1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to trusts; amending s. 736.0103, F.S.; 3 redefining the term "interests of the beneficiaries"; 4 amending s. 736.0105, F.S.; deleting a requirement 5 that a trust be for the benefit of the trust's beneficiaries; amending s. 736.0110, F.S.; providing 6 7 that the Attorney General has standing to assert 8 certain rights in certain proceedings; amending s. 9 736.0404, F.S.; deleting a restriction on the purpose 10 for which a trust is created; amending s. 736.04117, F.S.; defining and redefining terms; authorizing an 11 12 authorized trustee to appoint all or part of the 13 principal of a trust to a second trust under certain 14 circumstances; providing requirements for the second trust and its beneficiaries; providing that the second 15 trust may retain, omit, or create specified powers; 16 17 authorizing the term of the second trust to extend 18 beyond the term of the first trust; providing 19 requirements for distributions to a second trust when 20 the authorized trustee does not have absolute power; 21 providing requirements for such second trust; 22 providing requirements for grants of power by the 23 second trust; authorizing a second trust created by an 24 authorized trustee without absolute power to grant 25 absolute power to the second trust's trustee;

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authorizing an authorized trustee to appoint the principal of a first trust to a supplemental needs trust under certain circumstances; providing requirements for such supplemental needs trust; prohibiting an authorized trustee from distributing the principal of a trust in a manner that would reduce specified tax benefits; prohibiting the distribution of S corporation stock from a first trust to a second trust under certain circumstances; prohibiting a settlor to be treated as the owner of a second trust if he or she was not treated as the owner of the first trust; prohibiting an authorized trustee from distributing a trust's interest in property to a second trust if it is subject to specified rules of the Internal Revenue Code; prohibiting the exercise of power to invade a trust's principal to increase an authorized trustee's compensation or relieve him or her from certain liability; specifying who an authorized trustee must notify when he or she exercises his or her power to invade the trust's principal; specifying the documents that the authorized trustee must provide with such notice; amending s. 736.08135, F.S.; revising applicability; amending s. 736.1008, F.S.; clarifying that certain knowledge by a beneficiary does not cause a claim for

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breach of trust or commence the running of a period of limitations or laches; providing intent; providing for retroactive application; amending s. 736.1201, F.S.; defining the term "delivery of notice"; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 736.1205, F.S.; requiring an authorized trustee to provide certain notice to the Attorney General rather than the state attorney; amending ss. 736.1206, 736.1207, 736.1208, and 736.1209, F.S.; conforming provisions; providing effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (11) of section 736.0103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.0103 Definitions.—Unless the context otherwise requires, in this code:

- (11) "Interests of the beneficiaries" means the beneficial interests intended by the settlor as provided in the terms of \underline{a} the trust.
- Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 736.0105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 736.0105 Default and mandatory rules.—
- 74 (2) The terms of a trust prevail over any provision of this code except:

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(c) The requirement that a trust and its terms be for the benefit of the trust's beneficiaries, and that the trust have a purpose that is lawful, not contrary to public policy, and possible to achieve.

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 736.0110, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.0110 Others treated as qualified beneficiaries.-

(3) The Attorney General may assert the rights of a qualified beneficiary with respect to a charitable trust having its principal place of administration in this state. The Attorney General has standing to assert such rights in any judicial proceedings.

Section 4. Section 736.0404, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.0404 Trust purposes.—A trust may be created only to the extent the purposes of the trust are lawful, not contrary to public policy, and possible to achieve. A trust and its terms must be for the benefit of its beneficiaries.

Section 5. Effective upon becoming a law, section 736.04117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.04117 Trustee's power to invade principal in trust.—

(1) (a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

Unless the trust instrument expressly provides otherwise, a

trustee who has absolute power under the terms of a trust to

invade the principal of the trust, referred to in this section

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as the "first trust," to make distributions to or for the benefit of one or more persons may instead exercise the power by appointing all or part of the principal of the trust subject to the power in favor of a trustee of another trust, referred to in this section as the "second trust," for the current benefit of one or more of such persons under the same trust instrument or under a different trust instrument; provided:

- 1. The beneficiaries of the second trust may include only beneficiaries of the first trust;
- 2. The second trust may not reduce any fixed income, annuity, or unitrust interest in the assets of the first trust; and
- 3. If any contribution to the first trust qualified for a marital or charitable deduction for federal income, gift, or estate tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the second trust shall not contain any provision which, if included in the first trust, would have prevented the first trust from qualifying for such a deduction or would have reduced the amount of such deduction.
- (b) For purposes of this subsection, an absolute power to invade principal shall include
- (a) "Absolute power" means a power to invade principal that is not limited to specific or ascertainable purposes, such as health, education, maintenance, and support, regardless of whether or not the term "absolute" is used. A power to invade

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principal for purposes such as best interests, welfare, comfort, or happiness <u>constitutes</u> shall constitute an absolute power not limited to specific or ascertainable purposes.

- (b) "Authorized trustee" means a trustee, other than the settlor or a beneficiary, who has the power to invade the principal of a trust.
- (c) "Beneficiary with a disability" means a beneficiary of the first trust who the authorized trustee believes may qualify for governmental benefits based on disability, regardless of whether the beneficiary currently receives those benefits or has been adjudicated incapacitated.
- (d) "Current beneficiary" means a beneficiary who, on the date his or her qualification is determined, is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal. The term includes the holder of a presently exercisable general power of appointment, but does not include a person who is a beneficiary only because he or she holds another power of appointment.
- (e) "Governmental benefits" means financial aid or services from any state, federal, or other public agency.
- (f) "Internal Revenue Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- (g) "Power of appointment" has the same meaning as in s.
 731.201(30).
- (h) "Presently exercisable general power of appointment" means a power of appointment exercisable by the powerholder at

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151 the relevant time. The term	151	51	the	relevant	time.	The	term
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- 1. Includes a power of appointment that is exercisable only after the occurrence of a specified event or that is subject to a specified restriction, but only after the event has occurred or the restriction has been satisfied.
- 2. Does not include a power exercisable only upon the powerholder's death.
- (i) "Substantially similar" means that there is no material change in a beneficiary's beneficial interests or in the power to make distributions and that the power to make a distribution under a second trust for the benefit of a beneficiary who is an individual is substantially similar to the power under the first trust to make a distribution directly to the beneficiary. A distribution is deemed to be for the benefit of a beneficiary if:
- 1. The distribution is applied for the benefit of a beneficiary;
- 2. The beneficiary is under a legal disability or the trustee reasonably believes the beneficiary is incapacitated, and the distribution is made as permitted under this code; or
- 3. The distribution is made as permitted under the terms of the first trust instrument and the second trust instrument for the benefit of the beneficiary.
- (j) "Supplemental needs trust" means a trust that the authorized trustee believes would not be considered a resource

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for purposes of determining whether the beneficiary who has a disability is eligible for governmental benefits.

- (k) "Vested interest" means a current unconditional right to receive a mandatory distribution of income, a specified dollar amount, or a percentage of value of a trust, or a current unconditional right to withdraw income, a specified dollar amount, or a percentage of value of a trust, which right is not subject to the occurrence of a specified event, the passage of a specified time, or the exercise of discretion.
- 1. The term includes a presently exercisable general power of appointment.
- 2. The term does not include a beneficiary's interest in a trust if the trustee has discretion to make a distribution of trust property to a person other than such beneficiary.
- (2) <u>DISTRIBUTION FROM FIRST TRUST TO SECOND TRUST WHEN</u>
 AUTHORIZED TRUSTEE HAS ABSOLUTE POWER TO INVADE.—
- (a) Unless a trust instrument expressly provides
 otherwise, an authorized trustee who has absolute power under
 the terms of the trust to invade its principal, referred to in
 this section as the "first trust," to make current distributions
 to or for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries, may instead
 exercise such power by appointing all or part of the principal
 of the trust subject to such power in favor of a trustee of one
 or more other trusts, whether created under the same trust
 instrument as the first trust or a different trust instrument,

including a trust instrument created for the purposes of
exercising the power granted by this section, each referred to
in this section as the "second trust," for the current benefit
of one or more of such beneficiaries only if:
1. The beneficiaries of the second trust include only
beneficiaries of the first trust; and
2. The second trust does not reduce any vested interest.
(b) In an exercise of absolute power, the second trust
may:
1. Retain a power of appointment granted in the first
trust;
2. Omit a power of appointment granted in the first trust,
other than a presently exercisable general power of appointment;
3. Create or modify a power of appointment if the
powerholder is a current beneficiary of the first trust;
4. Create or modify a power of appointment if the
powerholder is a beneficiary of the first trust who is not a
current beneficiary, but the exercise of the power of
appointment may take effect only after the powerholder becomes,
or would have become if then living, a current beneficiary of
the first trust; and
5. Extend the term of the second trust beyond the term of
the first trust.

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a created or modified power of appointment may be exercised may

The class of permissible appointees in favor of which

differ from the class identified in the first trust.

- AUTHORIZED TRUSTEE DOES NOT HAVE ABSOLUTE POWER TO INVADE.—
 Unless the trust instrument expressly provides otherwise, an authorized trustee who has a power, other than an absolute power, under the terms of a first trust to invade principal to make current distributions to or for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries may instead exercise such power by appointing all or part of the principal of the first trust subject to such power in favor of a trustee of one or more second trusts. If the authorized trustee exercises such power:
- (a) The second trusts, in the aggregate, shall grant each beneficiary of the first trust beneficial interests in the second trusts which are substantially similar to the beneficial interests of the beneficiary in the first trust.
- (b) If the first trust grants a power of appointment to a beneficiary of the first trust, the second trust shall grant such power of appointment in the second trust to such beneficiary and the class of permissible appointees shall be the same as in the first trust.
- (c) If the first trust does not grant a power of appointment to a beneficiary of the first trust, then the second trust may not grant a power of appointment in the second trust to such beneficiary.
 - (d) Notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), the term

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- 1. Include language providing the trustee with the absolute power to invade the principal of the second trust during such extended term; and
- 2. Create a power of appointment, if the powerholder is a current beneficiary of the first trust, or expand the class of permissible appointees in favor of which a power of appointment may be exercised.
- (4) DISTRIBUTION FROM FIRST TRUST TO SUPPLEMENTAL NEEDS TRUST.—
- (a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (3), unless the trust instrument expressly provides otherwise, an authorized trustee who has the power under the terms of a first trust to invade the principal of the first trust to make current distributions to or for the benefit of a beneficiary with a disability, may instead exercise such power by appointing all or part of the principal of the first trust in favor of a trustee of a second trust that is a supplemental needs trust if:
- 1. The supplemental needs trust benefits the beneficiary with a disability;
 - 2. The beneficiaries of the second trust include only

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beneficiaries	$\circ f$	the	first	trust.	and
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- 3. The authorized trustee determines that the exercise of such power will further the purposes of the first trust.
- (b) Except as affected by any change to the interests of the beneficiary with a disability, the second trusts, in the aggregate, shall grant each other beneficiary of the first trust beneficial interests in the second trusts which are substantially similar to such beneficiary's beneficial interests in the first trust.
 - (5) PROHIBITED DISTRIBUTIONS.—
- (a) An authorized trustee may not distribute the principal of a trust under this section in a manner that would prevent a contribution to that trust from qualifying for, or that would reduce the exclusion, deduction, or other federal tax benefit that was originally claimed or could have been claimed for, that contribution, including:
- 1. The exclusions under s. 2503(b) or s. 2503(c) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- 2. A marital deduction under s. 2056, s. 2056A, or s. 2523 of the Internal Revenue Code;
- 3. A charitable deduction under s. 170(a), s. 642(c), s. 2055(a), or s. 2522(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- 4. Direct skip treatment under s. 2642(c) of the Internal Revenue Code; or
 - 5. Any other tax benefit for income, gift, estate, or

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generation-skipping transfer tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code.

- (b) If S corporation stock is held in the first trust, an authorized trustee may not distribute all or part of that stock to a second trust that is not a permitted shareholder under s.

 1361(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. If the first trust holds stock in an S corporation and is, or but for provisions of paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) would be, a qualified subchapter S trust within the meaning of s. 1361(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, the second trust instrument may not include or omit a term that prevents it from qualifying as a qualified subchapter S trust.
- (c) Except as provided in paragraphs (a), (b), and (d), an authorized trustee may distribute the principal of a first trust to a second trust regardless of whether the settlor is treated as the owner of either trust under ss. 671-679 of the Internal Revenue Code; however, if the settlor is not treated as the owner of the first trust, he or she may not be treated as the owner of the second trust unless he or she at all times has the power to cause the second trust to cease being treated as if it was owned by the settlor.
- (d) If an interest in property which is subject to the minimum distribution rules of s. 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code is held in trust, an authorized trustee may not distribute such an interest to a second trust under subsection

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- (6) EXERCISE BY WRITING.—The exercise of a power to invade principal under subsection (2), subsection (3), or subsection (4) must The exercise of a power to invade principal under subsection (1) shall be by a written an instrument in writing, signed and acknowledged by the authorized trustee, and filed with the records of the first trust.
- (7) RESTRICTIONS ON EXERCISE OF POWER.—The exercise of a power to invade principal under subsection (2), subsection (3), or subsection (4): (1)
- (a) Is Shall be considered the exercise of a power of appointment, excluding other than a power to appoint to the authorized trustee, the authorized trustee's creditors, the authorized trustee's estate, or the creditors of the authorized trustee's estate.
- (b) Is, and Shall be subject to the provisions of s. 689.225 covering the time at which the permissible period of the rule against perpetuities begins and the law that determines the permissible period of the rule against perpetuities of the first trust.
- (c) May be to a second trust created or administered under the law of any jurisdiction.
 - (d) May not:
 - 1. Increase the authorized trustee's compensation beyond

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the compensation specified in the first trust instrument; or

2. Relieve the authorized trustee from liability for breach of trust or provide for indemnification of the authorized trustee for any liability or claim to a greater extent than the first trust instrument; however, the exercise of the power may divide and reallocate fiduciary powers among fiduciaries and relieve a fiduciary from liability for an act or failure to act of another fiduciary as otherwise allowed under law or common law.

(8) NOTICE.-

(a) (4) The <u>authorized</u> trustee shall <u>provide written</u> notification of the manner in which he or she intends to exercise his or her power to invade principal to notify all qualified beneficiaries of the <u>following parties</u> first trust, in writing, at least 60 days <u>before prior to</u> the effective date of the <u>authorized</u> trustee's exercise of <u>such power the trustee's</u> power to invade principal pursuant to subsection (2), subsection (3), or subsection (4): (1), of the manner in which the trustee intends to exercise the power.

- 1. All qualified beneficiaries of the first trust;
- 2. If paragraph (5)(c) applies, the settlor of the first trust;
 - 3. All trustees of the first trust; and
- 4. Any person who has the power to remove or replace the authorized trustee of the first trust.

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(b) The authorized A copy of the proposed instrument
exercising the power shall satisfy the trustee's notice
obligation to provide notice under this subsection is satisfied
by his or her providing copies of the proposed instrument
exercising the power, the trust instrument of the first trust,
and the proposed trust instrument of the second trust.

- (c) If all of those required to be notified qualified beneficiaries waive the notice period by signed written instrument delivered to the authorized trustee, the authorized trustee's power to invade principal shall be exercisable immediately.
- (d) The <u>authorized</u> trustee's notice under this subsection does shall not limit the right of any beneficiary to object to the exercise of the <u>authorized</u> trustee's power to invade principal except as <u>otherwise</u> provided in other applicable provisions of this code.
- PROHIBITION.—The exercise of the power to invade principal under subsection (2), subsection (3), or subsection (4) (1) is not prohibited by a spendthrift clause or by a provision in the trust instrument that prohibits amendment or revocation of the trust.
- (10) (6) NO DUTY TO EXERCISE.—Nothing in this section is intended to create or imply a duty to exercise a power to invade principal, and no inference of impropriety may shall be made as

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a result of <u>an authorized trustee's failure to exercise</u> a trustee not exercising the power to invade principal conferred under subsections (2), (3), and (4) subsection (1).

(11) (7) NO ABRIDGEMENT OF COMMON LAW RIGHTS.—The provisions of This section may shall not be construed to abridge the right of any trustee who has a power of invasion to appoint property in further trust that arises under the terms of the first trust or under any other section of this code or under another provision of law or under common law.

Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 736.08135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.08135 Trust accountings.—

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) govern the form and content of This section applies to all trust accountings rendered for any accounting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2003, and all trust accountings rendered on or after July 1, 2017. This subsection does not affect the beginning period from which a trustee is required to render a trust accounting.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 736.1008, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1008 Limitations on proceedings against trustees.-

(3) When a trustee has not issued a final trust accounting or has not given written notice to the beneficiary of the availability of the trust records for examination and that claims with respect to matters not adequately disclosed may be

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barred, a claim against the trustee for breach of trust based on a matter not adequately disclosed in a trust disclosure document is barred as provided in chapter 95 and accrues when the beneficiary has actual knowledge of:

- (a) The facts upon which the claim is based, if such actual knowledge is established by clear and convincing evidence; or
- (b) The trustee's repudiation of the trust or adverse possession of trust assets.

Paragraph (a) applies to claims based upon acts or omissions occurring on or after July 1, 2008. A beneficiary's actual knowledge that he or she has not received a trust accounting does not cause a claim to accrue against the trustee for breach of trust based upon the failure to provide a trust accounting required by s. 736.0813 or former s. 737.303, and does not commence the running of any period of limitations or laches for such a claim, and paragraph (a) and chapter 95 do not bar any such claim.

Section 8. The changes to s. 736.08135, Florida Statutes, and s. 736.1008, Florida Statutes, made by this act are intended to clarify existing law, are remedial in nature, and apply retroactively to all cases pending or commenced on or after July 1, 2017.

Section 9. Present subsections (2), (3), and (4) of

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section 736.1201, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, present subsection (5) of that section is amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

736.1201 Definitions.—As used in this part:

- (2) "Delivery of notice" means delivery of a written notice required under this part using any commercial delivery service requiring a signed receipt or by any form of mail requiring a signed receipt.
- (5) "State attorney" means the state attorney for the judicial circuit of the principal place of administration of the trust pursuant to s. 736.0108.

Section 10. Section 736.1205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1205 Notice that this part does not apply.—In the case of a power to make distributions, if the trustee determines that the governing instrument contains provisions that are more restrictive than s. 736.1204(2), or if the trust contains other powers, inconsistent with the provisions of s. 736.1204(3) that specifically direct acts by the trustee, the trustee shall notify the state Attorney General by delivery of notice when the trust becomes subject to this part. Section 736.1204 does not apply to any trust for which notice has been given pursuant to this section unless the trust is amended to comply with the terms of this part.

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Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 736.1206, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1206 Power to amend trust instrument.

- (2) In the case of a charitable trust that is not subject to the provisions of subsection (1), the trustee may amend the governing instrument to comply with the provisions of s.

 736.1204(2) after delivery of notice to, and with the consent of, the state Attorney General.
- Section 12. Section 736.1207, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1207 Power of court to permit deviation.—This part does not affect the power of a court to relieve a trustee from any restrictions on the powers and duties that are placed on the trustee by the governing instrument or applicable law for cause shown and on complaint of the trustee, the Attorney General state attorney, or an affected beneficiary and notice to the affected parties.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 736.1208, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1208 Release; property and persons affected; manner of effecting.—

- (4) Delivery of a release shall be accomplished as follows:
- (b) If the release is accomplished by reducing the class of permissible charitable organizations, by delivery of $\frac{1}{2}$

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copy of the release to the state Attorney General, including a
copy of the release.

Section 14. Section 736.1209, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

736.1209 Election to come under this part.—With the consent of that organization or organizations, a trustee of a trust for the benefit of a public charitable organization or organizations may come under s. 736.1208(5) by delivery of notice to filing with the state Attorney General of the an election, accompanied by the proof of required consent. Thereafter the trust shall be subject to s. 736.1208(5).

Section 15. Except as otherwise provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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