

## AN ACT

1 Amending Title 20 (Decedents, Estates and Fiduciaries) of the  
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in powers of attorney,  
3 providing for investigation of financial abuse and  
4 mismanagement and for jurisdiction and venue.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 20 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding sections to read:

9 § 5613. Investigation of financial abuse and mismanagement.

10 The court may order an investigation, appoint a guardian ad  
11 litem, make a referral to an appropriate agency or take any  
12 other appropriate action regarding allegations that a principal  
13 is suffering from financial abuse or mismanagement by the  
14 principal's agent under a power of attorney:

15 (1) upon petition by an appropriate party and a  
16 reasonable showing of the financial abuse or mismanagement;

17 or

18 (2) after the court is otherwise informed of the

1 financial abuse or mismanagement.

2 § 5614. Jurisdiction and venue.

3 (a) County having venue.--Venue of any matter pertaining to  
4 the exercise of a power by an agent acting under a power of  
5 attorney as provided in this chapter shall be in the county in  
6 which the principal is domiciled, a resident or residing in a  
7 long-term care facility.

8 (b) Declining jurisdiction.--

9 (1) A court having jurisdiction may decline to exercise  
10 jurisdiction if at any time it determines that a court of  
11 another county or state is a more appropriate forum.

12 (2) If a court of this Commonwealth declines to exercise  
13 jurisdiction, it shall either dismiss the proceeding or stay  
14 the proceeding upon condition that a proceeding be promptly  
15 commenced in another county or state. A court may impose any  
16 other condition that it deems appropriate.

17 Section 2. The addition of 20 Pa.C.S. §§ 5613 and 5614 shall  
18 apply to powers of attorney executed on or after the effective  
19 date of this section.

20 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.