

**House Study Bill 556 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON SODERBERG)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act creating an exception to the statutory rule against  
2 perpetuities and making related changes.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 557.7, Code 2011, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **557.7 Contingent remainders.**

4 A Except as provided in section 558.68A, a contingent  
5 remainder shall take effect, notwithstanding any determination  
6 of the particular estate, in the same manner in which it  
7 would have taken effect if it had been an executory devise  
8 or a springing or shifting use, and shall, as well as such  
9 limitations, be subject to the rule respecting remoteness  
10 known as the rule against perpetuities, ~~exclusive of any other~~  
11 ~~supposed rule respecting limitations to successive generations~~  
12 ~~or double possibilities.~~

13 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **558.68A Exception to rule against**  
14 **perpetuities.**

15 1. Notwithstanding section 558.68, a rule of law against  
16 perpetuities, a suspension of the power of alienation of  
17 the title to property, or a law restricting or limiting the  
18 duration of trusts shall not apply with respect to any interest  
19 in real or personal property held in trust if the instrument  
20 creating the trust specifically states that such rule or the  
21 provisions of section 558.68 shall not apply to the trust and  
22 if either the trustee of the trust has unlimited power to sell  
23 all trust assets or if one or more persons, one of whom may be  
24 the trustee, has unlimited power to terminate the entire trust.

25 2. A trust of real or personal property created by  
26 an employer as part of a stock bonus plan, pension plan,  
27 disability or death benefit plan, or profit sharing plan, for  
28 the benefit of some or all the employer's employees, to which  
29 contributions are made by the employer or employees, or both,  
30 for the purposes of distributing to the employees or their  
31 beneficiaries the earnings or the principal, or both, of such  
32 trust is not invalid as violating the rule against perpetuities  
33 or any other law restricting or limiting the duration of  
34 trusts; but the trust may continue for the time that is  
35 necessary to accomplish the purposes for which it was created.

1 3. Subsection 1 shall be effective for interests in real  
2 or personal property in trust created by an inter vivos or  
3 testamentary trust or will executed on or after July 1, 2012,  
4 or pursuant to the exercise of a general power of appointment  
5 created on or after July 1, 2012. For the purposes of this  
6 subsection, "*general power of appointment*" means a power that is  
7 exercisable in favor of the individual possessing the power,  
8 the person's estate, the person's creditors, or the creditors  
9 of the person's estate.

10

EXPLANATION

11 This bill creates an exception to the statutory rule against  
12 perpetuities codified in Code section 558.68, which is a legal  
13 rule related to invalidating interests in property that are  
14 intended to belong to a person at some point in the future, but  
15 for which the actual determination of ownership cannot or will  
16 not be accomplished within a specified period of time. The  
17 purpose of the rule is to keep property from being frozen in  
18 trust beyond a certain period of years.

19 The bill allows a creator of a trust to suspend, explicitly  
20 in the trust document, the rule from applying to a particular  
21 trust, but only if the trustee has the power to sell all trust  
22 assets or if one or more people, including the trustee, has the  
23 power to terminate the trust.

24 The bill further allows suspension of the rule in situations  
25 where an employer creates a stock bonus plan, pension plan,  
26 disability or death benefit plan, or profit sharing plan, in  
27 trust, for the benefit of the employer's employees, for the  
28 purpose of distributing to the employees or their beneficiaries  
29 earnings or principal or both.

30 The bill applies to all interests in real or personal  
31 property created by testamentary or inter vivos trust or will  
32 be executed on or after July 1, 2012, or to the exercise of a  
33 general power of appointment created on or after July 1, 2012.