	201/72
1	
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, F.S.; conforming a
21	cross-reference; amending s. 732.2135, F.S.; revising
22	the period within which a specified person may
23	petition the court for an extension of time for making
24	an election; removing a provision authorizing
25	assessment of attorney fees and costs if an election
26	is made in bad faith; amending s. 732.2145, F.S.;
27	requiring the payment of interest on any unpaid
28	portion of a person's required contribution toward the
29	elective share after a certain date; creating s.

Page 1 of 19

	2017724er
30	732.2151, F.S.; providing for the award of fees and
31	costs in certain elective share proceedings; providing
32	that a court may direct payment from certain sources;
33	providing applicability; amending s. 738.606, F.S.;
34	providing that a surviving spouse may require a
35	trustee of a marital or elective share trust to make
36	property productive of income; providing
37	applicability; providing an effective date.
38	approaprint, providing an erroectie adde.
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 DefinitionsAs used in ss. 732.2025-732.2155, the
44	term:
45	(1) "Direct recipient" means the decedent's probate estate
46	and any other person who receives property included in the
47	elective estate by transfer from the decedent, including
48	transfers described in <u>s. 732.2035(9)</u> s. 732.2035(8) , by right
49	of survivorship, or by beneficiary designation under a governing
50	instrument. For this purpose, a beneficiary of an insurance
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

Page 2 of 19

2017724er 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: (1) The decedent's probate estate. 64 (2) The decedent's interest in property which constitutes 65 66 the protected homestead of the decedent. 67 (3) The decedent's ownership interest in accounts or securities registered in "Pay On Death," "Transfer On Death," 68 "In Trust For," or coownership with right of survivorship form. 69 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 73 other cases, that portion of the accounts or securities which 74 the decedent had, immediately before death, the right to 75 withdraw or use without the duty to account to any person. (4) (4) (3) The decedent's fractional interest in property, 76 77 other than property described in subsection (3) (2) or subsection 78 (8) (7), held by the decedent in joint tenancy with right of 79 survivorship or in tenancy by the entirety. For this purpose, "decedent's fractional interest in property" means the value of 80 the property divided by the number of tenants. 81 82 (5) (4) That portion of property, other than property

described in subsection (2) <u>and subsection (3)</u>, transferred by the decedent to the extent that at the time of the decedent's death the transfer was revocable by the decedent alone or in conjunction with any other person. This subsection does not apply to a transfer that is revocable by the decedent only with

Page 3 of 19

2017724er 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), subsection (5), or subsection (8) (7), transferred by the decedent to the extent 92 that at the time of the decedent's death: 93 94 1. The decedent possessed the right to, or in fact enjoyed 95 the possession or use of, the income or principal of the 96 property; or 97 2. The principal of the property could, in the discretion of any person other than the spouse of the decedent, be 98 99 distributed or appointed to or for the benefit of the decedent. 100 In the application of this subsection, a right to payments under 101 102 a commercial or private annuity, an annuity trust, a unitrust, 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 (b) The amount included under this subsection is: 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 111 estate; and 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. (c) This subsection does not apply to any property if the 116

Page 4 of 19

117 decedent's only interests in the property are that:

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

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

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

Page 5 of 19

ENROLLED 2017 Legislature

2017724er

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:

(a) Any property transferred as a result of the termination of a right or interest in, or power over, property that would have been included in the elective estate under subsection (5)(4) or subsection (6)(5) if the right, interest, 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:

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

Page 6 of 19

175 right or interest, and, with respect to a power over property, a 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.

192 2. A distribution from a trust is not subject to this 193 subsection if the distribution is required by the terms of the 194 governing instrument unless the event triggering the 195 distribution is determined by reference to the death of the 196 decedent and the court finds that a principal purpose of the 197 terms of the governing instrument relating to the distribution 198 is avoidance of the elective share.

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

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.-

Page 7 of 19

2017724er 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 under applicable law, and such spouse did not receive any 208 209 interest in the protected homestead upon the decedent's death whether held by the decedent or by a trust at the decedent's 210 211 death. 212 Section 4. Section 732.2055, Florida Statutes, is amended 213 to read: 214 732.2055 Valuation of the elective estate.-For purposes of s. 732.2035, "value" means: 215 216 (1) (a) In the case of protected homestead: 217 1. If the surviving spouse receives a fee simple interest, the fair market value of the protected homestead on the date of 218 219 the decedent's death. 220 2. If the spouse takes a life estate as provided in s. 221 732.401(1), or validly elects to take an undivided one-half 222 interest as a tenant in common as provided in s. 732.401(2), 223 one-half of the fair market value of the protected homestead on 224 the date of the decedent's death. 225 3. If the surviving spouse validly waived his or her 226 homestead rights as provided under s. 732.702 or otherwise under 227 applicable law, but nevertheless receives an interest in the 228 protected homestead, other than an interest described in s. 732.401, including an interest in trust, the value of the 229 230 spouse's interest is determined as property interests that are 231 not protected homestead. 232 (b) For purposes of this subsection, fair market value

Page 8 of 19

233 <u>shall be calculated by deducting from the total value of the</u> 234 <u>property all mortgages, liens, and security interests to which</u> 235 <u>the protected homestead is subject and for which the decedent is</u> 236 <u>liable, but only to the extent that such amount is not otherwise</u> 237 <u>deducted as a claim paid or payable from the elective estate.</u>

238 (2) In the case of any policy of insurance on the 239 decedent's life includable under <u>s. 732.2035(5)</u>, (6), or (7) s. 240 732.2035(4), (5), or (6), the net cash surrender value of the 241 policy immediately before the decedent's death.

 $\begin{array}{c} \underline{(3)}(2) \\ \hline (3)(2) \\ \hline ($

 $\frac{(4)(3)}{(3)}$ In the case of amounts includable under <u>s.</u> 247 $\frac{732.2035(8)}{(3)} = \frac{732.2035(7)}{(7)}$, the transfer tax value of the 248 amounts on the date of the decedent's death.

254 <u>(6) (5)</u> In the case of all other property, the fair market 255 value of the property on the date of the decedent's death, 256 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.

Page 9 of 19

ENROLLED 2017 Legislature

2017724er 262 Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1), paragraph (b) 263 of subsection (2), and paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of 264 section 732.2075, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 265 732.2075 Sources from which elective share payable; 266 abatement.-(1) Unless otherwise provided in the decedent's will or, in 267 268 the absence of a provision in the decedent's will, in a trust referred to in the decedent's will, the following are applied 269 270 first to satisfy the elective share: 271 (b) To the extent paid to or for the benefit of the surviving spouse, amounts payable under any plan or arrangement 272 described in s. 732.2035(8) s. 732.2035(7). 273 (2) If, after the application of subsection (1), the 274 elective share is not fully satisfied, the unsatisfied balance 275 shall be allocated entirely to one class of direct recipients of 276 277 the remaining elective estate and apportioned among those 278 recipients, and if the elective share amount is not fully 279 satisfied, to the next class of direct recipients, in the 280 following order of priority, until the elective share amount is satisfied: 281 (b) Class 2.-Recipients of property interests, other than 282 protected charitable interests, included in the elective estate 283 284 under s. 732.2035(3), (4), or (7) s. 732.2035(2), (3), or (6) 285 and, to the extent the decedent had at the time of death the 286 power to designate the recipient of the property, property 287 interests, other than protected charitable interests, included 288 under s. 732.2035(6) and (8) s. 732.2035(5) and (7). 289 290 For purposes of this subsection, a protected charitable interest

Page 10 of 19

2017724er 291 is any interest for which a charitable deduction with respect to 292 the transfer of the property was allowed or allowable to the 293 decedent or the decedent's spouse under the United States gift 294 or income tax laws. 295 (3) If, after the application of subsections (1) and (2), 296 the elective share amount is not fully satisfied, the additional 297 amount due to the surviving spouse shall be determined and satisfied as follows: 298 (c) If there is more than one trust to which this 299 300 subsection could apply, unless otherwise provided in the 301 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, 302 303 the unsatisfied balance shall be apportioned pro rata to all 304 such trusts in proportion to the value, as determined under s. 732.2095(2)(f) s. 732.2095(2)(d), of the surviving spouse's 305 306 beneficial interests in the trusts. 307 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 308 732.2085, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 309 732.2085 Liability of direct recipients and beneficiaries.-310 (3) If a person pays the value of the property on the date of a sale or exchange or contributes all of the property 311 312 received, as provided in paragraph (2)(b): (a) No further contribution toward satisfaction of the 313 314 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

Page 11 of 19

2017724er 320 to read: 732.2095 Valuation of property used to satisfy elective 321 322 share.-323 (1) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term: 324 (a) "Applicable valuation date" means: 1. In the case of transfers in satisfaction of the elective 325 326 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 decedent's death. 329 330 3. In the case of other property irrevocably transferred to or for the benefit of the surviving spouse during the decedent's 331 332 life, the date of the transfer. 333 4. In the case of property distributed to the surviving 334 spouse by the personal representative, the date of distribution. 335 5. Except as provided in subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3., in 336 the case of property passing in trust for the surviving spouse, 337 the date or dates the trust is funded in satisfaction of the 338 elective share. 6. In the case of property described in s. 732.2035(2), 339 (3), or (4) s. 732.2035(2) or (3), the date of the decedent's 340 death. 341 342 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 s. 732.2035(8) s. 732.2035(7), the date of the decedent's death. 347 348 9. In all other cases, the date of the decedent's death or

Page 12 of 19

2017724er 349 the date the surviving spouse first comes into possession of the 350 property, whichever occurs later.

(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 in
<u>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.

(b) If the surviving spouse elects to take an undivided one-half interest in protected homestead as a tenant in common as provided in s. 732.401(2), the value of the spouse's interest is one-half of the value of the property on the applicable valuation date.

Page 13 of 19

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	732.401, including, without limitation, an interest in trust,
383	the value of the spouse's interest is determined as property
384	interests that are not protected homestead.
385	<u>(d) (b)</u> 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 trust,
398	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.
401	<u>(f)</u> (d) If the surviving spouse has an interest in a trust
402	that does not meet the requirements of either an elective share
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-

Page 14 of 19

407 half of the value of the trust principal on the applicable408 valuation date.

409 (g) (c) 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 426 elective estate under s. $732.2035(3) - (9) = \frac{732.2035(2) - (8)}{32.2035(2) - (8)}$, 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:

434 732.2135 Time of election; extensions; withdrawal.435 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the election must

Page 15 of 19

2017724er 436 be filed on or before the earlier of the date that is 6 months 437 after the date of service of a copy of the notice of 438 administration on the surviving spouse, or an attorney in fact 439 or quardian of the property of the surviving spouse, or the date 440 that is 2 years after the date of the decedent's death. (2) Within the period provided in subsection (1), or 40 441 442 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 petition the court for an extension of time for making an 447 448 election. For good cause shown, the court may extend the time 449 for election. If the court grants the petition for an extension, 450 the election must be filed within the time allowed by the 451 extension.

(3) The surviving spouse or an attorney in fact, guardian of the property, or personal representative of the surviving spouse may withdraw an election at any time within 8 months after the decedent's death and before the court's order of contribution.

(4) A petition for an extension of the time for making the
election or for approval to make the election shall toll the
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.

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Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 732.2145, Florida

Page 16 of 19

	2017724er
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.
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 share;
484	(b) The property interests included in the elective estate,
485	or its value; or
486	(c) The satisfaction of the elective share.
487	(2) When awarding taxable costs or attorney fees, the court
488	may do one or more of the following:
489	(a) Direct payment from the estate.
490	(b) Direct payment from a party's interest in the elective
491	share or the elective estate.
492	(c) Enter a judgement that can be satisfied from other
493	property of the party.

Page 17 of 19

	. 2017724er
494	(3) In addition to any of the fees that may be awarded
495	under subsections (1) and (2), if the personal representative
496	does not file a petition to determine the amount of the elective
497	share as required by the Florida Probate Rules, the electing
498	spouse or the attorney in fact, guardian of the property, or
499	personal representative of the electing spouse may be awarded
500	from the estate reasonable costs, including attorney fees,
501	incurred in connection with the preparation and filing of the
502	petition.
503	(4) This section applies to all proceedings commenced on or
504	after July 1, 2017, without regard to the date of the decedent's
505	death.
506	Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 738.606, Florida
507	Statutes, is amended to read:
508	738.606 Property not productive of income
509	(1) If a marital deduction under the Internal Revenue Code
510	or comparable law of any state is allowed for all or part of a
511	trust, or if assets are transferred to a trust that satisfies
512	the requirements of s. 732.2025(2)(a) and (c), and such assets
513	have been used in whole or in part to satisfy an election by a
514	surviving spouse under s. 732.2125 and the income of which must
515	be distributed to the grantor's spouse and the assets of which
516	consist substantially of property that <u>, in the aggregate,</u> does
517	not provide the spouse with sufficient income from or use of the
518	trust assets, and if the amounts the trustee transfers from
519	principal to income under s. 738.104 and distributes to the
520	spouse from principal pursuant to the terms of the trust are
521	insufficient to provide the spouse with the beneficial enjoyment
522	required to obtain the marital deduction, even though, in the

Page 18 of 19

	2017724er
523	case of an elective share trust, a marital deduction is not made
524	or is only partially made, the spouse may require the trustee <u>of</u>
525	such marital trust or elective share trust to make property
526	productive of income, convert property within a reasonable time,
527	or exercise the power conferred by ss. 738.104 and 738.1041. The
528	trustee may decide which action or combination of actions to
529	take.
530	Section 13. ApplicabilityExcept as otherwise provided in
531	this act, the amendments made by this act apply to decedents
532	whose death occurred on or after July 1, 2017.
533	Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Page 19 of 19