



D I S T R I C T O F C O L U M B I A B A R
Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section

1250 H Street NW
Sixth Floor
Washington, DC
20005-5937

202-626-3463
FAX 202-626-3453
www.dcbbar.org/sections

Sections EventLine
202-626-3455

Section Web Site Address:
www.dcbbar.org/estates

D.C. Bar Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section
RE: PROPOSED REVISED UNIFORM DISCLAIMERS OF
PROPERTY INTERESTS ACT

The Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section ¹ of the District of Columbia Bar endorses the enactment of the proposed Revised Uniform Disclaimers of Property Interests Act (RUDPIA), now pending before the Council of the District of Columbia.

Authors and Contributors to this Statement:
Edward G. Varrone, Kimberly Martin Turner, and Morris Klein

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this public statement represent only those of the Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar, and not those of the District of Columbia Bar or of its Board of Governors.

¹ Steering Committee of the Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section: Kimberly Martin Turner (Co-Chair), Edward G. Varrone (Co-Chair), Robert S. Bullock, Morris Klein, Anne Meister, Barbara R. Miller, Julia L. O'Brien, Archie L. Palmore, Paul D. Pearlstein



D I S T R I C T O F C O L U M B I A B A R
Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section

**PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE D.C. BAR ESTATES, TRUSTS AND
PROBATE LAW SECTION ON ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED
REVISED UNIFORM DISCLAIMER OF PROPERTY INTERESTS ACT**

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The Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar, whose members include lawyers who both advise clients on assets protection and planning for disability or death and assist clients to administer decedents' estates, trusts and assets of incapacitated persons, supports the enactment of the Revised Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act (RUDPIA), now pending before the Council of the District of Columbia.

Disclaimers are an important tool in estate planning and in the administration of trusts and decedent estates. A disclaimer allows the beneficiary of an interest in an estate or a trust to disclaim or renounce that interest, thereby allowing that interest to pass to an alternate beneficiary. Disclaimers permit post-mortem estate planning, allow the intent of a testator to be effective even where circumstances may have changed, and allow beneficiaries of an interest in property and fiduciaries the flexibility to accept, or renounce, an interest in property as deemed most beneficial to the disclaiming person.

The District of Columbia has previously enacted legislation permitting disclaimers in certain cases. However, since the enactment of disclaimer law in D.C., the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, in 2002, revised the then-existing Uniform Disclaimer of Property Interests Act. The 2002 revision has already been adopted in Maryland and Virginia. It would be of great benefit to the public and to the attorneys and trust administrators who serve them to have identical disclaimer laws of all three jurisdictions in the Washington metropolitan area.

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