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**PROPERTY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) LAW**

**(2001 Revision)**

Revised under the authority of the Law Revision Law (1999 Revision).

Law 7 of 1994 consolidated with Law 7 of 2000 (part).

Originally enacted-

Law 7 of 1994-23rd September, 1994

Law 7 of 2000- 20th July, 2000.

Consolidated and revised this 31st day of October, 2000.

*Note (not forming part of the Law): This revision replaces the 1999 Revision which should now be discarded.*



**PROPERTY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) LAW**

**(2001 Revision)**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

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**PROPERTY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) LAW**

**(2001 Revision)**

1. This Law may be cited as the Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Law (2001 Revision). Short title
  
2. (1) A debt or thing in action may be the subject of a fixed or floating charge (and is not thereby extinguished, released or merged) notwithstanding that the chargee is the obligor. Charges over debts and other obligations  
  
(2) If, and for so long as, a mortgage, legal or equitable, of a debt or thing in action cannot take effect as such by reason that the intended mortgagee is the obligor, it takes effect as a charge.
  
3. A trust may be validly created of an existing debt notwithstanding that the debtor is the trustee of the trust, and the effect of so doing is that he has an equitable obligation to the beneficiaries on the same terms as the debt to make payment to the trust fund. Trusts over debts
  
4. There is hereby abolished as respects dispositions made after 23rd November, 1994, any rule of law that a disposition in favour of illegitimate issue not in being when the disposition takes effect is void as contrary to public policy. Dispositions in favour of illegitimate issue not void
  
5. (1) Subject to subsection (2), any absolute assignment by writing under the hand of the assignor (not purporting to be by way of charge only) of any debt or thing in action, of which express notice in writing has been given to the person from whom the assignor would have been entitled to claim such debt or thing in action, is effectual in law (subject to equities having priority over the right of the assignee) to pass and transfer from the date of such notice-  
  - (a) the legal right to such debt or thing in action;
  - (b) all legal and other remedies for the same; and
  - (c) the power to give a good discharge for the same without the concurrence of the assignor.  
(2) If the person liable in respect of such debt or thing in action has notice-  
  - (a) that the assignment is disputed by the assignor or any person claiming under him; or
  - (b) of any other opposing or conflicting claims to such debt or thing in action, he may, if he thinks fit, either call upon the person making claim thereto to interplead concerning the same, or pay the debt or other thing in action into court under the Trusts Law

2001 Revision  
Things in action  
represented by bearer  
instruments  
2001 Revision

(2001 Revision) or any statutory modification or successor thereto.

6. Except as provided by any other law, a legal or equitable thing in action, other than shares in an ordinary company incorporated under the Companies Law (2001 Revision) or interests in land in the Islands, is capable of being evidenced or represented by a bearer instrument such that a disposition thereof may, subject to the terms of the instrument, be effected by delivery of the instrument; but unless so provided by the terms of the instrument the disponent is not relieved of any obligation or liability thereunder.

Bodies corporate  
holding as joint tenants

7. (1) A body corporate shall be capable of acquiring and holding any real or personal property in joint tenancy in the same manner as if it were an individual; and where a body corporate and an individual, or two or more bodies corporate, become entitled to any such property under circumstances or by virtue of any instrument which would, if the body corporate had been an individual, have created a joint tenancy, they shall be entitled to the property as joint tenants:

Provided that the acquisition and holding of property by a body corporate in joint tenancy shall be subject to the like conditions and restrictions as attached to the acquisition and holding of property by a body corporate in severalty.

(2) Where a body corporate is joint tenant of any property, then, on its dissolution, the property shall devolve on the other joint tenant.

Deeds and certain other  
instruments no longer  
required to be executed  
under seal

8. (1) Subject to subsection (5), an instrument is validly executed by an individual as a deed or an instrument under seal if it satisfies the requirements of this section.

(2) A deed or instrument under seal satisfies the requirements of this section if -

- (a) it is signed in accordance with subsection (3); and
- (b) it is either -
  - (i) sealed; or
  - (ii) expressed to be, or is expressed to be executed as, or otherwise makes clear on its face it is intended to be, a deed.

(3) For the purpose of this section, a deed or instrument is signed if it is signed -

- (a) by the individual in the presence of a witness who attests his signature; or
- (b) at the direction of the individual and in his presence and the presence of two witnesses who each attest the signature of the individual.

(4) In this section-

- (a) a deed or instrument under seal may take the form of an electronic record within the definition of that expression contained in section 2 of the Electronic Transactions Law, 2000; Law 7 of 2000  
and
- (b) “sign” in relation to a deed or instrument under seal-
  - (i) where the deed or instrument is written on a tangible medium, includes an individual making his mark on the deed or instrument, and “signature” is to be construed accordingly; and
  - (ii) where the deed or instrument is in the form of an electronic record, “signature” means an electronic signature as provided by section 19 of the Electronic Transactions Law, 2000, and “sign” shall be construed accordingly.

(5) The provisions of subsections (1) to (4) are without prejudice to the validity of any instrument under seal validly executed as such whether before or after 23rd November, 1994, as the case may be.

9. Except where expressly provided to the contrary herein, this Law applies to any charge, mortgage, trust, assignment, bearer instrument or joint tenancy created, given or executed or purportedly created, given or executed before or after 23rd November, 1994 and no such charge, mortgage, trust, assignment, bearer instrument or joint tenancy shall be invalid by reason only of the fact that it was created or purportedly created, given or executed or purportedly created, given or executed prior to 23rd November, 1994. Application

Publication in consolidated and revised form authorised by the Governor in Council this 31st day of October, 2000.

Carmena Watler  
Clerk of Executive Council