

LEGISLATIVE BILL 847

Approved by the Governor April 11, 2018

Introduced by Ebke, 32.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to wills; to amend section 30-2316, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to waiver of certain rights of a surviving spouse; and to repeal the original section.
Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 30-2316, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

30-2316 (a) The right of election of a surviving spouse and the rights of the surviving spouse to homestead allowance, exempt property, and family allowance, or any of them, may be waived, wholly or partially, before or after marriage, by a written contract, agreement, or waiver signed by the surviving spouse.

(b) A surviving spouse's waiver is not enforceable if the surviving spouse proves that:

(1) he or she did not execute the waiver voluntarily; or

(2) the waiver was unconscionable when it was executed and, before execution of the waiver, he or she:

(i) was not provided a fair and reasonable disclosure of the property or financial obligations of the decedent;

(ii) did not voluntarily and expressly waive, in writing, any right to disclosure of the property or financial obligations of the decedent beyond the disclosure provided; and

(iii) did not have, or reasonably could not have had, an adequate knowledge of the property or financial obligations of the decedent.

(c) An issue of unconscionability of a waiver is for decision by the court as a matter of law.

(d) Unless it provides to the contrary, a waiver of "all rights", or equivalent language, in the property or estate of a present or prospective spouse or a complete property settlement entered into after or in anticipation of separation, divorce, or annulment is a waiver of all rights to elective share, homestead allowance, exempt property, and family allowance by each spouse in the property of the other and a renunciation by each of all benefits that would otherwise pass to him or her from the other by intestate succession or by virtue of any will executed before the waiver or property settlement.

Sec. 2. Original section 30-2316, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.