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CAREGIVING Across State Lines

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This is Jane. She lives in Ohio, but as her health has declined, her son John, who lives in North Carolina, has become her legal guardian, making decisions about her property, medical care, and living arrangements. Jane wants to move closer to John.

This is John. He lives in North Carolina but cares for his mother Jane, who lives in Ohio. Last year he racked up huge legal fees becoming his mother’s legal guardian in Ohio.

Because UAGPPJA isn’t law in North Carolina, our courts might not accept the guardianship court order from Ohio. John will now have to repeat a potentially expensive, time-consuming process in North Carolina.

While every family situation is different, the fact is: Caregiving situations change. And, caring for our loved ones across state lines should be consistent when it comes to the law. UAGPPJA simply:

A

Outlines a set of rules for transferring guardianship from one state to another.

B

Allows states to recognize and register guardianship orders from other states.

Creates a clear process for determining jurisdiction by designating the “home state.”

Protects seniors by giving the court information and authority to act on abuse and exploitation.