



TERRY E. BRANSTAD  
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

KIM REYNOLDS  
LT. GOVERNOR

April 4, 2012

The Honorable Matt Schultz  
Secretary of State of Iowa  
State Capitol Building  
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

Senate File 2265, an Act providing for notarial acts, providing for fees, and including effective date provisions.

The above Senate File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad".

Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

cc: Secretary of the Senate  
Clerk of the House



Senate File 2265

AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR NOTARIAL ACTS, PROVIDING FOR FEES, AND INCLUDING  
EFFECTIVE DATE PROVISIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

DIVISION I

REVISED UNIFORM LAW ON NOTARIAL ACTS

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 9B.1 Short title.

This chapter may be cited as the "*Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts*".

Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 9B.2 Definitions.

In this chapter:

1. "*Acknowledgment*" means a declaration by an individual before a notarial officer that the individual has signed a record for the purpose stated in the record and, if the record is signed in a representative capacity, that the individual signed the record with proper authority and signed it as the act of the individual or entity identified in the record.

2. "*Electronic*" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.

3. "*Electronic signature*" means an electronic symbol, sound, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by an individual with the intent to sign the record.

4. "*In a representative capacity*" means acting as any of the following:

a. An authorized officer, agent, partner, trustee, or other representative for a person other than an individual.

b. A public officer, personal representative, guardian, or other representative, in the capacity stated in a record.

c. An agent or attorney-in-fact for a principal.

d. An authorized representative of another in any other capacity.

5. "*Notarial act*" means an act, whether performed with respect to a tangible or electronic record, that a notarial officer may perform under the law of this state. The term includes taking an acknowledgment, administering an oath or affirmation, taking a verification on oath or affirmation, witnessing or attesting a signature, certifying or attesting a copy, and noting a protest of a negotiable instrument.

6. "*Notarial officer*" means a notary public or other individual authorized to perform a notarial act.

7. "*Notary public*" means an individual commissioned to perform a notarial act by the secretary of state.

8. "*Official stamp*" means a physical image affixed to or embossed on a tangible record or an electronic image attached to or logically associated with an electronic record.

9. "*Person*" means an individual, corporation, business trust, statutory trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

10. a. "*Personal appearance*" means an act of a party to physically appear within the presence of a notary public at the time the notarization occurs.

b. "*Personal appearance*" does not include appearances which require video, optical, or technology with similar capabilities.

11. "*Record*" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.

12. "*Sign*" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record, to do any of the following:

a. Execute or adopt a tangible symbol.

b. Attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.

13. "*Signature*" means a tangible symbol or an electronic signature that evidences the signing of a record.

14. "*Stamping device*" means any of the following:

a. A physical device capable of affixing to or embossing on a tangible record an official stamp.

b. An electronic device or process capable of attaching to or logically associating with an electronic record an official

stamp.

15. "*State*" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

16. "*Verification on oath or affirmation*" means a declaration, made by an individual on oath or affirmation before a notarial officer, that a statement in a record is true.

Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 9B.4 Authority to perform notarial act.

1. A notarial officer may perform a notarial act authorized by this chapter or by law of this state other than this chapter.

2. A notarial officer shall not perform a notarial act with respect to a record to which the notarial officer or the notarial officer's spouse is a party, or in which either of them has a direct beneficial interest. A notarial act performed in violation of this subsection is voidable.

Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 9B.5 Requirements for certain notarial acts.

1. A notarial officer who takes an acknowledgment of a record shall determine, from personal knowledge or satisfactory evidence of the identity of the individual, that the individual appearing before the notarial officer and making the acknowledgment has the identity claimed and that the signature on the record is the signature of the individual.

2. A notarial officer who takes a verification of a statement on oath or affirmation shall determine, from personal knowledge or satisfactory evidence of the identity of the individual, that the individual appearing before the notarial officer and making the verification has the identity claimed and that the signature on the statement verified is the signature of the individual.

3. A notarial officer who witnesses or attests to a signature shall determine, from personal knowledge or satisfactory evidence of the identity of the individual, that the individual appearing before the notarial officer and signing the record has the identity claimed.

4. A notarial officer who certifies or attests a copy of a record or an item that was copied shall determine that the copy is a full, true, and accurate transcription or reproduction of the record or item.