

### §703. Cotrustees

**1. Unanimous decision; majority decision.** Cotrustees who are unable to reach a unanimous decision may act by majority decision.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**2. Vacancy.** If a vacancy occurs in a cotrusteeship, the remaining cotrustees may act for the trust.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**3. Participation by cotrustee.** Subject to the Maine Uniform Directed Trust Act, a cotrustee shall participate in the performance of a trustee's function unless the cotrustee is unavailable to perform the function because of absence, illness, disqualification or other temporary incapacity or the cotrustee has properly delegated the performance of the function to another trustee.

[PL 2019, c. 301, §5 (AMD).]

**4. Cotrustee unavailable.** If a cotrustee is unavailable to perform duties because of absence, illness, disqualification or other temporary incapacity, the remaining cotrustee or a majority of the remaining cotrustees may act for the trust.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**5. Delegation.** A trustee may not delegate to a cotrustee the performance of a function the settlor reasonably expected the trustees to perform jointly. Unless a delegation was irrevocable, a trustee may revoke a delegation previously made.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**6. Liability.** Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, a trustee who does not join in an action of another trustee is not liable for the action.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**7. Reasonable care.** Subject to the Maine Uniform Directed Trust Act, each trustee shall exercise reasonable care to:

A. Prevent a cotrustee from committing a serious breach of trust; and [PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

B. Compel a cotrustee to redress a serious breach of trust. [PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2019, c. 301, §6 (AMD); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

**8. Dissenting trustee.** A dissenting trustee who joins in an action at the direction of the majority of the trustees and who notified in writing any cotrustee of the dissent at or before the time of the action is not liable for the action unless the action is a serious breach of trust.

[PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §1 (NEW); PL 2003, c. 618, Pt. A, §2 (AFF).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 2003, c. 618, §A1 (NEW). PL 2003, c. 618, §A2 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 301, §§5, 6 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. The*

*text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.