



**93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2003 and 2004**

Introduced 02/05/04, by Maria Antonia Berrios, Susana Mendoza,  
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**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

755 ILCS 5/11-5

from Ch. 110 1/2, par. 11-5

Amends the Probate Act of 1975. Provides that the court shall not appoint as guardian of the person of the minor any person who has been the subject of an indicated report under Section 3 of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act that has been confirmed by the Department of Children and Family Services. Effective January 1, 2005.

LRB093 20158 LCB 45903 b

1 AN ACT concerning estates.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Probate Act of 1975 is amended by changing  
5 Section 11-5 as follows:

6 (755 ILCS 5/11-5) (from Ch. 110 1/2, par. 11-5)

7 Sec. 11-5. Appointment of guardian.

8 (a) Upon the filing of a petition for the appointment of a  
9 guardian or on its own motion, the court may appoint a guardian  
10 of the estate or of both the person and estate, of a minor, or  
11 may appoint a guardian of the person only of a minor or minors,  
12 as the court finds to be in the best interest of the minor or  
13 minors.

14 (a-1) A parent, adoptive parent or adjudicated parent,  
15 whose parental rights have not been terminated, may designate  
16 in any writing, including a will, a person qualified to act  
17 under Section 11-3 to be appointed as guardian of the person or  
18 estate, or both, of an unmarried minor or of a child likely to  
19 be born. A parent, adoptive parent or adjudicated parent, whose  
20 parental rights have not been terminated, or a guardian or a  
21 standby guardian of an unmarried minor or of a child likely to  
22 be born may designate in any writing, including a will, a  
23 person qualified to act under Section 11-3 to be appointed as  
24 successor guardian of the minor's person or estate, or both.  
25 The designation must be witnessed by 2 or more credible  
26 witnesses at least 18 years of age, neither of whom is the  
27 person designated as the guardian. The designation may be  
28 proved by any competent evidence. If the designation is  
29 executed and attested in the same manner as a will, it shall  
30 have prima facie validity. The designation of a guardian or  
31 successor guardian does not affect the rights of the other  
32 parent in the minor.

1 (b) The court lacks jurisdiction to proceed on a petition  
2 for the appointment of a guardian of a minor if (i) the minor  
3 has a living parent, adoptive parent or adjudicated parent,  
4 whose parental rights have not been terminated, whose  
5 whereabouts are known, and who is willing and able to make and  
6 carry out day-to-day child care decisions concerning the minor,  
7 unless the parent or parents consent to the appointment or,  
8 after receiving notice of the hearing under Section 11-10.1,  
9 fail to object to the appointment at the hearing on the  
10 petition or (ii) there is a guardian for the minor appointed by  
11 a court of competent jurisdiction. There shall be a rebuttable  
12 presumption that a parent of a minor is willing and able to  
13 make and carry out day-to-day child care decisions concerning  
14 the minor, but the presumption may be rebutted by a  
15 preponderance of the evidence.

16 (b-1) If the court finds the appointment of a guardian of  
17 the minor to be in the best interest of the minor, and if a  
18 standby guardian has previously been appointed for the minor  
19 under Section 11-5.3, the court shall appoint the standby  
20 guardian as the guardian of the person or estate, or both, of  
21 the minor unless the court finds, upon good cause shown, that  
22 the appointment would no longer be in the best interest of the  
23 minor.

24 (c) If the minor is 14 years of age or more, the minor may  
25 nominate the guardian of the minor's person and estate, subject  
26 to approval of the court. If the minor's nominee is not  
27 approved by the court or if, after notice to the minor, the  
28 minor fails to nominate a guardian of the minor's person or  
29 estate, the court may appoint the guardian without nomination.

30 (d) The court shall not appoint as guardian of the person  
31 of the minor any person (i) who has been the subject of an  
32 indicated report under Section 3 of the Abused and Neglected  
33 Child Reporting Act that has been confirmed by the Department  
34 of Children and Family Services, or (ii) whom the court has  
35 determined had caused or substantially contributed to the minor  
36 becoming a neglected or abused minor as defined in the Juvenile

1 Court Act of 1987 unless 2 years have elapsed since the last  
2 proven incident of abuse or neglect and the court determines  
3 that appointment of such person as guardian is in the best  
4 interests of the minor.

5 (e) Previous statements made by the minor relating to any  
6 allegations that the minor is an abused or neglected child  
7 within the meaning of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting  
8 Act, or an abused or neglected minor within the meaning of the  
9 Juvenile Court Act of 1987, shall be admissible in evidence in  
10 a hearing concerning appointment of a guardian of the person or  
11 estate of the minor. No such statement, however, if  
12 uncorroborated and not subject to cross-examination, shall be  
13 sufficient in itself to support a finding of abuse or neglect.

14 (Source: P.A. 90-430, eff. 8-16-97; 90-472, eff. 8-17-97;  
15 90-796, eff. 12-15-98.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
17 1, 2005.