



CURRENT PROJECT LIST

By Category

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Business Organizations

- **Drafting Committee on Limited Liability Company Protected Series Act**

The committee is drafting an act that confines protected series to limited liability companies. All modern business entities provide the traditional “vertical” shield – protecting the entity’s owners (and their respective assets) from automatic, vicarious liability for the entity’s debts. A “series” limited liability company provides “horizontal” shields – protecting each protected series (and its assets) from automatic, vicarious liability for the debts of the company and for the debts of any other protected series of the company. A horizontal shield likewise protects the series limited liability company (and its assets) from creditors of any protected series of the company. The current draft uses the “module” approach, meaning that the act is intended not to stand alone, but rather to be plugged into the limited liability company statute of an enacting state.

The Committee expects to present a final draft at the July 2017 Annual Meeting. The Committee’s drafts and memos may be found at this [link](#).

Civil Procedure and the Courts

- **Committee to Monitor Developments in Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution**

The Committee to Monitor Developments in Civil Litigation was created in 2014 to monitor developments and trends in civil litigation and alternative dispute resolution, to provide information to the Scope and Program and Executive Committees about these issues, to offer suggestions of issues that may be appropriate for uniform state law, and to offer suggestions on whether current ULC acts in this area should be revised, amended or withdrawn. A priority for the committee will be to reach out to those groups that have a specific interest in the areas of law where ULC has drafted, and try to get input from appropriate representatives.

- **Study Committee on an Anti-SLAPP Act**

This committee will study the need for and feasibility of drafting a uniform or model Anti-SLAPP law. The acronym SLAPP stands for *Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation*, meaning a lawsuit of dubious merit brought for the purpose of silencing, intimidating, or retaliating against a defendant who has done nothing more than exercise their lawful rights to free speech and freedom to petition or similar rights. Anti-SLAPP laws seek to protect such rights by allowing such a defendant to make a motion at the outset of the litigation for an expedited review by the Court, with the burden shifted to the plaintiff to show that the lawsuit is meritorious and that the plaintiff will likely prevail at trial.

- **Study Committee on Bad Faith Patent Demand Letters**

Patent assertion entities (PAEs) are companies that hold a number of patents but do not manufacture any product under the patent. While some PAEs are legitimate companies that have acquired a patent as an investment in order to license the patent to a producing entity, it is asserted that other PAEs have no such legitimate intentions and instead act in bad faith by sending broad demand letters to companies that produce products that allegedly infringe the patents, hoping that the producing entity will agree to a quick settlement of the infringement claim rather than face the risk and cost of potentially lengthy and costly litigation. At least 18 states have enacted some legislation concerning this form of bad faith patent litigation, and a number of other states have

considered such legislation. This committee will consider the need for and feasibility of enacting uniform or model state legislation concerning bad faith patent demand letters.

- **Study Committee to Amend the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts**

This Study Committee will consider the need for and feasibility of further amendment to the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts to authorize American notaries to perform notarial acts where the individual appears before the notary by audio, video, or through the use of other technologies.

- **Joint Study Committee on Harmonization of the Law of Caribbean Jurisdictions, Canada and the United States Concerning Registration of Foreign Judgments**

As a result of discussions involving representatives of the ULC, Caribbean nations, and the Uniform Law Conference of Canada, this Joint Study Committee will study the need for and feasibility of harmonizing the law of Canada, Caribbean nations and the United States concerning the registration in one country of final, conclusive and enforceable money judgments entered in another country in matters other than domestic relations matters.

- **Drafting Committee on a Model Veterans' Court Act**

Veterans' courts have been created in a number of judicial districts around the United States to ensure that veterans in the criminal justice system receive the treatment and support necessary to rehabilitate them into being productive members of society. Very few states have legislation on veterans' courts, but many local judicial districts have effectively created veterans' courts by rule or practice. This drafting committee will develop model state legislation that provides guidelines for the establishment of veterans' courts while permitting substantial local discretion necessary to accommodate particular circumstances in different communities. Some of the issues that the model act will address include: what subset of veterans are entitled to diversion into a veterans' court; for what type of offenses is diversion into a veterans' court appropriate; what rights should victims have to participate in proceedings in veterans' courts; and how, in general, should veterans' courts be organized and operated.

The Committee presented a draft for initial consideration at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. The Committee's work and latest draft can be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or by direct link [here](#).

Commercial Law

- **Drafting Committee to Amend UCC Articles 1, 3, and 9**

A joint Committee comprised of members of the Uniform Law Commission and the American Law Institute will draft revisions to Articles 1, 3, and 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code to provide the substantive commercial law rules to support an electronic registry for residential mortgage notes on a national basis with minimal displacement of state laws. Article 3 rules were developed for a paper-based commercial practice in which residential mortgage notes normally are held in portfolio by the lending bank. The Committee will amend Article 3 to accommodate electronic documentation practices in commercial mortgage transactions. Further, the Committee will undertake amendments to Article 9 provisions governing the granting and perfection of security interests in electronic mortgage notes held as collateral; the way security interests attach;

priorities; and possession; as well as the transfer of ownership notes and the transfer of rights in the mortgage securing electronic mortgage notes. Finally, the Committee will consider amendments to key definitions in Article 1 to ensure consistency with amendments to Articles 3 and 9.

The Committee expects to present a draft for initial consideration at the 2017 Annual Meeting. The Committee's work and latest draft can be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org or by direct link [here](#).

Criminal Law

- **Criminal Justice Reform Committee**

This Committee monitors the need for and feasibility of model and uniform state laws that effectuate criminal justice reform, and serves as an advisory committee to the Committee on Scope and Program on potential and emerging legislative developments in criminal justice reform. The Committee may be asked to review and consider proposals for criminal justice reform work, but also should consider and when appropriate present proposals to Scope and Program for necessary and feasible uniform or model state laws.

- **Drafting Committee on Criminal Records Accuracy**

Many developments concerning criminal records have occurred over the past twenty years, including the creation of the National Criminal Background Check System in 1993, the establishment of criminal history repositories in all states, and the increasing use of criminal record checks in connection with eligibility for employment, professional and occupational licenses, credit worthiness, and other non-criminal justice purposes. Recent studies have demonstrated that criminal records accessed for these purposes may be inaccurate or incomplete. Some of the causes of inaccuracy or incompleteness are: lack of information on dispositions after an arrest or other charge has been entered in a database; data entry errors resulting, e.g., in an incorrect listing of the offense, or multiple listings of the same offense, or attribution of an offense to a wrong individual; criminal identity theft (when an arrested person gives another person's identifying information); and searches for criminal record information resulting in one person's criminal record information appearing in search results initiated for a different individual. This drafting committee will draft an act that seeks to improve the accuracy of criminal records.

The committee presented a draft for first reading at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. A copy of the Committee's issues memorandum, as well as any drafts, may be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or by direct link [here](#).

Family Law

- **Drafting Committee on Non-Parental Child Custody and Visitation Act**

State legislation and judicial decisions vary greatly concerning the rights of third parties who are not parents (such as grandparents, stepparents, domestic partners, and siblings) to rights of custody of or visitation with a child. Those rights are also affected by the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57 (2000), which held that courts must give deference to decisions of fit parents concerning the raising of children, including concerning grandparents'

visitation rights. This drafting committee will draft an act concerning the rights of third parties other than parents to custody of or visitation with a child.

The Committee presented a draft for initial consideration at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. The drafts and all committee work can be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or by direct link [here](#).

- **Drafting Committee to Revise the Uniform Parentage Act**

The ULC adopted the Uniform Parentage Act in 2000, which was a complete revision of a 1973 uniform act. The UPA 2000 has been adopted in 11 states. The UPA covers a number of topics, including: the parent-child relationship, voluntary acknowledgements of paternity, a registry of paternity, genetic testing, proceedings to adjudicate parentage, and children of assisted reproduction. As a result of the recent Supreme Court decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, as well as other developments in the states since the last revision of the UPA, this drafting committee will revise the Uniform Parentage Act. The scope of the revision is limited to issues related to same sex couples, surrogacy, and the right of a child to genetic information.

The Committee presented a draft for initial consideration at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. The drafts and all committee work can be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or by direct link [here](#).

- **Coordinating Committee on Technical Amendments Necessary to Comply with Supreme Court decision *Obergefell v. Hodges***

At the ULC's July 2015 Annual Meeting, the Committee on Scope and Program recommended to the Executive Committee, and the Executive Committee approved, that a coordinating committee be formed to amend any relevant provisions of ULC Acts to comply with the U.S. Supreme Court decision *Obergefell v. Hodges* relating to same-sex marriage. The committee will identify and report on any policy issues for further consideration by the Executive Committee. *The committee began its work in Spring 2016.*

Medical and Public Health Law

- **Healthcare Law Monitoring Committee**

The Committee to Monitor Healthcare Law was formed to study and monitor any developments in the area of health care law, provide information to the ULC about these issues, offer suggestions of issues that may be appropriate for uniform state laws, and to offer suggestions and input, upon request, to the ULC about healthcare law and related issues. The Committee is currently monitoring such issues as telehealth; practitioner orders for life sustaining treatments (POLST); mental health treatment; and is also reviewing current ULC acts in this area.

- **Study Committee on Declarations of Quarantine**

The outbreak of the Ebola virus in Africa, and concerns about its possible migration into the United States, has led to increased focus in this country on the ways in which quarantines are declared and on possible income replacement and employment protection for those who are subject to a declared quarantine. About ten states have state legislation concerning employment protection for those who are subject to a quarantine order, and at least one state has legislation providing for

some income replacement for those individuals, but that legislation varies widely in its content. This study committee will consider the need for and feasibility of enacting uniform or model state legislation concerning a declaration of quarantine, and concerning employment protection and income replacement for those subject to quarantine.

Real Property

- **Drafting Committee for a Uniform Electronic Registry for Residential Mortgage Notes**

The development of securitization as a common practice with regard to residential mortgage notes has created the need for a more efficient and less costly means than the current paper-based rules of UCC Article 3 to identify who is entitled to enforce a residential mortgage note and how the debt evidenced by the note is transferred. A more efficient system will benefit not only those engaged in the secondary mortgage market, but also note obligors who will have a clear, certain and easily accessible way to determine who is the person entitled to enforce their obligation, and thus the person with whom they must deal with regard to enforcement related issues such as payoff and loan modification. Given the importance of the secondary mortgage market to the availability of capital for residential mortgage loans, a more efficient system is likely to benefit home buyers seeking residential mortgage loans as well. The drafting committee will develop a uniform electronic registry for residential mortgage notes that will be national in its effect, taking into account *inter alia* the appropriate relationship between the registry and other law.

- **Study Committee on Installment Land Contracts**

This Study Committee will consider the need for and feasibility of state legislation on installment land contracts, including the nature of the rights and responsibilities held by a purchaser and a seller under an installment land contract, and the remedies available to the seller following purchaser default. Installment land contracts are effectively a form of mortgage substitute. In economic substance, the installment land contract is functionally comparable to a purchase money mortgage in which the seller provides financing of the purchase price. A uniform or model law on the characterization and enforcement of installment land contracts could provide clarity in an area of the law and practice with great practical significance for homebuyers who cannot qualify for institutional mortgage financing.

Technology-Related Projects

- **Study Committee on State Regulation of Driverless Cars**

Autonomous vehicle technology is rapidly maturing, and that technology (or driverless cars) will soon be ready to test nationwide. Four states and the District of Columbia have already enacted legislation concerning some aspects of state regulation of driverless cars, and the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) has issued guidelines for states that may seek to regulate driverless cars. This committee will study the need for and feasibility of drafting state legislation concerning the regulation of driverless cars.

- **Study Committee on Regulation of Drones**

Unmanned aerial vehicles or “drones,” have a range of applications, including law enforcement, wildlife tracking, search and rescue, land surveillance, border patrol, disaster response, and photography. The FAA’s drone regulation largely focuses on regulation of the national airspace,

with the ultimate goal of integrating drones into that airspace. Several states have enacted legislation addressing law enforcement use of drones. Some states have created crimes based on unlawful use of a drone, and have created civil penalties; these enactments, as well as those limiting police drone usage, aim to protect civilian privacy. While Congress has considered three privacy-related drone bills, it has not enacted any of those bills. Given the federal focus on airspace regulation, issues such as privacy and police use of drones has fallen to the states. This Committee will study the need for and feasibility of state legislation concerning the regulation of the use of drones.

- **Study Committee on Event Data Recorders in Cars**

This Committee will study the need for and feasibility of uniform or model state legislation concerning event data recorders in cars. Event data recorders, also known as “EDRs”, “black boxes,” and “sensing and diagnostic modules,” record information, such as vehicle speed, occupants’ seat belt use, vehicle location, and brake usage. The Committee will consider the issues raised by the installation of EDRs, including privacy issues; disclosure requirements; ownership of data; use of EDR data as evidence; access to and data retrieval for use by law enforcement or others; use required by or retrieved by insurers; and use of EDR data as evidence in legal proceedings.

- **Study Committee on Identity Management in Electronic Commerce**

This study committee will study the need for and feasibility of uniform or model state legislation concerning identity management in electronic commerce. Identity management is a set of processes to manage the identification, authentication, and authorization of individuals, legal entities, devices, or other subjects in online and other electronic contexts. The Committee will consider whether there are viable uniform or model legal approaches to address concerns about trustworthiness, including, for example, disclosure requirements that allow parties to accurately assess risks; giving various legal effects to certain types of conduct that might enhance or detract from trust; and imposing requirements that govern conduct to ensure trust. The Committee’s study will also include examining the need for and feasibility of state law governing the level of security provided by a party to an identity management transaction or by a trust service provider; defining the legal effect of electronic identification and authentication; interstate recognition of an electronic transaction under particular identification and authentication standards; allocation of liability; and remedies for a party’s failure to meet its obligations.

- **Drafting Committee on Regulation of Virtual Currency Businesses Act**

This drafting committee will consider the need for and feasibility of drafting state legislation on the regulation of virtual currency businesses, and will examine issues such as licensing requirements; reciprocity; consumer protection; cybersecurity; anti-money laundering; and supervision of licensees. Virtual currency can be simply defined as a form of electronic value, the value of which depends on the market. It is not backed by government (so that it lacks status as legal tender). The interest in virtual currency arises because it is allegedly safer from hacking, often cheaper and faster, and has finality of payment. Virtual currencies have legitimate purposes and can be purchased, sold, and exchanged with other types of virtual currencies or real currencies.

The Committee presented a draft for initial consideration at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. The Committee's drafts and work can be found at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org or by direct link [here](#).

- **Drafting Committee on Unauthorized Disclosure of Intimate Images**

This drafting committee will create civil remedies relating to the unauthorized disclosure of intimate images. The harms resulting from the unauthorized disclosures of intimate images range from embarrassment and anger to severe depression, traumatic stress syndrome, and suicide. The injuries may also include loss of employment and inability to find employment. Frequently, postings of these intimate images are accompanied by the victim's name and address, leading to threats and stalking. The inherent potential for unauthorized disclosures of intimate images over the internet and other technologies present a problem that may transcend state boundaries. As of March 31, 2016, only nine states have enacted laws that provide a private right of action against the person making the unauthorized posting. The intentional public dissemination of intimate images without the subject's consent is not clearly a tort in some jurisdictions.

Tribal Law Related ULC Projects

- **Drafting Committee on Amendments to the Model Tribal Secured Transaction Act**

The ULC, working closely with representatives of Indian tribes and organizations, promulgated the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act (MTSTA) in 2005. The act has been adopted by a substantial number of tribal governments. In 2010, the ULC adopted various amendments to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code (upon which the MTSTA is based), particularly to provide greater guidance as to the name of an individual debtor that should be provided on a financing statement. This Committee, working closely with representatives of Indian tribes and organizations, will draft amendments to the MTSTA that incorporate, as appropriate, some of the 2010 amendments to Article 9. The Committee may also consider preparing other amendments to the MTSTA, such as provisions providing protections for tribal cultural property.

A copy of the draft amendments are available on the ULC website [here](#).

- **Drafting Committee on a Model Tribal Probate Code**

The federal American Indian Probate Reform Act (AIPRA) provides very limited rules concerning probate issues in Indian Country; many probate law issues exist that are addressed in the Uniform Probate Code and in existing law in most states as to which AIPRA is either silent or incomplete. This committee will collaborate with representatives of Tribal governments and others from Indian Country to draft a Model Tribal Probate Code that would supplement and "wrap around" AIPRA so as to be consistent with AIPRA and also better fulfill the purposes of both AIPRA and the Indian Land Consolidation Act.

A copy of the issues memorandum and current draft may be found on the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or at the direct link [here](#).

Trusts and Estates Law

- **Drafting Committee on Directed Trust Act**

An increasingly common practice in contemporary estate planning and asset management is the naming of a trustee that is given custody of the trust property, but with one or more of the investment, distribution or administration functions of the trusteeship being given to a person or persons who are not formally designated as trustees. Much uncertainty exists about the fiduciary status of nontrustees who have control or potential control over a function of trusteeship and about the fiduciary responsibility of trustees with regard to actions taken by such nontrustees. Existing uniform trust and estate statutes inadequately address the issues and are at risk of becoming obsolete unless they are amended to take account of these developments. This Committee will draft legislation on directed trusts and also will draft conforming amendments to other uniform trust and estate acts as appropriate.

The Committee expects to present a draft for final reading at the 2017 Annual Meeting. The Committee's drafts may be found at this [link](#).

- **Drafting Committee to Revise the Uniform Guardianship and Protective Proceedings Act**

The UGPPA was approved by the ULC in 1982, amended in 1989, and revised in 1997. Nearly 20 states have enacted one or the other version of the act. This drafting committee will revise selected portions of the UGPPA in order to implement some of the guardianship standards recommended by the Third National Guardianship Summit and otherwise to update the act.

The Committee presented a draft for initial consideration at the July 2016 Annual Meeting. The committee anticipates presenting an act for final approval at the July 2017 Annual Meeting. Copies of the Committee's drafts and memos can be located at the ULC's website at www.uniformlaws.org, or by direct link [here](#).

- **Drafting Committee to Revise the Uniform Principal and Income Act**

Originally enacted in 1931 and then revised in 1962, UPAIA was last comprehensively revised in 1997. Much has changed in the nearly two decades since then. The drafting committee will undertake a number of revisions to bring the UPAIA up to date and to add a unitrust provision. Modern trust law requires a trustee to invest for the best total return and simultaneously to treat income and remainder beneficiaries impartially. In order to fulfill these duties, a trustee should be able to make adjustments between income and principal or to make a unitrust election. The drafting committee will address many other issues, including (1) the treatment of money that a trust receives in partial liquidation of an entity in which the trust owns an interest and (2) the allocation of capital gains to income for income tax purposes.

The Committee expects to present a draft for interim reading at the 2017 Annual Meeting. The Committee's drafts may be found at this [link](#).

- **Study Committee on Trust Management of Funds Raised Through Public Fundraising**

This Committee will study the need for and feasibility of uniform or model state legislation concerning the trust management of funds raised for individuals and families by public fundraising efforts, such as crowdfunding. This study is prompted by the growing number of appeals to the

public to provide funds for a person or family in need, many prompted by the rise of online crowdfunding sites. The Committee will consider whether uniform or model law should be drafted to provide clear legal rules governing the use of funds raised through such public appeals. In particular, the Committee will examine whether a uniform or model law can usefully and feasibly address the appropriate use of funds; preventing potential misuse of funds; liability of custodians for funds; and disposition of excess funds.

EDITORIAL BOARDS

Six Editorial Boards have been appointed with respect to uniform acts in various subject areas. These Boards are responsible for monitoring new developments which may have an impact on the Acts and for making recommendations for revising existing Acts or drafting new acts in their subject areas. The Editorial Boards are made up of members from the Uniform Law Commission, the American Bar Association, the American Law Institute, and other organizations.

- **Permanent Editorial Board for Uniform Commercial Code**

This Board is composed of members from the American Law Institute and the ULC. It also includes a Director of Research. The Board continues to monitor current drafting activities of the Uniform Commercial Code. It also prepares commentaries and advises its member organizations on further changes needed in the Uniform Commercial Code.

- **Joint Editorial Board for Uniform Family Law**

The JEB-UFL includes members from the ULC, the American Bar Association Section of Family Law, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, together with liaison members from the American Association of Law Schools and the ABA Center on Children and the Law. The Board is responsible for monitoring all uniform and model acts that are family-law related.

- **Joint Editorial Board on International Law**

Members of this JEB include representatives from the ULC and the International Law Section of the American Bar Association, and liaison representatives from the United States Department of State Office of Private International Law. The functions of the JEB include: facilitating the promulgation of uniform state laws consistent with U.S. laws and international obligations dealing with international and transnational legal matters; advising ULC with respect to international and transnational legal matters that have the potential to impact areas of the law in which ULC has been, or might become, active; informing and assisting the U.S. government with respect to the negotiation of international treaties and agreements with appropriate consideration of state law perspective and experience; and promoting the principles of rule of law and harmonization of law.

- **Joint Editorial Board for Uniform Real Property Acts**

Representatives of the ULC, the ABA Section of Real Property, Probate and Trust Law, the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, and the Community Association Institute are members of this Joint Editorial Board, and representatives of the American Land Title Association and the American College of Mortgage Attorneys are liaison members. The Board is responsible for monitoring all uniform real property acts.

- **Joint Editorial Board for Uniform Trust and Estate Acts**

The Board is composed of members from the ULC, the American Bar Association Section of Real Property, Trust and Estate Law, and the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel. The JEB also has liaison members from the Association of American Law Schools, the American Law Institute, AARP, and the National Center for State Courts. The JEB monitors the Uniform Probate Code, Uniform Trust Code, and all other estate and trust related acts.

- **Joint Editorial Board on Uniform Unincorporated Organization Acts**

Members from the Business Law Section of the ABA and the ULC make up this Board. The Board is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the Uniform Partnership Act, the Uniform Limited Partnership Act, the Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, and other uniform acts related to unincorporated associations.