

FACTSHEET 05: Appointing Your Own Legal Agent (in South Australia)

By appointing a legal agent you bestow on someone else, with their agreement, legal power to manage your affairs in specific matters, particularly in situations where you have lost the capacity to make your own decisions. The options available in South Australia are given below.

The Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995 provides for the appointment of a Medical Agent for medical treatment decisions. Information about the provisions of the Act can be obtained from:

- Private Lawyers: The Law Society of SA (124 Waymouth St, Adelaide, SA 5000, ph. 8229 0222) can provide a list of lawyers practising in particular areas of the law.
- Service SA, EDS Centre, 108 North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000, phone: 132324
<http://www.sa.gov.au/government/entity/58/>
- SAVES Guidelines - See [Fact Sheet 1](#) para 4.

The Power of Attorney and Agency Act 1984 provides for the creation an Enduring Power of Attorney for legal and financial affairs. Information about the provisions of the Act can be obtained from:

- Private Lawyers: See paragraph 2 above.
- Legal Services Commission: 82-98 Wakefield St, Adelaide, SA 5000, ph. 8463 3555
- Public Trustee: 25 Franklin St, Adelaide, SA 5000, ph 8226 9200

An Enduring Power of Attorney "Do It Yourself" kit is available for \$10 from:

- Service SA, EDS Centre, 108 North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000, ph 132324.
<http://www.sa.gov.au/government/entity/58/>

The Guardianship and Administration Act 1993 provides for the creation of an Enduring Power of Guardianship. Information about the provisions of the Act can be obtained from:

- Private Lawyers: See paragraph 2 above.
- The Office of the Public Advocate: Level 8 ABC Building, 85 North East Rd, Collinswood, SA 5081, ph. 8269 7575.
- Service SA, EDS Centre, 108 North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000, phone: 132324
<http://www.sa.gov.au/government/entity/58/>

Even if you prefer to use legal advice in any of these matters, the guidelines (para 2) and "Do It Yourself" kits (paras 3 and 4) provide useful information to discuss with your lawyer.

See also [Fact Sheet 1](#) (Living Wills and Medical Agents) and [Fact Sheet 8](#) (Medical Treatment and the Law in SA).