

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to parental authority; amending s.  
 3           744.301, F.S.; authorizing natural guardians to waive and  
 4           release, in advance, any claim or cause of action that  
 5           would accrue to any of their minor children to the same  
 6           extent that any adult may do so on his or her own behalf;  
 7           providing an effective date.

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 9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 11           Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 744.301, Florida  
 12           Statutes, is amended to read:

13           744.301 Natural guardians.--

14           (2) (a) Natural guardians are authorized, on behalf of any  
 15           of their minor children, to:

16           1.(a) Settle and consummate a settlement of any claim or  
 17           cause of action accruing to any of their minor children for  
 18           damages to the person or property of any of said minor children;

19           2.(b) Collect, receive, manage, and dispose of the  
 20           proceeds of any such settlement;

21           3.(c) Collect, receive, manage, and dispose of any real or  
 22           personal property distributed from an estate or trust;

23           4.(d) Collect, receive, manage, and dispose of and make  
 24           elections regarding the proceeds from a life insurance policy or  
 25           annuity contract payable to, or otherwise accruing to the  
 26           benefit of, the child; and

27           5.(e) Collect, receive, manage, dispose of, and make  
 28           elections regarding the proceeds of any benefit plan as defined

HB 363

2009

29 | by s. 710.102, of which the minor is a beneficiary, participant,  
30 | or owner,

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32 | without appointment, authority, or bond, when the amounts  
33 | received, in the aggregate, do not exceed \$15,000.

34 | (b) In addition to the authority granted in paragraph (a),  
35 | natural guardians are authorized, on behalf of any of their  
36 | minor children, to waive and release, in advance, any claim or  
37 | cause of action that would accrue to any of their minor children  
38 | to the same extent that any adult may do so on his or her own  
39 | behalf.

40 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.