

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 6, 2014
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2014
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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2452

Introduced by Assembly Member Pan

February 21, 2014

An act to amend Sections 4800, 4801, 4802, and 4806 of, and to add Sections 4801.5 and 4807 to, the Probate Code, relating to advance health care directives.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2452, as amended, Pan. Advance health care directive registry.

Existing law directs the Secretary of State to establish an Advance Health Care Directive Registry to receive and release specified information from a person who has executed a written advance health care directive. Existing law requires the Secretary of State to charge a fee to each registrant in an amount such that, when all fees charged to registrants are aggregated, the aggregated fees do not exceed the actual cost of establishing and maintaining the registry. Existing law provides that failure to register with the Secretary of State does not affect the validity of an advance health care directive.

This bill would require, commencing on January 1, 2016, the Secretary of State to establish and maintain access, as specified, to a secure portion of the Secretary of State's Internet Web site that provides an electronic reproduction of an advance health care directive and other specified documents submitted to the registry system. The bill would require this access to include the ability to view the electronic reproduction on the

Internet Web site, as well as download, print, and otherwise retrieve a copy of the electronic reproduction. The bill would, among other things, require the secretary to establish procedures to register, replace, and remove an advance health care directive, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4800 of the Probate Code is amended to
 2 read:

3 4800. (a) (1) The Secretary of State shall establish a registry
 4 system through which a person who has executed a written advance
 5 health care directive may register in a central information center,
 6 information regarding the advance directive, making that
 7 information available upon request to any health care provider,
 8 the public guardian, or the legal representative of the registrant.

9 (2) Commencing on January 1, 2016, the Secretary of State
 10 shall establish and maintain access, as prescribed by this part, to
 11 a secure portion of the Secretary of State’s Internet Web site that
 12 provides an electronic reproduction of an advance health care
 13 directive and other documents described in subdivision (c)
 14 submitted to the registry system. This access shall include the
 15 ability to view the electronic reproduction on the Internet Web
 16 site, as well as download, print, and otherwise retrieve a copy of
 17 the electronic reproduction.

18 (b) Commencing on January 1, 2016, the Secretary of State
 19 shall establish a process to register an advance health care directive
 20 and submit personal information and documents to the registry
 21 either by electronic submission or submission of paper documents.
 22 Commencing on January 1, 2016, the Secretary of State shall
 23 establish a process to merge documents in the registry prior to
 24 January 1, 2016, with the access system established in paragraph
 25 (2) of subdivision (a). This process shall require a person who
 26 registers an advance health care directive *or other document*
 27 *described in paragraph (2)* to submit to the secretary all of the
 28 following:

29 (1) An application in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State.

30 (2) A copy or electronic reproduction of ~~the advance health care~~
 31 ~~directive.~~ *any of the following:*

- 1 (A) *The registrant's advance health care directive.*
2 (B) *A values statement, questionnaire, or other document that*
3 *supplements the advance health care directive.*
4 (C) *Durable power of attorney form.*
5 (D) *A physician orders for life-sustaining treatment (POLST)*
6 *form.*
7 (E) *The intended place of deposit or safekeeping of a written*
8 *advance health care directive and any other document described*
9 *in this paragraph.*
10 (F) *The name and telephone number of the agent and any*
11 *alternative agent.*
12 (3) Any fee established by the Secretary of State pursuant to
13 subdivision (f).
14 (c) Information that may be received shall be limited to all of
15 the following regarding the registrant:
16 (1) Name.
17 (2) Social security number.
18 (3) Driver's license number, or other state-issued individual
19 identifying number established by law, if any.
20 (4) Address.
21 (5) Date and place of birth.
22 ~~(6) The registrant's advance health care directive.~~
23 ~~(7) A values statement, questionnaire, or other document that~~
24 ~~supplements the advance health care directive.~~
25 ~~(8) Durable power of attorney form.~~
26 ~~(9) A physician orders for life-sustaining treatment (POLST)~~
27 ~~form.~~
28 ~~(10) The intended place of deposit or safekeeping of a written~~
29 ~~advance health care directive and any other document described~~
30 ~~in this subdivision.~~
31 ~~(11) The name and telephone number of the agent and any~~
32 ~~alternative agent.~~
33 (d) When the Secretary of State receives the items described in
34 subdivision (b) from a registrant, the secretary shall do all of the
35 following:
36 (1) Assign a registration number and password to access the
37 registry to the registrant.
38 (2) Issue the registrant an Advance Health Care Directive
39 Registry registration card indicating that an advance health care
40 directive, or information regarding an advance health care directive,

1 has been deposited with the registry. The information on the card
2 shall include, but not be limited to, the registrant's name,
3 registration number, and password to access the registry. Costs
4 associated with issuance of the card shall be offset by the fee
5 charged by the Secretary of State to receive and register
6 information at the registry.

7 (3) Make or transfer an electronic reproduction of the advance
8 health care directive and other documents described in ~~subdivision~~
9 ~~(e) paragraph (2) of subdivision (b)~~ and post it to the registry and,
10 if the person consents, a statewide health information exchange
11 system registry.

12 (e) The Secretary of State, at the request of the registrant or his
13 or her legal representative, shall transmit the information received
14 regarding the written advance health care directive to the registry
15 system of another jurisdiction as identified by the registrant, or his
16 or her legal representative.

17 (f) The Secretary of State shall charge a fee to each registrant
18 in an amount such that, when all fees charged to registrants are
19 aggregated, the aggregated fees do not exceed the actual cost of
20 establishing and maintaining the registry.

21 SEC. 2. Section 4801 of the Probate Code is amended to read:

22 4801. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the Secretary of
23 State shall limit access to the registry, including a registrant's
24 advance health care directive, personal information, and other
25 documents received, to when all of the following occur:

26 (1) The assigned registration number and password are provided.

27 (2) Access to the advance health care directive is required
28 pursuant to a lawful order of a court of competent jurisdiction,
29 requested by the registrant or the registrant's legal representative,
30 requested by the public guardian, or requested by a provider of
31 health care to the registrant only for the purpose of providing health
32 care to the registrant.

33 (3) The Secretary of State determines that providing access to
34 the advance health care directive is in the best interest of the
35 registrant. However, a registrant or legal representative of the
36 registrant may access the advance health care directive of the
37 registrant for any purpose.

38 (b) The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to verify
39 the identities of health care providers, the public guardian, and
40 other authorized persons requesting information pursuant to Section

1 4800. No fee shall be charged to any health care provider, the
2 public guardian, or other authorized person requesting information
3 pursuant to Section 4800.

4 (c) A request for access pursuant to this part shall state the need
5 for the information.

6 (d) The Secretary of State shall respond by the close of business
7 on the next business day to a request for information made pursuant
8 to Section 4717 by the emergency department of a general acute
9 care hospital when the request is made by means other than through
10 the Secretary of State's Internet Web site.

11 (e) Information that may be released upon request shall not
12 include the registrant's social security number except when
13 necessary to verify the identity of the registrant.

14 SEC. 3. Section 4801.5 is added to the Probate Code, to read:
15 4801.5. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures for
16 all of the following:

17 (a) The registration of an advance health care directive or other
18 document described in Section 4800 that replaces an advance
19 health care directive or other document that is posted on the
20 registry.

21 (b) The removal from the registry of an advance health care
22 directive or other document described in Section 4800 that has
23 been revoked following the revocation of the advance health care
24 directive or other document or the death of the registrant.

25 (c) The issuance of a duplicate registration card or the provision
26 of other access to the registrant's registration number and password
27 if a registration card issued pursuant to this section is lost, stolen,
28 destroyed, or otherwise unavailable.

29 SEC. 4. Section 4802 of the Probate Code is amended to read:
30 4802. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to advise
31 each registrant of the following:

32 (a) A health care provider may not honor a written advance
33 health care directive until it receives a copy from the registrant or
34 accesses the advance health care directive from the registry.

35 (b) Each registrant must notify the registry upon revocation of
36 the advance health care directive.

37 (c) Each registrant must reregister upon execution of a
38 subsequent advance health care directive.

39 SEC. 5. Section 4806 of the Probate Code is amended to read:

1 4806. (a) The Secretary of State shall work with the State
2 Department of Public Health and the office of the Attorney General
3 to develop information about ~~end-of-life~~ *end-of-life* care, advance
4 health care directives, and registration of the advance health care
5 directives at the registry established pursuant to subdivision (a) of
6 Section 4800. This information shall be developed utilizing existing
7 information developed by the office of the Attorney General.

8 (b) Links to the information specified in subdivision (a) and to
9 the registry shall be available on the *Internet* Web sites of the
10 Secretary of State, the State Department of Public Health, the
11 Department of Motor Vehicles, the office of the Attorney General,
12 the Department of Managed Health Care, the Department of
13 Insurance, the Board of Registered Nursing, and the Medical Board
14 of California.

15 SEC. 6. Section 4807 is added to the Probate Code, to read:

16 4807. Commencing on January 1, 2016, the Secretary of State
17 shall, while establishing and maintaining electronic access to the
18 registry and to the extent practicable, consult with any entity
19 licensed pursuant to Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200)
20 of the Health and Safety Code, to integrate a process for retrieving
21 documents and information stored in the Advance Health Care
22 Directive Registry from a statewide health information exchange
23 system.