

HB0375 Estate and Trusts -Interpretation of Wills

Evidence of Intent (Granny's Law)

Support FAV

Sponsor Delegate Stinnett

Pastor Amy L. Hayes, M.Div.

P.O. Box 2442

Waldorf MD 20604

awnjministry@yahoo.com

XXX-XXX-3148

January 16, 2026

Granny's Law Written Testimony

All Concerned, I am Pastor Amy L. Hayes, M.Div. and I come before you today as I speak in favorable support for "Granny's Law". I have joined my voice with Jennifer Johnson as we fight for change. While she personally was impacted by the change we seek today; she picked up her suit of armor to fight for you and I, so that we never have to endure what she did after losing her beloved grandmother. The fire she has within she got it honest as her grandmother's protégé. Ms. Johnson learned early on while witnessing her prime example, that we all must protect those we love. Yes, even after death, we must protect the ones we loved and ensure that their intentions survives their demise and what better way than for those who knew what the deceased desired after death to be their advocate because they knew what they're intentions were during life!

We must collectively seek out improvements to antiquated laws that can provide relief for those persons who has a vested interest wherein said laws affect their day to day lives verses continuing to give way to those that presents an inherent contradiction of gaining and/or benefitting from another's grief of loss. We must revise and continually review the factors which deprives society of their essential well-being. On last year those that came against this needed change in legislation were; the register of Wills, the Maryland Judiciary and the Maryland Bar Association, so that their interests could be placed in front of the family. Yet there were twenty-eight (28) persons that were in favor of the bill, and now that number has risen favorably. According to these facts alone, it is my humble opinion that the bill should have already passed. Who does these oppressors wish to serve? Themselves or the people? When we as a people can identify where current laws actually harm people they need to be reformed and Granny's Law does just that.

As a Pastor, I have personally witnessed the disadvantages, suffering and hurt that families attempt to navigate after death has had its say! On today you will hear several testimonies as to why this change in legislation is so desperately needed. I impress upon each of you to place your legal minds to effectually hear this passionate testimony. The unfortunate fact is that there are underage victims that not only have to endure the loss of their parent/guardian with the sudden

loss; but has to do so with more years in front of them and needs their future secured. They need those such as yourselves in position, to join in tandem with them verses allowing probate laws, the greed of another or those whom does not have such a vested interest to reap any further benefits from their pain and grief. I pray that all testimony in favor of Granny's Law, impacts your heart to desire you to do better for society as well as engage your minds to intellectually address the laws governing the probate practices here in Maryland.

The laws, Constitution and Legislations are living things. They expand and contrast as they affect our lives. We must constantly scrutinize these as we consider: "can anything be moral if they negatively impact the least of these amongst us?" How do we as voters and the law makers sleep at night if we do not ensure the rights of all man are not only created equal, but are also protected equally? Those that have opposed this action that would correct such an egregious monetary deficit; are those that only seek to uphold historical systematic wrong doings that echos oppressions from the past. Granny's Law is a vital piece of legislation which will allow personal representatives to use outside evidence to clarify a will's intention. It assists with calling into question beneficiaries as well as hold said beneficiaries accountable for fund usage. It mandates that there is an added layer of estate planning wherein vulnerable victims can be assured their rights are protected and their livelihood is considered at every interval. This law prevents the courts from robbing these victims legally after suffering from death. There is a disproportionate standing within the communities here in Maryland, let us come together to seek remedies to correct this. I am asking each of you to join with us and start today protecting these families. There should not be a legal act which protects those that profits against a families legacy. The outcome of the Will is pre-determined and its purpose are aligned with the originators desires. The expense of a corrupt system should no longer exist. Let us prove to all Marylander's we have their best interest at heart and we will stand with them on the battlefield for change. I am asking that today be the day that you send a clear message taking the power out of the greedy hands of lawyers or entities that oppose beneficiaries in such a manner that is discussed here today and within the proposal of the changed legislation which Granny's Law brings and give power to the people as you give the final voice of the Will's intention for the loved ones of the deceased. Thank you.

Pastor Amy L. Hayes, M.Div.