) an uncertificated security or a certificated security in registered form is either:
- (i) registered in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in 9 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of 10 minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act"; 11 12 or
 - (ii) delivered if in cartificated form, or any document necessary for the transfer of an uncertificated security is delivered, together with any necessary endorsement to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company as custodian, accompanied by an instrument in substantially the form set forth in subsection (2);
- (b) money is paid or delivered to a broker or 19 financial institution for credit to an account in the name 20 of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or 21 trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as 22 custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana 23 Uniform Transfers to Minors Act"; 24
- (c) the ownership of a life or endowment insurance 25

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policy or annuity contract is either:

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- (i) registered with the issuer in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act": or
- (ii) assigned in a writing delivered to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company whose name in the assignment is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act":
- (d) an irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment or an irrevocable present right to future payment under a contract is the subject of a written notification delivered to the payor, issuer, or other obligor that the right is transferred to the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, whose name in the notification is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
- (e) an interest in real property is recorded in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";

-9-

- 1 (f) a certificate of title issued by a department or 2 agency of a state or of the United States which evidences 3 title to tangible personal property is either:
 - (i) issued in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
- 9 (ii) delivered to an adult other than the transferor or
 10 to a trust company, endorsed to that person, followed in
 11 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of
 12 minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 13 or
 - (g) an interest in any property not described in subsections (1)(a) through (1)(f) is transferred to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company by a written instrument in substantially the form set forth in subsection (2).
- 19 (2) An instrument in the following form satisfies the 20 requirements of subsections (1)(a)(ii) and (1)(g):
 - "TRANSFER UNDER THE MONTANA UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS ACT

SB 60

- Minors Act, the following: (insert a description of the
 custodial property sufficient to identify it).

 Dated:
- 4
 5 (Signature)
- (Signature)(name of custodian) acknowledges receipt of
- 7 the property described above as custodian for the minor $% \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}$
- 8 named above under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors
- 9 Act.
- 10 Dated:
- 11
- 12 (Signature of Custodian)"
- (3) A transferor shall place the custodian in controlof the custodial property as soon as practicable.
- Section 12. Single custodianship. A transfer may be
 made only for one minor, and only one person may be the
 custodian. All custodial property held under [this act] by
 the same custodian for the benefit of the same minor
 constitutes a single custodianship.
- 20 Section 13. Validity and effect of transfer. (1) The 21 validity of a transfer made in a manner prescribed in [this 22 act] is not affected by:
- (a) failure of the transferor to comply with [section11(3)] concerning possession and control;
- 25 (b) designation of an ineligible custodian, except

- designation of the transferor in the case of property for
- which the transferor is ineligible to serve as custodian
- 3 under [section 11(1)]; or
- 4 (c) death or incapacity of a person nominated under [section 5] or designated under [section 1.] as custodian or the disclaimer of the office by that person.
- 7 (2) A transfer made pursuant to [section 11] is 8 irrevocable, and the custodial property is indefeasibly 9 vested in the minor, but the custodian has all the rights, 10 powers, duties, and authority provided in [this act], and 11 neither the minor nor the minor's legal representative has 12 any right, power, dut,, or authority with respect to the 13 custodial property except as provided in [this act].
- 14 (3) By making a transfer, the transferor incorporates
 15 in the disposition all the provisions of [this act] and
 16 grants to the custodian, and to any third person dealing
 17 with a person designated as custodian, the respective
 18 powers, rights, and immunities provided in [this act].
- 19 Section 14. Care of sustodial property. (1) A 20 custodian shall:
- 21 (a) take control of custodial property;
- 22 (b) register or record title to custodial property if 23 appropriate; and
- 24 (c) collect, hold, manage, invest, and reinvest 25 custodial property.

-11-

SB 60

-12-

SB 0060/02 SB 0060/02

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(2) In dealing with custodial property, a custodian shall observe the standard of care that would be observed by a prudent person dealing with property of another and is not limited by any other statute restricting investments by fiduciaries. If a custodian has a special skill or expertise or is named custodian on the basis of representations of a special skill or expertise, the custodian shall use that skill or expertise. However, a custodian, in the custodian's discretion and without liability to the minor or the minor's estate, may retain any custodial property received from a transferor.

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- (3) A custodian may invest in or pay premiums on life 12 13 insurance or endowment policies on:
- 14 (a) the life of the minor only if the minor or the 15 minor's estate is the sole beneficiary; or
- 16 (b) the life of another person in whom the minor has an insurable interest only to the extent that the minor, the 17 minor's estate, or the custodian, in the capacity of 18 custodian, is the irrevocable beneficiary. 19
 - (4) A custodian at all times shall keep custodial property separate and distinct from all other property in a manner sufficient to identify it clearly as custodial property of the minor. Custodial property consisting of an undivided interest is so identified if the minor's interest is held as a tenant in common and is fixed. Custodial

- property subject to recordation is so identified if it is recorded, and custodial property subject to registration is so identified if it is either registered or held in an 3 account designated in the name of the custodian, followed in substance by the words: "as a custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors б 7 Act".
- 8 (5) A custodian shall keep records of all transactions with respect to custodial property, including information necessary for the preparation of the minor's tax returns, 10 and shall make them available for inspection at reasonable 11 12 intervals by a parent or legal representative of the minor or by the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 13 14 years.
- 15 Section 15. Powers of custodian. (1) A custodian, acting in a custodial capacity, has all the rights, powers, and authority over custodial property that unmarried adult 17 owners have over their own property, but a custodian may 18 exercise those rights, powers, and authority in that 20 capacity only.
- 21 (2) This section does not relieve a custodian from liability for breach of [section 14].
- 23 Section 16. Use of custodial property. (1) A custodian may deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's 24 benefit so much of the custodial property as the custodian 25

SB 0060/02

considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor, without court order and without regard to:

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- 3 (a) the duty or ability of the custodian personally or
 4 of any other person to support the minor; or
 - (b) any other income or property of the minor which may be applicable or available for that purpose.
 - (2) On petition of an interested person or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years, the court may order the custodian to deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's benefit so much of the custodial property as the court considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor.

(3) A delivery, payment, or expenditure under this

- section is in addition to, not in substitution for, and does not affect any obligation of a person to support the minor.

 Section 17. Custodian's expenses, compensation, and bond. (1) A custodian is entitled to reimbursement from custodial property for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the custodian's duties.
- (2) Except for one who is a transferor under [section 6], a custodian has a noncumulative election during each calendar year to charge reasonable compensation for services performed during that year.
- 24 (3) Except as provided in [section 20(6)], a custodian
 25 need not give a bond.

- Section 18. Exemption of third person from liability.

 A third person in good faith and without court order may act

 on the instructions of or otherwise deal with any person

 purporting to make a transfer or purporting to act in the

 capacity of a custodian and, in the absence of knowledge, is

 not responsible for determining:
- 7 (1) the validity of the purported custodian's designation;
- 9 (2) the propriety of or the authority under [this act]
 10 for any act of the purported custodian;
- 11 (3) the validity or propriety under [this act] of any 12 instrument or instructions executed or given either by the 13 person purporting to make a transfer or by the purported 14 custodian; or
- 15 (4) the propriety of the application of any property 16 of the minor delivered to the purported custodian.
- Section 19. Liability to third persons. (1) A claim
 may be asserted against the custodial property by proceeding
 against the custodian in the custodial capacity, whether or
 not the custodian or the minor is personally liable therefor
 when it is based on:
- 22 (a) a contract entered into by a custodian acting in a 23 custodial capacity:
- 24 (b) an obligation arising from the ownership or 25 control of custodial property; or

SB 0060/02

- (c) a tort committed during the custodianship.
 - (3) A custodian is not personally liable:

- (a) on a contract properly entered into in the custodial capacity unless the custodian fails to reveal that capacity and to identify the custodianship in the contract; or
- (b) for an obligation arising from control of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the custodian is personally at fault.
- (3) A minor is not personally liable for an obligation arising from ownership of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the minor is personally at fault.

Section 20. Renunciation, resignation, death, or removal of custodian -- designation of successor custodian.

(1) A person nominated under [section 5] or designated under [section 11] as custodian may decline to serve by delivering a valid disclaimer to the person who made the nomination or to the transferor or the transferor's legal representative. If the event giving rise to a transfer has not occurred and no substitute custodian able, willing, and eligible to serve was nominated under [section 5], the person who made the nomination may nominate a substitute custodian under [section 5]; otherwise the transferor or the transferor's legal representative shall designate a substitute custodian

- at the time of the transfer, in either case from among the persons eligible to serve as custodian for that kind of property under [section 11(1)]. The custodian so designated has the rights of a successor custodian.
 - (2) A custodian at any time may designate a trust company or an adult other than a transferor under [section 6] as successor custodian by executing and dating an instrument of designation before a subscribing witness other than the successor. If the instrument of designation does not contain or is not accompanied by the resignation of the custodian, the designation of the successor does not take effect until the custodian resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, or is removed.
- 14 (3) A custodian may resign at any time by delivering
 15 written notice to the minor if the minor has attained the
 16 age of 14 years and to the successor custodian and by
 17 delivering the custodial property to the successor
 18 custodian.
 - (4) If a custodian is ineligible, dies, or becomes incapacitated without having effectively designated a successor and the minor has attained the age of 14 years, the minor may designate as successor custodian, in the manner prescribed in subsection (2), an adult member of the minor's family, a conservator of the minor, or a trust company. If the minor has not attained the age of 14 years

or fails to act within 60 days after the ineligibility,
death, or incapacity, the conservator of the minor becomes
successor custodian. If the minor has no conservator or the
conservator declines to act, the transferor, the legal
representative of the transferor or of the custodian, an
adult member of the minor's family, or any other interested
person may petition the court to designate a successor
custodian.

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- (5) A custodian who declines to serve under subsection
 (1) or resigns under subsection (3) or the legal representative of a deceased or incapacitated custodian, as soon as practicable, shall put the custodial property and records in the possession and control of the successor custodian. The successor custodian by action may enforce the obligation to deliver custodial property and records and becomes responsible for each item as received.
- (6) A transferor, the legal representative of a transferor, an adult member of the minor's family, a guardian of the person of the minor, the conservator of the minor, or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years may petition the court to remove the custodian for cause and to designate a successor custodian other than a transferor under [section 6] or to require the custodian to give appropriate bond.
- 25 Section 21. Accounting by and determination of

- liability of custodian. (1) A minor who has attained the age
- of 14 years, the minor's guardian of the person or legal
- 3 representative, an adult member of the minor's family, a
- 4 transferor, or a transferor's legal representative may
 - petition the court:
- (a) for an accounting by the custodian or the custodian's legal representative; or
- 8 (b) for a determination of responsibility, as between 9 the custodial property and the custodian personally, for 10 claims against the custodial property unless the 11 responsibility has been adjudicated in an action under 12 [section 19] to which the minor or the minor's legal 13 representative was a party.
- 14 (2) A successor custodian may petition the court for
 15 an accounting by the predecessor custodian.
- 16 (3) The court, in a proceeding under [this act] or in 17 any other proceeding, may require or permit the custodian or 18 the custodian's legal representative to account.
- 19 (4) If a custodian is removed under [section 20(6)],
 20 the court shall require an accounting and order delivery of
 21 the custodial property and records to the successor
 22 custodian and the execution of all instruments required for
 23 transfer of the custodial property.
- 24 Section 22. Termination of custodianship. The 25 custodian shall transfer in an appropriate manner the

SB 0060/02

- custodial property to the minor or to the minor's estate upon the earlier of:
- 3 (1) the minor's attainment of 21 years of age with 4 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 6 5 or 7];
- 6 (2) the minor's attainment of 18 years of age with
 7 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 8
 8 or 9]; or
- 9 (3) the minor's death.

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- Section 23. Applicability. This act applies to a transfer within the scope of [section 4] made after October 12 1, 1985, if:
- 13 (1) the transfer purports to have been made under the 14 provisions of Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4 15 (repealed by [section 25]);
 - (2) the instrument by which the transfer purports to have been made uses in substance the designation "as custodian under the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act" or "as custodian under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act" of any other state, and the application of this act is necessary to validate the transfer.
- 22 Section 24. Effect on existing custodianships. (1) Any 23 transfer of custodial property as now defined in [this act] 24 made before October 1, 1985, is validated notwithstanding 25 that there was no specific authority in Title 72, chapter

- 1 26, parts 1 through 4 (repealed by [section 25]), for the
 2 coverage of custodial property of that kind or for a
- 3 transfer from that source at the time the transfer was made.
- 4 (2) [This act] applies to all transfers made before
 5 October 1, 1985, in a manner and form prescribed in Title
- 6 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4, except insofar as the
- 7 application impairs constitutionally vested rights or
- 8 extends the duration of custodianships in existence on
- 9 October 1, 1985.
- 10 (3) [Sections 3 and 22] with respect to the age of a
 11 minor for whom custodial property is held under [this act]
- 12 do not apply to custodial property held in a custodianship
- 13 that terminated because of the minor's attainment of the age
- 14 of 18 before October 1, 1985.
- Section 25. Repealer. Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1
- 16 through 4, MCA, are repealed.
- 17 Section 26. Severability. If a part of this act is
- 18 invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid
- 19 part remain in effect. If a part of this act is invalid in
- 20 one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect
- 21 in all valid applications that are severable from the
- 22 invalid applications.

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2	INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK
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4	A BILL POR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REPLACE THE UNIFORM
5	GIFTS TO MINORS ACT WITH THE UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS
6	ACT; REPEALING TITLE 72, CHAPTER 26, PARTS 1 THROUGH 4, MCA;
7	AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE."
8	
9	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
LO	Section 1. Short title. [This act] may be cited as the
11	"Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act".
12	Section 2. Uniformity of application and construction.
13	[This act] must be applied and construed to effectuate its
14	general purpose to make uniform the law with respect to the
15	subject of [this act] among states enacting it.
16	Section 3. Definitions. As used in [this act], unless
17	the context requires otherwise, the following definitions
18	apply:
19	(1) "Adult" means an individual who has attained the
20	age of 21 18 years.
21	(2) "Benefit plan" means an employer's plan for the

(3) "Broker" means a person lawfully engaged in the

business of effecting transactions in securities or

commodities for the person's own account or for the account

benefit of an employee or partner.

SENATE BILL NO. 60

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2	(4)	"Conser	vator"	means	a	person	appointed	OI
3	qualified	by a	court	to act	as	general,	limited,	OI
4	temporary	guardia	n of a	minor's	prope	erty or a	person lega	1113
5	authorize	d to per	form su	ubstantia	illy t	he same f	unctions.	

- (5) "Court" means district court.
- (6) "Custodial property" means:

of others.

- (a) any interest in property transferred to a custodian under [this act]; and
- 10 (b) the income from and proceeds of that interest in 11 property.
- 12 {7} "Custodian" means a person so designated under 13 [section 11] or a successor or substitute custodian 14 designated under [section 20].
- 15 (8) "Financial institution" means a bank, trust
 16 company, savings institution, or credit union chartered and
 17 supervised under state or federal law.
- 18 (9) "Legal representative" means an individual's personal representative or conservator.
- 20 (10) "Member of the minor's family" means the minor's 21 parent, stepparent, spouse, grandparent, brother, sister, 22 uncle, or aunt, whether of the whole or half blood or by 23 adoption.
- 24 (11) "Minor" means an individual who has not attained 25 the age of 21 18 years.

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(12) "Person" means an individual, corporation, organization, or other legal entity.

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- (13) "Personal representative" means an executor, administrator, successor personal representative, or special administrator of a decedent's estate or a person legally authorized to perform substantially the same functions.
- 7 (14) "State" includes any state of the United States. the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 8 and any territory or possession subject to the legislative 9 10 authority of the United States.
- (15) "Transfer" means a transaction that creates 11 12 custodial property under [section 11].
 - (16) "Transferor" means a person who makes a transfer under [this act].
 - (17) "Trust company" means a financial institution, corporation, or other legal entity authorized to exercise general trust powers.
 - Section 4. Scope and jurisdiction. (1) [This act] applies to a transfer that refers to [this act] in the designation under [section 11(1)] by which the transfer is made if at the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the custodian is a resident of this state or the custodial property is located in this state. custodianship so created remains subject to [this act] despite a subsequent change in residence of a transferor.

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- the minor, or the custodian or the removal of custodial property from this state.
- (2) A person designated as custodian under [this act] 3 is subject to personal jurisdiction in this state with respect to any matter relating to the custodianship.
- (3) A transfer that purports to be made and which is 6 valid under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act, the Uniform 7 Gifts to Minors Act, or a substantially similar act of 9 another state is governed by the law of the designated state and may be executed and is enforceable in this state if at 10 the time of the transfer, the transferor, the minor, or the 11 custodian is a resident of the designated state or the 12 custodial property is located in the designated state. 13
- Section 5. Nomination of custodian. (1) A person 14 15 having the right to designate the recipient of property transferable upon the occurrence of a future event may 16 17 revocably nominate a custodian to receive the property for a minor beneficiary upon the occurrence of the event by naming 18 the custodian, followed in substance by the words: "as 19 custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana 20 21 Uniform Transfers to Minora Act". The nomination may name one or more persons as substitute custodians to whom the 22 23 property must be transferred, in the order named, if the first nominated custodian dies before the transfer or is 24 unable, declines, or is ineligible to serve. The nomination 25

may be made in a will, a trust, a deed, an instrument exercising a power of appointment, or in a writing designating a beneficiary of contractual rights that is registered with or delivered to the payor, issuer, or other obligor of the contractual rights.

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- (2) A custodian nominated under this section must be a person to whom a transfer of property of that kind may be made under [section 11(1)].
- (3) The nomination of a custodian under this section does not create custodial property until the nominating instrument becomes irrevocable or a transfer to the nominated custodian is completed under [section 11]. Unless the nomination of a custodian has been revoked, upon the occurrence of the future event the custodianship becomes effective and the custodian shall enforce a transfer of the custodial property pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 6. Transfer by gift or exercise of power of appointment. A person may make a transfer by irrevocable gift to or the irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to [section 11].
- Section 7. Transfer authorized by will or trust. (1) A personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable transfer pursuant to [section 11] to a custodian for the benefit of a minor as authorized in the governing will or

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- 1 trust.
- 2 (2) If the testator or settlor has nominated a
 3 custodian under [section 5] to receive the custodial
 4 property, the transfer must be made to that person.
- 5 (3) If the testator or settlor has not nominated a
 6 custodian under {section 5} or all persons so nominated as
 7 custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or
 8 are ineligible to serve, the personal representative or the
 9 trustee, as the case may be, shall designate the custodian
 10 from among those eligible to serve as custodian for property
 11 of that kind under {section 11(1)}.
- Section 8. Other transfer by fiduciary. (1) Subject to subsection (3), a personal representative or trustee may make an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as custodian for the benefit of a minor pursuant to [section 11], in the absence of a will or under a will or trust that does not contain an authorization to do so.
- 18 (2) Subject to subsection (3), a conservator may make
 19 an irrevocable transfer to another adult or trust company as
 20 custodian for the benefit of the minor pursuant to [section
 21 11].
- 22 (3) A transfer under subsection (1) or (2) may be made 23 only if:
- 24 (a) the personal representative, trustee, or
 25 conservator considers the transfer to be in the best

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interest of the minor;

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- (b) the transfer is not prohibited by or inconsistent with provisions of the applicable will, trust agreement, or other governing instrument; and
- (c) the transfer is authorized by the court if it exceeds \$10,000 in value.
- Section 9. Transfer by obligor. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a person not subject to [section 7 or 8] who holds property of or owes a liquidated debt to a minor not having a conservator may make an irrevocable transfer to a custodian for the benefit of the minor pursuant to [section 11].
- (2) If a person having the right to do so under [section 5] has nominated a custodian under that section to receive the custodial property, the transfer must be made to that person.
- (3) If no custodian has been nominated under [section 5] or all persons so nominated as custodian die before the transfer or are unable, decline, or are ineligible to serve, a transfer under this section may be made to an adult member of the minor's family or to a trust company unless the property exceeds \$10,000 in value.
- Section 10. Receipt for custodial property. A written acknowledgment of delivery by a custodian constitutes a sufficient receipt and discharge for custodial property

- transferred to the custodian pursuant to (this act).
- Section 11. Manner of creating custodial property and effecting transfer -- designation of initial custodian -control. (1) Custodial property is created and a transfer is made whenever:
 - (a) an uncertificated security or a certificated security in registered form is either:

 - (ii) delivered if in certificated form, or any document necessary for the transfer of an uncertificated security is delivered, together with any necessary endorsement to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company as custodian, accompanied by an instrument in substantially the form set forth in subsection (2);
 - (b) money is paid or delivered to a broker or financial institution for credit to an account in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 - (c) the ownership of a life or endowment insurance

policy or annuity contract is either:

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- 2 (i) registered with the issuer in the name of the
 3 transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust
 4 company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian
 5 for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform
 6 Transfers to Minors Act"; or
 - (ii) assigned in a writing delivered to an adult other than the transferor or to a trust company whose name in the assignment is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 - (d) an irrevocable exercise of a power of appointment or an irrevocable present right to future payment under a contract is the subject of a written notification delivered to the payor, issuer, or other obligor that the right is transferred to the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, whose name in the notification is followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 - (e) an interest in real property is recorded in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act":

- (f) a certificate of title issued by a department or agency of a state or of the United States which evidences title to tangible personal property is either:
- (i) issued in the name of the transferor, an adult other than the transferor, or a trust company, followed in substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
- 9 (ii) delivered to an adult other than the transferor or
 10 to a trust company, endorsed to that person, followed in
 11 substance by the words: "as custodian for (name of
 12 minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act";
 13 or
- 14 (g) an interest in any property not described in 15 subsections (1)(a) through (1)(f) is transferred to an adult 16 other than the transferor or to a trust company by a written 17 instrument in substantially the form set forth in subsection 18 (2).
- 19 (2) An instrument in the following form satisfies the 20 requirements of subsections (1)(a)(ii) and (1)(g):
- 21 "TRANSFER UNDER THE MONTANA UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS ACT
- 22 I, (name of transferor or name and 23 representative capacity if a fiduciary) hereby transfer to 24 (name of custodian), as custodian for 25 (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to

SB 60

- 1 Minors Act, the following: (insert a description of the 2 custodial property sufficient to identify it). Dated: 3 5 (Signature) (name of custodian) acknowledges receipt of 6 7 the property described above as custodian for the minor 8 named above under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors 9 Act. 10 Dated: 11 12 (Signature of Custodian)"
- of the custodial property as soon as practicable.

 Section 12. Single custodianship. A transfer may be made only for one minor, and only one person may be the custodian. All custodial property held under [this act] by the same custodian for the benefit of the same minor

(3) A transferor shall place the custodian in control

19 constitutes a single custodianship.

- 20 Section 13. Validity and effect of transfer. (1) The 21 validity of a transfer made in a manner prescribed in [this 22 act] is not affected by:
- (a) failure of the transferor to comply with {section11(3)} concerning possession and control;
- 25 (b) designation of an ineligible custodian, except

- designation of the transferor in the case of property for
- which the transferor is ineligible to serve as custodian
- 3 under [section 11(1)]; or
- 4 (c) death or incapacity of a person nominated under 5 [section 5] or designated under [section 11] as custodian or 6 the disclaimer of the office by that person.
- 7 (2) A transfer made pursuant to [section 11] is 8 irrevocable, and the custodial property is indefeasibly 9 vested in the minor, but the custodian has all the rights, 10 powers, duties, and authority provided in [this act], and 11 neither the minor nor the minor's legal representative has 12 any right, power, duty, or authority with respect to the 13 custodial property except as provided in [this act].
- 14 (3) By making a transfer, the transferor incorporates
 15 in the disposition all the provisions of [this act] and
 16 grants to the custodian, and to any third person dealing
 17 with a person designated as custodian, the respective
 18 powers, rights, and immunities provided in [this act].
- 19 Section 14. Care of custodial property. (1) A 20 custodian shall:
- 21 (a) take control of custodial property;
- (b) register or record title to custodial property ifappropriate; and
- 24 (c) collect, hold, manage, invest, and reinvest
 25 custodial property.

(2) In dealing with custodial property, a custodian shall observe the standard of care that would be observed by a prudent person dealing with property of another and is not limited by any other statute restricting investments by fiduciaries. If a custodian has a special skill or expertise or is named custodian on the basis of representations of a special skill or expertise, the custodian shall use that skill or expertise. However, a custodian, in the custodian's discretion and without liability to the minor or the minor's estate, may retain any custodial property received from a transferor.

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- (3) A custodian may invest in or pay premiums on life insurance or endowment policies on:
- (a) the life of the minor only if the minor or the minor's estate is the sole beneficiary; or
- (b) the life of another person in whom the minor has an insurable interest only to the extent that the minor, the minor's estate, or the custodian, in the capacity of custodian, is the irrevocable beneficiary.
- (4) A custodian at all times shall keep custodial property separate and distinct from all other property in a manner sufficient to identify it clearly as custodial property of the minor. Custodial property consisting of an undivided interest is so identified if the minor's interest is held as a tenant in common and is fixed. Custodial

- property subject to recordation is so identified if it is recorded, and custodial property subject to registration is so identified if it is either registered or held in an account designated in the name of the custodian, followed in substance by the words: "as a custodian for (name of minor) under the Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act".
- 8 (5) A custodian shall keep records of all transactions
 9 with respect to custodial property, including information
 10 necessary for the preparation of the minor's tax returns,
 11 and shall make them available for inspection at reasonable
 12 intervals by a parent or legal representative of the minor
 13 or by the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14
 14 years.
- Section 15. Powers of custodian. (1) A custodian, acting in a custodial capacity, has all the rights, powers, and authority over custodial property that unmarried adult owners have over their own property, but a custodian may exercise those rights, powers, and authority in that capacity only.
- 21 (2) This section does not relieve a custodian from 22 liability for breach of [section 14].
- 23 Section 16. Use of custodial property. (1) A custodian
 24 may deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's
 25 benefit so much of the custodial property as the custodian

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considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor, without court order and without regard to:

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- (a) the duty or ability of the custodian personally or of any other person to support the minor; or
- (b) any other income or property of the minor which may be applicable or available for that purpose.
- (2) On petition of an interested person or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years, the court may order the custodian to deliver or pay to the minor or expend for the minor's benefit so much of the custodial property as the court considers advisable for the use and benefit of the minor.
- (3) A delivery, payment, or expenditure under this section is in addition to, not in substitution for, and does not affect any obligation of a person to support the minor.
- Section 17. Custodian's expenses, compensation, and bond. (1) A custodian is entitled to reimbursement from custodial property for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the custodian's duties.
- (2) Except for one who is a transferor under [section 6], a custodian has a noncumulative election during each calendar year to charge reasonable compensation for services performed during that year.
- 24 (3) Except as provided in [section 20(6)], a custodian 25 need not give a bond.

- Section 18. Exemption of third person from liability.

 A third person in good faith and without court order may act

 on the instructions of or otherwise deal with any person

 purporting to make a transfer or purporting to act in the

 capacity of a custodian and, in the absence of knowledge, is

 not responsible for determining:
- 7 (1) the validity of the purported custodian's 8 designation;
 - (2) the propriety of or the authority under {this act} for any act of the purported custodian;
 - (3) the validity or propriety under [this act] of any instrument or instructions executed or given either by the person purporting to make a transfer or by the purported custodian; or
- 15 (4) the propriety of the application of any property
 16 of the minor delivered to the purported custodian.
- 17 Section 19. Liability to third persons. (1) A claim
 18 may be asserted against the custodial property by proceeding
 19 against the custodian in the custodial capacity, whether or
 20 not the custodian or the minor is personally liable therefor
 21 when it is based on:
- (a) a contract entered into by a custodian acting in acustodial capacity;
- 24 (b) an obligation arising from the ownership or 25 control of custodial property; or

- (c) a tort committed during the custodianship.
- (3) A custodian is not personally liable:

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- (a) on a contract properly entered into in the custodial capacity unless the custodian fails to reveal that capacity and to identify the custodianship in the contract; or
- (b) for an obligation arising from control of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the custodian is personally at fault.
- (3) A minor is not personally liable for an obligation arising from ownership of custodial property or for a tort committed during the custodianship unless the minor is personally at fault.
- Section 20. Renunciation, resignation, death, or removal of custodian -- designation of successor custodian.

 (1) A person nominated under {section 5} or designated under [section 11] as custodian may decline to serve by delivering a valid disclaimer to the person who made the nomination or to the transferor or the transferor's legal representative. If the event giving rise to a transfer has not occurred and no substitute custodian able, willing, and eligible to serve was nominated under [section 5], the person who made the nomination may nominate a substitute custodian under [section 5]; otherwise the transferor or the transferor's legal representative shall designate a substitute custodian

- at the time of the transfer, in either case from among the persons eligible to serve as custodian for that kind of property under [section 11(1)]. The custodian so designated has the rights of a successor custodian.
 - (2) A custodian at any time may designate a trust company or an adult other than a transferor under [section 6] as successor custodian by executing and dating an instrument of designation before a subscribing witness other than the successor. If the instrument of designation does not contain or is not accompanied by the resignation of the custodian, the designation of the successor does not take effect until the custodian resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, or is removed.
 - (3) A custodian may resign at any time by delivering written notice to the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years and to the successor custodian and by delivering the custodial property to the successor custodian.
 - (4) If a custodian is ineligible, dies, or becomes incapacitated without having effectively designated a successor and the minor has attained the age of 14 years, the minor may designate as successor custodian, in the manner prescribed in subsection (2), an adult member of the minor's family, a conservator of the minor, or a trust company. If the minor has not attained the age of 14 years

or fails to act within 60 days after the ineligibility, death, or incapacity, the conservator of the minor becomes successor custodian. If the minor has no conservator or the conservator declines to act, the transferor, the legal representative of the transferor or of the custodian, an adult member of the minor's family, or any other interested person may petition the court to designate a successor custodian.

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- (1) or resigns under subsection (3) or the legal representative of a deceased or incapacitated custodian, as soon as practicable, shall put the custodial property and records in the possession and control of the successor custodian. The successor custodian by action may enforce the obligation to deliver custodial property and records and becomes responsible for each item as received.
- (6) A transferor, the legal representative of a transferor, an adult member of the minor's family, a guardian of the person of the minor, the conservator of the minor, or the minor if the minor has attained the age of 14 years may petition the court to remove the custodian for cause and to designate a successor custodian other than a transferor under [section 6] or to require the custodian to give appropriate bond.
- 25 Section 21. Accounting by and determination of

liability of custodian. (1) A minor who has attained the age
of 14 years, the minor's guardian of the person or legal
representative, an adult member of the minor's family, a
transferor, or a transferor's legal representative may

petition the court:

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- (a) for an accounting by the custodian or the custodian's legal representative; or
- {b} for a determination of responsibility, as between the custodial property and the custodian personally, for claims against the custodial property unless the responsibility has been adjudicated in an action under [section 19] to which the minor or the minor's legal representative was a party.
- (2) A successor custodian may petition the court for an accounting by the predecessor custodian.
- 16 (3) The court, in a proceeding under [this act] or in
 17 any other proceeding, may require or permit the custodian or
 18 the custodian's legal representative to account.
- 19 (4) If a custodian is removed under (section 20(6)),
 20 the court shall require an accounting and order delivery of
 21 the custodial property and records to the successor
 22 custodian and the execution of all instruments required for
 23 transfer of the custodial property.
- 24 Section 22. Termination of custodianship. The 25 custodian shall transfer in an appropriate manner the

- custodial property to the minor or to the minor's estate upon the earlier of:
- 3 (1) the minor's attainment of 21 years of age with 4 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 6 5 or 7]:
- 6 (2) the minor's attainment of 18 years of age with
 7 respect to custodial property transferred under [section 8
 8 or 9]; or
- 9 (3) the minor's death.

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- Section 23. Applicability. This act applies to a transfer within the scope of [section 4] made after October 1, 1985, if:
- 13 (1) the transfer purports to have been made under the 14 provisions of Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4 15 (repealed by [section 25]);
 - (2) the instrument by which the transfer purports to have been made uses in substance the designation "as custodian under the Uniform Gifts to Minors Act" or "as custodian under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act" of any other state, and the application of this act is necessary to validate the transfer.
- Section 24. Effect on existing custodianships. (1) Any transfer of custodial property as now defined in [this act] made before October 1, 1985, is validated notwithstanding that there was no specific authority in Title 72, chapter

- 1 26, parts 1 through 4 (repealed by [section 25]), for the
- 2 coverage of custodial property of that kind or for a
- 3 transfer from that source at the time the transfer was made.
- 4 (2) [This act] applies to all transfers made before
- 5 October 1, 1985, in a manner and form prescribed in Title
- 6 72, chapter 26, parts 1 through 4, except insofar as the
- 7 application impairs constitutionally vested rights or
- 8 extends the duration of custodianships in existence on
- 9 October 1, 1985.
- 10 (3) [Sections 3 and 22] with respect to the age of a
- 11 minor for whom custodial property is held under [this act]
- .12 do not apply to custodial property held in a custodianship
- 13 that terminated because of the minor's attainment of the age
- 14 of 18 before October 1, 1985.
- 15 Section 25. Repealer. Title 72, chapter 26, parts 1
- 16 through 4, MCA, are repealed.
- 17 Section 26. Severability. If a part of this act is
- 18 invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid
- 19 part remain in effect. If a part of this act is invalid in
- 20 one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect
- 21 in all valid applications that are severable from the
- 22 invalid applications.

-End-

49th Legislature SB 0060/02

1	SENATE BILL NO, 60
2	INTRODUCED BY MAZUREK
3	
4	A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REPLACE THE UNIFORM
5	GIFTS TO MINORS ACT WITH THE UNIFORM TRANSFERS TO MINORS
6	ACT; REPEALING TITLE 72, CHAPTER 26, PARTS 1 THROUGH 4, MCA;
7	AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY CLAUSE."
8	
9	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
10	Section 1. Short title. [This act] may be cited as the
11	"Montana Uniform Transfers to Minors Act".
12	Section 2. Uniformity of application and construction.
13	[This act] must be applied and construed to effectuate its
14	general purpose to make uniform the law with respect to the
15	subject of [this act] among states enacting it.
16	Section 3. Definitions. As used in [this act], unless
17	the context requires otherwise, the following definitions
18	apply:
19	(1) "Adult" means an individual who has attained the
20	age of 21 18 years.
21	(2) "Benefit plan" means an employer's plan for the
22	benefit of an employee or partner.
23	(3) "Broker" means a person lawfully engaged in the
24	business of effecting transactions in securities or
25	commodities for the person's own account or for the account



REFERENCE BILL

There are no changes in <u>SB 60</u> and will not be re-rum. Please refer to Yellow or blue copy for complete test.