PART III. LIFE-SUSTAINING PROCEDURES

13-711. DEFINITIONS.

- (A) IN THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (B) "BEST INTEREST" MEANS THAT THE BENEFITS TO THE DISABLED PERSON RESULTING FROM A DECISION ABOUT A MEDICAL TREATMENT OUTWEIGH THE BURDENS TO THE DISABLED PERSON RESULTING FROM THAT DECISION TREATMENT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:
- (1) THE EFFECT OF THE MEDICAL-CONDITION TREATMENT OF THE DISABLED PERSON ON THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE DISABLED PERSON;
- (2) THE DEGREE OF PHYSICAL PAIN OR DISCOMFORT RESULTING FROM THE MEDICAL CONDITION OF CAUSED TO THE DISABLED PERSON, BY THE MEDICAL TREATMENT; OR THE WITHHOLDING OR WITHDRAWAL OF THE TREATMENT;
- (3) THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE DISABLED PERSON'S MEDICAL CONDITION, THE TREATMENT, OR THE WITHHOLDING OR WITHDRAWAL OF TREATMENT, RESULT IN A SEVERE AND CONTINUING IMPAIRMENT OF THE DIGNITY OF THE DISABLED PERSON BY SUBJECTING THE DISABLED PERSON TO A CONDITION OF EXTREME HUMILIATION AND DEPENDENCY:
- (4) THE EFFECT OF THE MEDICAL CONDITION TREATMENT OF THE DISABLED PERSON ON THE LIFE EXPECTANCY OF THE DISABLED PERSON;
- (5) THE PROGNOSIS OF THE DISABLED PERSON FOR RECOVERY, WITH AND WITHOUT THE TREATMENT;
- (6) THE RISKS, SIDE EFFECTS, AND BENEFITS OF EACH LIKELY RISKS AND SIDE EFFECTS RISKS, SIDE EFFECTS, AND BENEFITS OF THE TREATMENT OPTION, OR THE WITHHOLDING OR WITHDRAWAL OF THE TREATMENT; AND
- (7) THE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND BASIC VALUES OF THE PATIENT RECEIVING TREATMENT, TO THE EXTENT THESE MAY ASSIST THE DECISION MAKER IN DETERMINING BEST INTEREST.
- (C) "LIFE-SUSTAINING PROCEDURE" MEANS ANY MEDICAL PROCEDURE, TREATMENT, OR INTERVENTION USED TO SUSTAIN, RESTORE, SUPPLEMENT, OR SUPPLANT A SPONTANEOUS VITAL FUNCTION IN ORDER TO PREVENT OR POSTPONE THE DEATH OF A DISABLED PERSON.
- (D) "SUBSTITUTED JUDGMENT" MEANS A DETERMINATION BY A COURT THAT A DISABLED PERSON WOULD, IF COMPETENT, MAKE THE SAME HEALTH CARE DECISION REGARDING A LIFE-SUSTAINING PROCEDURE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ANY INFORMATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO THE DECISION, INCLUDING:
- (1) THE CURRENT DIAGNOSIS, PROGNOSIS WITH AND WITHOUT THE LIFE-SUSTAINING PROCEDURE, AND LIFE EXPECTANCY OF THE DISABLED PERSON;