1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to estates; amending s. 732.2025,
3	F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s.
4	732.2035, F.S.; providing that a decedent's property
5	interest in the protected homestead is included in the
6	elective estate; amending s. 732.2045, F.S.; revising
7	the circumstances under which the decedent's property
8	interest in the protected homestead is excluded from
9	the elective estate; amending s. 732.2055, F.S.;
10	providing for the valuation of the decedent's
11	protected homestead under certain circumstances;
12	amending s. 732.2075, F.S.; conforming cross-
13	references; amending s. 732.2085, F.S.; requiring the
14	payment of interest on any unpaid portion of a
15	person's required contribution toward the elective
16	share with respect to certain property; amending s.
17	732.2095, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the
18	valuation of a surviving spouse's interest in property
19	to include protected homestead; conforming cross-
20	references; amending s. 732.2115; conforming a cross-
21	reference; amending s. 732.2135, F.S.; revising the
22	period within which a specified person may petition
23	the court for an extension of time for making an
24	election; removing a provision authorizing assessment
25	of attorney fees and costs if an election is made in
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26 bad faith; amending s. 732.2145, F.S.; requiring the 27 payment of interest on any unpaid portion of a 28 person's required contribution toward the elective 29 share after a certain date; creating s. 732.2151, 30 F.S.; providing for the award of fees and costs in certain elective share proceedings; providing that a 31 32 court may direct payment from certain sources; 33 providing applicability; amending s. 738.606, F.S.; providing that a surviving spouse may require a 34 trustee of a marital or elective share trust to make 35 property productive of income; providing 36 37 applicability; providing an effective date. 38 39 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 40 41 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (9) of section 732.2025, 42 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 43 732.2025 Definitions.-As used in ss. 732.2025-732.2155, 44 the term: 45 "Direct recipient" means the decedent's probate estate (1)46 and any other person who receives property included in the elective estate by transfer from the decedent, including 47 transfers described in s. 732.2035(9) s. 732.2035(8), by right 48 of survivorship, or by beneficiary designation under a governing 49 50 instrument. For this purpose, a beneficiary of an insurance Page 2 of 22

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51 policy on the decedent's life, the net cash surrender value of 52 which is included in the elective estate, is treated as having 53 received property included in the elective estate. In the case 54 of property held in trust, "direct recipient" includes the 55 trustee but excludes the beneficiaries of the trust.

56 (9) "Revocable trust" means a trust that is includable in 57 the elective estate under <u>s. 732.2035(5)</u> s. 732.2035(4).

58 Section 2. Section 732.2035, Florida Statutes, is amended 59 to read:

60 732.2035 Property entering into elective estate.—Except as 61 provided in s. 732.2045, the elective estate consists of the sum 62 of the values as determined under s. 732.2055 of the following 63 property interests:

64

(1) The decedent's probate estate.

(2) <u>The decedent's interest in property which constitutes</u>
 the protected homestead of the decedent.

67 The decedent's ownership interest in accounts or (3) securities registered in "Pay On Death," "Transfer On Death," 68 69 "In Trust For," or coownership with right of survivorship form. 70 For this purpose, "decedent's ownership interest" means, in the 71 case of accounts or securities held in tenancy by the entirety, 72 one-half of the value of the account or security, and in all other cases, that portion of the accounts or securities which 73 74 the decedent had, immediately before death, the right to 75 withdraw or use without the duty to account to any person.

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76 <u>(4)-(3)</u> The decedent's fractional interest in property, 77 other than property described in subsection <u>(3)-(2)</u> or subsection 78 <u>(8)-(7)</u>, held by the decedent in joint tenancy with right of 79 survivorship or in tenancy by the entirety. For this purpose, 80 "decedent's fractional interest in property" means the value of 81 the property divided by the number of tenants.

82 (5) (4) That portion of property, other than property 83 described in subsection (2) and subsection (3), transferred by the decedent to the extent that at the time of the decedent's 84 death the transfer was revocable by the decedent alone or in 85 conjunction with any other person. This subsection does not 86 87 apply to a transfer that is revocable by the decedent only with 88 the consent of all persons having a beneficial interest in the 89 property.

90 (6)(a)(5)(a) That portion of property, other than property 91 described in subsection (2)(3), subsection (4), <u>subsection (5)</u>, 92 or subsection (8)(7), transferred by the decedent to the extent 93 that at the time of the decedent's death:

The decedent possessed the right to, or in fact enjoyed
 the possession or use of, the income or principal of the
 property; or

97 2. The principal of the property could, in the discretion
98 of any person other than the spouse of the decedent, be
99 distributed or appointed to or for the benefit of the decedent.
100

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101 In the application of this subsection, a right to payments under a commercial or private annuity, an annuity trust, a unitrust, 102 103 or a similar arrangement shall be treated as a right to that 104 portion of the income of the property necessary to equal the 105 annuity, unitrust, or other payment.

106

The amount included under this subsection is: (b)

107 1. With respect to subparagraph (a)1., the value of the 108 portion of the property to which the decedent's right or 109 enjoyment related, to the extent the portion passed to or for 110 the benefit of any person other than the decedent's probate estate; and 111

112 2. With respect to subparagraph (a)2., the value of the portion subject to the discretion, to the extent the portion 113 114 passed to or for the benefit of any person other than the 115 decedent's probate estate.

This subsection does not apply to any property if the 116 (C) 117 decedent's only interests in the property are that:

118 The property could be distributed to or for the benefit 1. 119 of the decedent only with the consent of all persons having a beneficial interest in the property; or 120

121 The income or principal of the property could be 2. 122 distributed to or for the benefit of the decedent only through the exercise or in default of an exercise of a general power of 123 appointment held by any person other than the decedent; or 124 3. The income or principal of the property is or could be

125

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126 distributed in satisfaction of the decedent's obligation of 127 support; or

4. The decedent had a contingent right to receive
principal, other than at the discretion of any person, which
contingency was beyond the control of the decedent and which had
not in fact occurred at the decedent's death.

132 <u>(7)(6)</u> The decedent's beneficial interest in the net cash 133 surrender value immediately before death of any policy of 134 insurance on the decedent's life.

135 (8) (7) The value of amounts payable to or for the benefit of any person by reason of surviving the decedent under any 136 137 public or private pension, retirement, or deferred compensation plan, or any similar arrangement, other than benefits payable 138 139 under the federal Railroad Retirement Act or the federal Social 140 Security System. In the case of a defined contribution plan as defined in s. 414(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as 141 142 amended, this subsection shall not apply to the excess of the proceeds of any insurance policy on the decedent's life over the 143 net cash surrender value of the policy immediately before the 144 145 decedent's death.

146 <u>(9)(8)</u> Property that was transferred during the 1-year 147 period preceding the decedent's death as a result of a transfer 148 by the decedent if the transfer was either of the following 149 types:

150

(a) Any property transferred as a result of the

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151 termination of a right or interest in, or power over, property 152 that would have been included in the elective estate under 153 subsection (5)(4) or subsection (6)(5) if the right, interest, 154 or power had not terminated until the decedent's death.

(b) Any transfer of property to the extent not otherwise included in the elective estate, made to or for the benefit of any person, except:

Any transfer of property for medical or educational
 expenses to the extent it qualifies for exclusion from the
 United States gift tax under s. 2503(e) of the Internal Revenue
 Code, as amended; and

162 2. After the application of subparagraph 1., the first annual exclusion amount of property transferred to or for the 163 164 benefit of each donee during the 1-year period, but only to the 165 extent the transfer qualifies for exclusion from the United 166 States gift tax under s. 2503(b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue 167 Code, as amended. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "annual exclusion amount" means the amount of one annual 168 169 exclusion under s. 2503(b) or (c) of the Internal Revenue Code, 170 as amended.

171 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), for purposes of 172 this subsection:

173 1. A "termination" with respect to a right or interest in 174 property occurs when the decedent transfers or relinquishes the 175 right or interest, and, with respect to a power over property, a

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176 termination occurs when the power terminates by exercise, 177 release, lapse, default, or otherwise.

2. A distribution from a trust the income or principal of which is subject to subsection (5) (4), subsection (6) (5), or subsection (10) (9) shall be treated as a transfer of property by the decedent and not as a termination of a right or interest in, or a power over, property.

183 (d) Notwithstanding anything in paragraph (c) to the 184 contrary:

185 1. A "termination" with respect to a right or interest in 186 property does not occur when the right or interest terminates by 187 the terms of the governing instrument unless the termination is 188 determined by reference to the death of the decedent and the 189 court finds that a principal purpose for the terms of the 190 instrument relating to the termination was avoidance of the 191 elective share.

2. A distribution from a trust is not subject to this subsection if the distribution is required by the terms of the governing instrument unless the event triggering the distribution is determined by reference to the death of the decedent and the court finds that a principal purpose of the terms of the governing instrument relating to the distribution is avoidance of the elective share.

199 <u>(10)</u> (9) Property transferred in satisfaction of the 200 elective share.

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201	Section 3. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section
202	732.2045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
203	732.2045 Exclusions and overlapping application
204	(1) EXCLUSIONS.—Section 732.2035 does not apply to:
205	(i) Property which constitutes the protected homestead of
206	the decedent if the surviving spouse validly waived his or her
207	homestead rights as provided under s. 732.702, or otherwise
208	under applicable law, and such spouse did not receive any
209	interest in the protected homestead upon whether held by the
210	decedent or by a trust at the decedent's death.
211	Section 4. Section 732.2055, Florida Statutes, is amended
212	to read:
213	732.2055 Valuation of the elective estateFor purposes of
214	s. 732.2035, "value" means:
215	(1) (a) In the case of protected homestead:
216	1. If the surviving spouse receives a fee simple interest,
217	the fair market value of the protected homestead on the date of
218	the decedent's death.
219	2. If the spouse takes a life estate as provided in s.
220	732.401(1), or validly elects to take an undivided one-half
221	interest as a tenant in common as provided in s. 732.401(2),
222	one-half of the fair market value of the protected homestead on
223	the date of the decedent's death.
224	3. If the surviving spouse validly waived his or her
225	homestead rights as provided under s. 732.702 or otherwise under

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226 applicable law, but nevertheless receives an interest in the 227 protected homestead, other than an interest described in s. 228 732.401, including an interest in trust, the value of the spouse's interest is determined as property interests that are 229 230 not protected homestead. 231 (b) For purposes of this subsection, fair market value is 232 net of the aggregate amount, as of the date of the decedent's death, of all mortgages, liens, and security interests to which 233 234 the protected homestead is subject and for which the decedent is 235 liable, but only to the extent that such amount is not otherwise 236 deducted as a claim paid or payable from the elective estate. 237 (2) In the case of any policy of insurance on the decedent's life includable under s. 732.2035(5), (6), or (7) s. 238 732.2035(4), (5), or (6), the net cash surrender value of the 239 240 policy immediately before the decedent's death. 241 (3) (2) In the case of any policy of insurance on the decedent's life includable under s. 732.2035(9) s. 732.2035(8), 242 243 the net cash surrender value of the policy on the date of the 244 termination or transfer. 245 (4) (3) In the case of amounts includable under s. 246 $732.2035(8) = \frac{732.2035(7)}{7}$, the transfer tax value of the 247 amounts on the date of the decedent's death. (5) (4) In the case of other property included under s. 248 732.2035(9) s. 732.2035(8), the fair market value of the 249 250 property on the date of the termination or transfer, computed

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251 after deducting any mortgages, liens, or security interests on 252 the property as of that date.

253 (6)(5) In the case of all other property, the fair market
254 value of the property on the date of the decedent's death,
255 computed after deducting from the total value of the property:

(a) All claims paid or payable from the elective estate;and

(b) To the extent they are not deducted under paragraph
(a), all mortgages, liens, or security interests on the
property.

261 Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), paragraph (b) 262 of subsection (2), and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of 263 section 732.2075, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

264 732.2075 Sources from which elective share payable; 265 abatement.-

(1) Unless otherwise provided in the decedent's will or, in the absence of a provision in the decedent's will, in a trust referred to in the decedent's will, the following are applied first to satisfy the elective share:

(b) To the extent paid to or for the benefit of the
surviving spouse, amounts payable under any plan or arrangement
described in s. 732.2035(8) s. 732.2035(7).

(2) If, after the application of subsection (1), the
elective share is not fully satisfied, the unsatisfied balance
shall be allocated entirely to one class of direct recipients of

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the remaining elective estate and apportioned among those recipients, and if the elective share amount is not fully satisfied, to the next class of direct recipients, in the following order of priority, until the elective share amount is satisfied:

(b) Class 2.-Recipients of property interests, other than protected charitable interests, included in the elective estate under <u>s. 732.2035(3), (4), or (7)</u> s. 732.2035(2), (3), or (6) and, to the extent the decedent had at the time of death the power to designate the recipient of the property, property interests, other than protected charitable interests, included under <u>s. 732.2035(6) and (8)</u> s. 732.2035(5) and (7).

For purposes of this subsection, a protected charitable interest is any interest for which a charitable deduction with respect to the transfer of the property was allowed or allowable to the decedent or the decedent's spouse under the United States gift or income tax laws.

(3) If, after the application of subsections (1) and (2),
the elective share amount is not fully satisfied, the additional
amount due to the surviving spouse shall be determined and
satisfied as follows:

(c) If there is more than one trust to which this subsection could apply, unless otherwise provided in the decedent's will or, in the absence of a provision in the

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301	decedent's will, in a trust referred to in the decedent's will,
302	the unsatisfied balance shall be apportioned pro rata to all
303	such trusts in proportion to the value, as determined under <u>s.</u>
304	<u>732.2095(2)(f)</u> s. 732.2095(2)(d) , of the surviving spouse's
305	beneficial interests in the trusts.
306	Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
307	732.2085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
308	732.2085 Liability of direct recipients and
309	beneficiaries
310	(3) If a person pays the value of the property on the date
311	of a sale or exchange or contributes all of the property
312	received, as provided in paragraph (2)(b):
313	(a) No further contribution toward satisfaction of the
314	elective share shall be required with respect to that property.
315	However, if a person's required contribution is not fully paid
316	by 2 years after the date of the death of the decedent, such
317	person must also pay interest at the statutory rate on any
318	portion of the required contribution that remains unpaid.
319	Section 7. Section 732.2095, Florida Statutes, is amended
320	to read:
321	732.2095 Valuation of property used to satisfy elective
322	share
323	(1) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
324	(a) "Applicable valuation date" means:
325	1. In the case of transfers in satisfaction of the
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326 elective share, the date of the decedent's death.

327 2. In the case of property held in a qualifying special 328 needs trust on the date of the decedent's death, the date of the 329 decedent's death.

330 3. In the case of other property irrevocably transferred
331 to or for the benefit of the surviving spouse during the
332 decedent's life, the date of the transfer.

333 4. In the case of property distributed to the surviving334 spouse by the personal representative, the date of distribution.

5. Except as provided in subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3., in the case of property passing in trust for the surviving spouse, the date or dates the trust is funded in satisfaction of the elective share.

339 6. In the case of property described in <u>s. 732.2035(2)</u>, 340 (3), or (4) s. 732.2035(2) or (3), the date of the decedent's 341 death.

342 7. In the case of proceeds of any policy of insurance 343 payable to the surviving spouse, the date of the decedent's 344 death.

345 8. In the case of amounts payable to the surviving spouse 346 under any plan or arrangement described in <u>s. 732.2035(8)</u> s. 347 $\frac{732.2035(7)}{732.2035(7)}$, the date of the decedent's death.

348 9. In all other cases, the date of the decedent's death or 349 the date the surviving spouse first comes into possession of the 350 property, whichever occurs later.

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(b) "Qualifying power of appointment" means a general power of appointment that is exercisable alone and in all events by the decedent's spouse in favor of the spouse or the spouse's estate. For this purpose, a general power to appoint by will is a qualifying power of appointment if the power may be exercised by the spouse in favor of the spouse's estate without the consent of any other person.

358 (c) "Qualifying invasion power" means a power held by the 359 surviving spouse or the trustee of an elective share trust to 360 invade trust principal for the health, support, and maintenance 361 of the spouse. The power may, but need not, provide that the 362 other resources of the spouse are to be taken into account in 363 any exercise of the power.

364 (2) Except as provided in this subsection, the value of
 365 property for purposes of s. 732.2075 is the fair market value of
 366 the property on the applicable valuation date.

(a) If the surviving spouse has a life interest in
property not in trust that entitles the spouse to the use of the
property for life, <u>including</u>, without limitation, a life estate
<u>in protected homestead as provided in s. 732.401(1)</u>, the value
of the spouse's interest is one-half of the value of the
property on the applicable valuation date.

373 (b) If the surviving spouse elects to take an undivided 374 one-half interest in protected homestead as a tenant in common 375 as provided in s. 732.401(2), the value of the spouse's interest

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376 is one-half of the value of the property on the applicable	
377 <u>valuation date.</u>	
378 (c) If the surviving spouse validly waived his or her	
379 homestead rights as provided in s. 732.702 or otherwise under	
380 applicable law but nevertheless receives an interest in	
381 protected homestead, other than an interest described in s.	
382 <u>732.401, including, without limitation, an interest in trust,</u>	
383 the value of the spouse's interest is determined as property	
384 interests that are not protected homestead.	
385 (d) (b) If the surviving spouse has an interest in a trust,	
386 or portion of a trust, which meets the requirements of an	
387 elective share trust, the value of the spouse's interest is a	
388 percentage of the value of the principal of the trust, or trust	
389 portion, on the applicable valuation date as follows:	
390 1. One hundred percent if the trust instrument includes	
391 both a qualifying invasion power and a qualifying power of	
392 appointment.	
393 2. Eighty percent if the trust instrument includes a	
394 qualifying invasion power but no qualifying power of	
395 appointment.	
396 3. Fifty percent in all other cases.	
397 <u>(e) (c)</u> If the surviving spouse is a beneficiary of a	
398 trust, or portion of a trust, which meets the requirements of a	
399 qualifying special needs trust, the value of the principal of	
400 the trust, or trust portion, on the applicable valuation date.	
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401 (f) (d) If the surviving spouse has an interest in a trust that does not meet the requirements of either an elective share 402 403 trust or a qualifying special needs trust, the value of the 404 spouse's interest is the transfer tax value of the interest on 405 the applicable valuation date; however, the aggregate value of 406 all of the spouse's interests in the trust shall not exceed one-407 half of the value of the trust principal on the applicable 408 valuation date.

409 (g) (e) In the case of any policy of insurance on the 410 decedent's life the proceeds of which are payable outright or to 411 a trust described in paragraph (d) (b), paragraph (e) (c), or 412 paragraph (f) (d), the value of the policy for purposes of s. 413 732.2075 and paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) (b), (c), and (d) is 414 the net proceeds.

(h) (f) In the case of a right to one or more payments from an annuity or under a similar contractual arrangement or under any plan or arrangement described in <u>s. 732.2035(8)</u> s. 732.2035(7), the value of the right to payments for purposes of s. 732.2075 and paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) (b), (c), and (d) is the transfer tax value of the right on the applicable valuation date.

422 Section 8. Section 732.2115, Florida Statutes, is amended 423 to read:

424 732.2115 Protection of payors and other third parties.
425 Although a property interest is included in the decedent's

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426 elective estate under <u>s. 732.2035(3)-(9)</u> s. 732.2035(2)-(8), a 427 payor or other third party is not liable for paying, 428 distributing, or transferring the property to a beneficiary 429 designated in a governing instrument, or for taking any other 430 action in good faith reliance on the validity of a governing 431 instrument.

432 Section 9. Section 732.2135, Florida Statutes, is amended 433 to read:

732.2135 Time of election; extensions; withdrawal.-

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the election must be filed on or before the earlier of the date that is 6 months after the date of service of a copy of the notice of administration on the surviving spouse, or an attorney in fact or guardian of the property of the surviving spouse, or the date that is 2 years after the date of the decedent's death.

Within the period provided in subsection (1), or 40 441 (2) 442 days after the date of termination of any proceeding which 443 affects the amount the spouse is entitled to receive under s. 444 732.2075(1), whichever is later, but no more than 2 years after 445 the decedent's death, the surviving spouse or an attorney in 446 fact or guardian of the property of the surviving spouse may 447 petition the court for an extension of time for making an election. For good cause shown, the court may extend the time 448 for election. If the court grants the petition for an extension, 449 450 the election must be filed within the time allowed by the

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451	extension.	
452	(3) The surviving spouse or an attorney in fact, guardian	
453	of the property, or personal representative of the surviving	
454	spouse may withdraw an election at any time within 8 months	
455	after the decedent's death and before the court's order of	
456	contribution.	
457	(4) A petition for an extension of the time for making the	
458	election or for approval to make the election shall toll the	
459	time for making the election.	
460	(5) If the court determines that an election is made or	
461	pursued in bad faith, the court may assess attorney's fees and	
462	costs against the surviving spouse or the surviving spouse's	
463	estate.	
464	Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 732.2145, Florida	
465	Statutes, is amended to read:	
466	732.2145 Order of contribution; personal representative's	
467	duty to collect contribution	
468	(1) The court shall determine the elective share and	
469	contribution. Any amount of the elective share not satisfied	
470	within 2 years of the date of death of the decedent shall bear	
471	interest at the statutory rate until fully satisfied, even if an	
472	order of contribution has not yet been entered. Contributions	
473	shall bear interest at the statutory rate beginning 90 days	
474	after the order of contribution. The order is prima facie	
475	correct in proceedings in any court or jurisdiction.	

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476	Section 11. Section 732.2151, Florida Statutes, is created
477	to read:
478	732.2151 Award of fees and costs in elective share
479	proceedings
480	(1) The court may award taxable costs as in chancery
481	actions, including attorney fees, in any proceeding under this
482	part in which there is an objection to or dispute over:
483	(a) The entitlement to or the amount of the elective
484	share;
485	(b) The property interests included in the elective
486	estate, or its value; or
487	(c) The satisfaction of the elective share.
488	(2) When awarding taxable costs or attorney fees, the
489	court may do one or more of the following:
490	(a) Direct payment from the estate.
491	(b) Direct payment from a party's interest in the elective
492	share or the elective estate.
493	(c) Enter a judgement that can be satisfied from other
494	property of the party.
495	(3) In addition to any of the fees that may be awarded
496	under subsections (1) and (2), if the personal representative
497	does not file a petition to determine the amount of the elective
498	share as required by the Florida Probate Rules, the electing
499	spouse or the attorney-in-fact, guardian of the property, or
500	personal representative of the electing spouse may be awarded

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501 from the estate reasonable costs, including attorney fees, 502 incurred in connection with the preparation and filing of the 503 petition. 504 This section applies to all proceedings commenced on (4) 505 or after July 1, 2017, without regard to the date of the 506 decedent's death. Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 738.606, Florida 507 508 Statutes, is amended to read: 509 738.606 Property not productive of income.-If a marital deduction under the Internal Revenue Code 510 (1)511 or comparable law of any state is allowed for all or part of a 512 trust, or if assets are transferred to a trust that satisfies 513 the requirements of s. 732.2025(2)(a) and (c), and such assets 514 have been used in whole or in part to satisfy an election by a 515 surviving spouse under s. 732.2125 and the income of which must 516 be distributed to the grantor's spouse and the assets of which 517 consist substantially of property that, in the aggregate, does not provide the spouse with sufficient income from or use of the 518 519 trust assets, and if the amounts the trustee transfers from 520 principal to income under s. 738.104 and distributes to the 521 spouse from principal pursuant to the terms of the trust are 522 insufficient to provide the spouse with the beneficial enjoyment required to obtain the marital deduction, even though, in the 523 524 case of an elective share trust, a marital deduction is not made 525 or is only partially made, the spouse may require the trustee of

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526 <u>such marital trust or elective share trust</u> to make property 527 productive of income, convert property within a reasonable time, 528 or exercise the power conferred by ss. 738.104 and 738.1041. The 529 trustee may decide which action or combination of actions to 530 take.

531 Section 13. <u>Applicability.-Except as otherwise provided in</u> 532 <u>this act, the amendments made by this act apply to decedents</u> 533 whose death occurred on or after July 1, 2017.

534 Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

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