

RCW 71.32.100 Appointment of agent. (1) If a directive authorizes the appointment of an agent, the provisions of chapter 11.125 RCW and RCW 7.70.065 shall apply unless otherwise stated in this chapter.

(2) The principal who appoints an agent must notify the agent in writing of the appointment.

(3) An agent must act in good faith.

(4) An agent may make decisions on behalf of the principal. Unless the principal has revoked the directive, the decisions must be consistent with the instructions and preferences the principal has expressed in the directive, or if not expressed, as otherwise known to the agent. If the principal's instructions or preferences are not known, the agent shall make a decision he or she determines is in the best interest of the principal.

(5) A person authorized to act as an agent during periods when the principal is incapacitated may act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the health insurance portability and accountability act, sections 1171 through 1179 of the social security act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1320d, as amended, and applicable regulations, to obtain access to the principal's health care information and communicate with the principal's health care provider. This subsection shall be construed to be consistent with chapters 70.02, 70.24, 71.05, and 71.34 RCW, and with federal law regarding health care information.

(6) Unless otherwise provided in the appointment and agreed to in writing by the agent, the agent is not, as a result of acting in the capacity of agent, personally liable for the cost of treatment provided to the principal.

(7) An agent may resign or withdraw at any time by giving written notice to the principal. The agent must also give written notice to any health care provider, professional person, or health care facility providing treatment to the principal. The resignation or withdrawal is effective upon receipt unless otherwise specified in the resignation or withdrawal.

(8) If the directive gives the agent authority to act while the principal has capacity, the decisions of the principal supersede those of the agent at any time the principal has capacity.

(9) An agent's authority terminates when an action is filed for the dissolution or annulment of the agent's marriage to the principal or for their legal separation, or an action is filed for dissolution or annulment of the agent's state registered domestic partnership with the principal or for their legal separation.

(10) Unless otherwise provided in the durable power of attorney, the principal may revoke the agent's appointment as provided under other state law. [2021 c 287 s 10; 2016 c 209 s 410; 2003 c 283 s 10.]

**Short title—Application—Uniformity—Federal law application—
Federal electronic signatures in global and national commerce act—
Application—Dates—Effective date—2016 c 209:** See RCW 11.125.010 and 11.125.900 through 11.125.903.