

Comprehensive Supported Decision-Making Agreement Laws in the United States

In this context, CPR considers “Comprehensive Supported Decision-Making Agreement Laws” to be state-enacted legislation that creates or directs the creation of a legal framework for supported decision-making arrangements. These legal frameworks may include various protections and indemnification provisions to promote recognition and enforcement. As of September 2026, CPR has identified 24 States and the District of Columbia that have such legal frameworks. This chart provides a broad overview of some key trends within these laws, with citations to relevant statutes that provide further detail. This chart is being provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Interested in learning about more trends? Email us at SDM@cpr-ma.org.

State/Jurisdiction	Definition	Agreement Requirements	Decision-Maker	Supporters	Liability and Reporting	Revocation/Termination
Names the legislation’s location.	Provides the statutory definition of supported decision-making or supported decision-making agreements. “SDM” means Supported Decision-Making. “SDMA” means Supported Decision-Making Agreement.	“Informal SDM” notes whether the law addresses activities and decisions made independent of any SDMA. “Formal SDM” outlines specific requirements for the SDMA.	“Decision-Maker” is the general term used to describe an individual being supported within the SDMA, even when the legislation might use a different term. “Limits” refers to any limitations on who the Decision-Maker under an SDMA can be. “Guardianship” refers to whether the jurisdiction identifies SDMAs as an alternative to guardianship and/or addresses the interaction between SDM and guardianship. “Capacity” refers to whether an SDMA can be used as evidence of the Decision-Maker’s capacity.	“Supporter” is the general term used to describe the individuals providing support to the Decision-Maker, even when the legislation might use a different term. “Fiduciary/Obligations” refers to whether there are fiduciary or fiduciary-like obligations imposed on supporters. “Scope” refers to supporters’ authority and limits on that authority	The “Liability of Supporters” and “Liability of Third Parties” sections assess whether there are liability protections for: (1) supporters, in carrying out the SDMA, and/or (2) third parties, in relying or not relying in good faith on the SDMA. “Reporting” notes third party obligations to report suspected abuse to authorities. “Reliance” refers to whether the SDMA is presumed valid and can be relied on by third party readers.	Cites to any location in the legislation that indicates steps to revoke or terminate a created SDMA.

Alabama	SDM & SDMA: Ala. Code §§ 26-1B-2(1)–(2) (2026). SDM: “The process of supporting and accommodating an adult in the decision-making process without impeding the self-determination of the adult. This term includes assistance in making, communicating, and effectuating life decisions.” SDMA: “A written agreement detailing decision-making supports and accommodations that an adult chooses to receive from one or more supporters.”	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA cannot preclude acting independently of that SDMA. Ala. Code § 26-1B-3(c). Formal SDM: Must substantially follow the form provided in statute. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-4. The law also lists required elements such as a description of assistance, notarization, and authorization. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-6.	Decision-Maker: No definition indicated. Limits: None indicated (any adult based on definition of SDM). Guardianship: SDMA described as an alternative if certain conditions met. Ala. Code § 26-1B-3(a). SDMA cannot supplant authority of guardian/conservator. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-3(d). If Decision-Maker is under limited guardianship or conservatorship, SDMA must be executed by the guardian/conservator. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-6(a)(3). SDMA terminates if a court determines the Decision-Maker does not have capacity, or if the court appoints a guardian (unless appointment allows the SDMA to continue). <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-7(b)(6). Capacity: An SDMA is not evidence of the decision-maker’s incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-3(c).	Supporter: “An individual at least 18 years of age who has voluntarily entered into a supported decision-making agreement with an adult and is designated as such in a supported decision-making agreement.” Ala. Code § 26-1B-2(3). Fiduciary/Obligations: Supporters are fiduciaries. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-5(b). Law lists supporter powers and duties, including supporting “the will and preference of the adult and not the supporter’s opinion of the adult’s best interest.” <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-5(a). Scope: Law lists prohibitions including that the supporter may not exert undue influence, obtain information without consent, receive a fee for supporter services, or exceed authorization. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-5(c).	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: A person who relies in good faith is not subject to discipline. Carveout for act or omission of fraud, misrepresentation, recklessness, or willful or wanton misconduct. Ala. Code § 26-1B-9(a)-(b). Reporting: Reporting required when a person “reasonably believes” the Decision-Maker is being abused, neglected, or exploited <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-10(b). Reliance: An SDMA that complies with the law’s requirements is presumed valid. <i>Id.</i> § 26-1B-8.	Ala. Code § 26-1B-7 (revocation).
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Alaska	<u>SDMA only:</u> Alaska Stat. § 13.56.010(a) (2026). SDMA: “A supported decision-making agreement allows an adult to receive decision-making assistance with the adult’s affairs from one or more other adults.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Alaska Stat. § 13.56.150(b); <i>see also id.</i> § 13.56.180 (“A principal may act without the help of the supporter.”). <u>Formal SDM:</u> Must substantially follow the form provided in statute. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.180. Law also lists required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 13.56.030-.070.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who enters into a supported decision-making agreement under this chapter to receive decision-making assistance.” Alaska Stat. § 13.56.190(10); <i>see also id.</i> § 13.56.010(a) (“[A]n adult may enter into a supported decision-making agreement.”). <u>Limits:</u> None indicated. <u>Guardianship:</u> Cannot encroach on guardian/conservator’s authority unless approved by guardian/conservator. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.010(c). If Decision-Maker has a guardian/conservator, they must be notified of the SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.040(4). <u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.150(c).	<u>Supporter:</u> Focuses on eligibility versus directly defining the role. Alaska Stat. § 13.56.020. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. General duties/obligations of care, competence, and diligence. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.090. Duty of confidentiality. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.120. <u>Scope:</u> Defines how a supporter may assist the decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.100. Also notes prohibited activities by the supporter. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.110. Provides a list of areas of decision-making to which the law is applicable (such as monitoring health or managing income). <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.160.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not subject to civil or criminal liability for good faith reliance on the SDMA or for the decision to decline to “honor an authorization in the SDMA.” Alaska Stat. § 13.56.140. <u>Reporting:</u> None indicated. <u>Reliance:</u> Requires individuals to recognize a decision or request communicated with assistance of supporter as the decision/request of decision-maker for purposes of the law. <i>Id.</i> § 13.56.130.	Alaska Stat. § 13.560.80 (termination).
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Arizona	SDM & SDMA: Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 14-5721(5)-(6) (2026). SDM: “means a process of supporting and accommodating an adult to enable the adult to make life decisions, including decisions related to where the adult wants to live, the services, support and medical care the adult wants to receive, whom the adult wants to live with and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the adult's self-determination.” SDMA: “means an agreement between an adult and a supporter that is entered into pursuant to this article.”	Informal SDM: Does not address informal arrangements. Formal SDM: Must substantially follow statutory form. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14-5722(H). Law also lists required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 14-5722(C), (F).	Decision-Maker: “[A]n adult with a disability who executes an agreement for the purpose of designating an individual to serve as the decision-maker's supporter when the decision-maker makes certain decisions that are listed in the agreement.” Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14-5722(H); <i>id.</i> § 14-5721(1). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see above). Guardianship: SDMA is terminated if the decision-maker “becomes incapacitated” or a guardian is appointed. <i>Id.</i> § 14-5722(G). Capacity: Not addressed.	Supporter: “[A] person who is at least eighteen years of age and who enters into a supported decision-making agreement with an adult” Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14-5721(7). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General obligations of good faith, loyalty, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 14-5722(H). Scope: Outlines scope of role such as assisting decision-maker in collecting/understanding information. Also outlines prohibitions (supporter is not a surrogate decision-maker, cannot sign legal documents, cannot receive payment, etc.). <i>Id.</i> §§ 14-5722(A)-(C).	Liability of Supporters: Liable if intimidates or deceives decision-maker. Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14-5722(D). Liability of Third Parties: Not addressed. Reporting: Statutory form requires reporting by third-parties who have cause to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation. <i>Id.</i> § 14-5722(H). Reliance: No separate indication of presumed validity.	Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 14-5722(G) (termination).
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California	SDM & SDMA: Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code §§ 21001(c)–(d) (West 2026). SDM: “means an individualized process of supporting and accommodating an adult with a disability to enable them to make life decisions without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A] voluntary, written agreement, written in plain language accessible to the adult with a disability and in conformance with Section 21005. A supported decisionmaking agreement shall be signed in conformance with subdivision (b) of Section 21005 and may be revoked orally	Informal SDM: Decision-makers may act independently of the SDMA. Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 21003(b). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 21005.	Decision-Maker: “An adult with a disability may choose to enter into a supported decisionmaking agreement.” Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 21003(a). “‘Adult with a disability’ means an adult with any disability, including an older adult with a disability or an age-related disability.” <i>Id.</i> § 21001(a) (including non-exclusive list of disabilities). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see above). Guardianship: Not addressed. Capacity: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 21003(b); <i>see also id.</i> § 21000(d) (“The capacity of an adult should be assessed with any supports, including supported decisionmaking, that the person is using or could use.”).	Supporter: “[O]ne or more adults who meet the requirements in Section 21002 and who enter into a supported decisionmaking agreement to help the adult with a disability make decisions” Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 21001(e). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General obligations of honesty, diligence, good faith, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 21002(c). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 21002(c)(5). Scope: Outlines scope of role such as helping obtain and understand information, communicating decisions, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 21002(c). Also details supporter prohibitions such as not coercing the decision-maker, not making decisions for the decision-maker, etc. <i>Id.</i> . § 21002(d).	Liability of Supporters: “A supporter is bound by all existing obligations and prohibitions otherwise applicable by law that protect adults with disabilities and the elderly from fraud, abuse, neglect, coercion, or mistreatment. This division does not limit a supporter's civil or criminal liability for prohibited conduct against the adult with a disability.” Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 21002(a). Liability of Third Parties: Not addressed. Reporting/Reliance: “A third party may only refuse the presence of one of more adults, including supporters, if the third party reasonably believes that there is fraud, coercion, abuse, or other action by the individuals requested to be included that the third party is required to report pursuant to the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act” <i>Id.</i> § 21004(c).	Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code § 21006 (termination).
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	or in writing at any time by either party. A supported decisionmaking agreement may include images, be read aloud, or be video or audio recorded, in addition to the written version.”					
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Colorado	SDM & SDMA: Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 15-14-802(5)-(6) (2026). SDM: “[A] process in which an adult with a disability has made or is making decisions by using friends, family members, professionals, or other people the adult with a disability trusts to: (a) Help understand the issues and choices; (b) Answer questions; (c) Provide explanations in a language the adult with a disability understands; (d) Communicate the adult with a disability’s decision to others, if necessary and if specifically requested by the adult with a disability; or (e) Facilitate the exercise of	Informal SDM: Recognizes that “adults with disabilities should have a variety of formal and informal processes available to make decisions and express preferences of choices. . . .” Colo. Rev. Stat. § 15-14-801(i). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-805.	Decision-Maker: “An adult with a disability may voluntarily, without undue influence or coercion, enter into a supported decision-making agreement[.]” Colo. Rev. Stat. § 15-14-803(1). “Disability” defined as “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities or a record of such an impairment.” <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-802(3). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see above). Guardianship: Describes SDM as “a voluntary method of decision-making that, as appropriate, may also be used concurrently with, but subject to, an existing guardianship, conservatorship, or power of attorney.” <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-801(1)(d); see also <i>id.</i> §§ 15-14-801(1)(h)(III), 15-14-803(1). Guardian/conservator can prevent decision-maker from entering	Supporter: “[A] person whom the adult has identified, whom the adult trusts to engage in the supported decision-making process, and who understands the adult’s desires and personal values.” Colo. Rev. Stat. § 15-14-802(4). Fiduciary/Obligations: Explicitly notes that the supporter and decision-maker are not in a fiduciary or in contractual relationship. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-801(1)(h)(I). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-801(1)(h)(IV). Scope: Outlines scope of role and prohibitions such as respecting decision-maker’s final decision, providing updated information, and not coercing/manipulating decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-805(1)(d). Lists obligations and types of support supporter may provide to the Decision-Maker. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-803(1)(a)–(c).	Liability of Supporters: A SDMA does not “[s]hield a member of the supportive community from criminal or civil liability for acts that would otherwise be subject to civil or criminal liability[.]” Colo. Rev. Stat. § 15-14-801(1)(h)(V). Liability of Third Parties: Recipients of SDMA not subject to liability for good faith reliance. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-806(2). Reporting: Requires the SDMA to include a notice that any mandatory reporter relying on the agreement and who has cause to believe that the decision-maker is being mistreated shall report the mistreatment. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-805(1)(e). Reliance: Recipients of SDMA shall rely on the agreement as presented. <i>Id.</i> § 15-14-806(1).	Colo. Rev. Stat. § 15-14-803(3)(a)–(b) (termination).
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	decisions regarding the adult with a disability's day-to-day health, safety, welfare, or financial affairs.” SDMA: “[A] voluntary agreement entered into pursuant to this part 8 between an adult with a disability and one or more members of the adult with a disability's supportive community.”		into/continuing SDMA. <i>Id.</i> §§ 15-14-801(1)(h)(III). <u>Capacity</u>: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> 15-14-803(4).			
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D.C.	<u>SDM & SDMA:</u> D.C. Code §§ 7-2131(11)-(12) (2026). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult with a disability in order to: (A) Assist the adult with a disability in understanding the options, responsibilities, and consequences of life decisions; and (B) Enable the adult with a disability to make life decisions, without impeding the self-determination of the adult with a disability or making decisions for the adult with a disability.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a supported person and a supporter entered into	<u>Informal SDM:</u> Not addressed. <u>Formal SDM:</u> Must substantially follow requirements and form provided in statute. D.C. Code §§ 7-2132(c)-(d).	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult with a disability who has entered into a supported decision making-agreement with a supporter.” D.C. Code § 7-2131(13). “Disability” defined as “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of a person.” <i>Id.</i> § 7-2131(5) <u>Limits:</u> Adults with disabilities (see above). <u>Guardianship:</u> Not addressed. <u>Capacity:</u> Not addressed.	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A]n adult who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a supported person.” D.C. Code § 7-2131(14). <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 7-2133(a)(3)(A). <u>Scope:</u> Lists what a supporter may do how they can provide support such as helping to obtain information and communicating decisions. <i>Id.</i> §§ 7-2133(a), 7-2131(11).	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Third parties not liable for reasonable reliance on an SDMA. D.C. Code § 7-2133(e) <u>Reporting:</u> Requires reporting “[i]f a District employee or a caregiver, who is aware of the existence of a supported decision-making agreement, has a reasonable belief that the supported person is an adult in need of protective services[.]” <i>Id.</i> § 7-2133(f). Statutory form permits (does not require) reporting by recipients of the SDMA with cause to believe decision-maker being abused, neglected, or exploited by the supporter. <i>Id.</i> § 7-2132(d). <u>Reliance:</u> “A person or a District agency who receives a supported decision-making agreement shall rely on the agreement” unless they have cause to believe decision-maker is in need of protective	D.C. Code § 7-2132(d) (termination referenced in statutory form).
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	pursuant to this chapter.”				services. <i>Id.</i> § 7-2133(d).	
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Delaware	<u>SDMA only:</u> Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9403A(9) (2025). SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a principal and a supporter entered into under this chapter.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9404A(C). <u>Formal SDM:</u> Statute incorporates a directive to the Department of Health and Services to develop forms “necessary to implement this chapter.” <i>Id.</i> § 9410A. Also lists required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 9405(A)(b)-(f).	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who seeks to enter, or has entered, into a supported decision-making agreement with a supporter under this chapter.” Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9403A(8). <u>Limits:</u> None indicated. <u>Guardianship:</u> In statutory purpose section, states SDM provides assistance for “adults who do not need a guardian or other substitute decision maker.” <i>Id.</i> § 9402A(a)(1). Authorizations in SDMA may be “limited or abrogated” by judicial capacity determinations. <i>Id.</i> § 9405A(i). <u>Capacity:</u> SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 9404A(c).	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A] person who is named in a supported decision-making agreement and is not prohibited from acting under § 9406A(b) of this title or under regulations enacted under § 9410A of this title.” Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9403A(10). <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. Supporters must act with the care, competence, and diligence. <i>Id.</i> § 9406A(d). <u>Scope:</u> Lists types of support supporter can provide (including helping access records or communicate wishes of decision-maker) and prohibitions (including exerting undue influence upon the decision-maker). <i>Id.</i> §§ 9406A(a), (c).	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Third parties protected from liability for good faith reliance or refusal to rely on SDMA. Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9408A. <u>Reporting:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reliance:</u> “A decision or request made or communicated with the assistance of a supporter . . . shall be recognized for the purposes of any provision of law as the decision or request of the principal . . .” <i>Id.</i> § 9407A.	Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, § 9405(A)(h) (revocation)
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Florida	<u>SDMA only:</u> Fla. Stat. § 709.2209(1). SDMA: “[A]n agreement in which the power of attorney grants an agent the authority to receive information and to communicate on behalf of the principal without granting the agent the authority to bind or act on behalf of the principal on any subject matter.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> Not addressed. <u>Formal SDM:</u> No form or list of required elements. Limited to power of attorneys granting an agent authority.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> [A]n individual who grants authority to an agent in a power of attorney. Fla. Stat. § 709.2102(11). <u>Limits:</u> An individual who grants authority to an agent in a power of attorney (see above). <u>Guardianship:</u> Not addressed. <u>Capacity:</u> Not addressed.	<u>Supporter:</u> Not defined. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> Not addressed. <u>Limits/scope:</u> Includes limits on the authority that can be included in an SDMA (assisting in obtaining information, communicating decisions). <i>Id.</i> § 709.2209(3).	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reporting:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reliance:</u> “A communication made by the principal with the assistance of or through an agent under a supported decisionmaking agreement that is within the authority granted to the agent may be recognized as a communication of the principal.” Fla. Stat. § 709.2209(4).	None.
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Hawaii	SDM and SDMA: Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-1 (2026). SDM: “[A] process where a qualified adult has made or is making decisions by using friends, family members, professionals, or other people the qualified adult trusts to: (1) Help understand the issues and choices; (2) Answer questions; (3) Provide explanations in a language the qualified adult understands; (4) Communicate the qualified adult's decision to others, if necessary and if specifically requested by the qualified adult; or (5) Facilitate the exercise of decisions regarding the qualified adult's day-to-day health, safety,	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-4(e). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-4.	Decision-Maker: “[An] adult with a disability, a mentally ill adult, or an aging adult.” Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-1. “Disability” defined as “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities or a record of such an impairment.” <i>Id.</i> Limits: Adults with disabilities listed above. Guardianship: SDMA cannot adversely affect guardian/conservator authority. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-2(a). Capacity: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-4(e).	Supporter: “[A] person whom the qualified adult has identified, whom the qualified adult trusts to engage in the supported decision-making process, and who understands the qualified adult's desires and personal values.” Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-1. Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. List of general obligations/types of assistance supporter can provide. <i>Id.</i> §§ 349F-1; 349F-2(b). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-3(b). Scope: No separate delineation of scope outside of listed obligations and confidentiality noted above.	Liability of Supporters: Can be liable for misuse of personal information of decision-maker. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-3(c). Liability of Third Parties: Third parties protected from liability for good faith reliance on an SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-5(b). Reporting: SDMA must state that a person relying on the SDMA shall report if they know or have reason to believe the decision-makers has been or is at risk of abuse. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-4(a)(7). Reliance: Recipients of SDMA “shall rely” on authority of presented SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 349F-5(a).	Haw. Rev. Stat. § 349F-4(c)-(d) (termination).
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	welfare, or financial affairs.” SDMA: “[A] voluntary agreement entered into pursuant to this chapter between a qualified adult and one or more members of the supportive community.”					
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Illinois	SDM and SDMA: 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/10 (2026). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating a principal to assist the principal in making life decisions under a supported decision-making agreement.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a principal and a supporter under this Act that identifies the life decisions that can be supported, which may include, but are not limited to, decisions related to where the principal wants to live, with whom the principal wants to live, where the principal wants to work, and the services, supports, or	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/15(c); <i>see also</i> 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/5(3). Formal SDM: Must include required elements and substantially follow the form provided in statute. <i>Id.</i> § 9/50. Must follow authorization and witness requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 9/45.	Decision-Maker: “[A]n adult who is not under plenary guardianship and has not otherwise been declared by a physician to lack decisional capacity and who seeks to enter, or has entered, into a supported decision-making agreement with a supporter under this Act. 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/10. Limits: Individuals not under plenary guardianship and who have not been declared by a physician to lack decisional capacity (see above). Guardianship: Decision-makers may not be under plenary guardianship (see above). Capacity: An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity in legal proceedings but can be “entered into evidence.” <i>Id.</i> § 9/15(c).	Supporter: “[A]n adult who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a principal under this Act.” 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/10 Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. Supporters must act with care, competence, and diligence. <i>Id.</i> § 9/30(b). Supporters must complete required training. <i>Id.</i> § 9/30(c). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 9/40(b). Scope: Law outlines duties a supporter may assume such as assisting the decision-maker understand and access information. <i>Id.</i> § 9/30(a); <i>see also id.</i> § 9/25. “Supporter prohibitions” outlines limitations (such as no undue influence, no using/obtaining unrelated information without consent, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 9/35.	Liability of Supporters: Not specifically addressed. Liability of Third Parties: Not liable for relying on agreement in good faith. 755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/55(b). Reporting: Third parties shall report if they have cause to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation. <i>Id.</i> § 9/50; <i>see also id.</i> § 9/50. Reliance: Person who receives the SDMA “shall rely” on it. <i>Id.</i> § 9/55(a); <i>see also id.</i> § 9/60 (decisions communicated with support of SDM are valid).	755 Ill. Comp. Stat. § 9/70 (revocation). Also includes grounds for suspension of the agreement”).
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	medical care the principal wants to receive without impeding the self-determination of the principal.”					
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Indiana	SDM and SDMA: Ind. Code §§ 29-3-14-1; 29-3-14-2 (2026). SDM: “[T]he process of supporting and accommodating an adult in the decision making process to make, communicate, and effectuate life decisions, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A] document that outlines the decision making supports and accommodations the adult chooses to receive from one (1) or more supporters.”	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA does not preclude the decision-maker from acting independently. Ind. Code § 29-3-14-4(c). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-7.	Decision-Maker: Not defined. Limits: None indicated. Guardianship: Cannot supplant a guardian’s authority unless the guardian consents in writing. Ind. Code § 29-3-14-4(d). The SDMA is terminated if a guardian is appointed, unless the court’s order indicates otherwise. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-9(a)(6). Capacity: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-4(c)	Supporter: “[A] person at least eighteen (18) years of age who has voluntarily agreed to assist an adult in the decision making process as outlined in the adult’s supported decision making agreement.” Ind. Code § 29-3-14-3. Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General duties to act honestly, diligently, and in good faith, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-5(a). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-5(b). Scope: Outlines supporter prohibitions are outlined (no undue influence, fees, obtaining information without decision-maker’s consent, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-5(c).	Liability of Supporters: Supporters performing SDM in good faith are immune from liability resulting from the Decision-Maker’s decision. Ind. Code § 29-3-14-11(b). Liability of Third Parties: Protected from liability for good faith reliance or refusal to rely on SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-11(a). Reporting: Third parties must report if they have reasonable belief of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-13. Reliance: “A request or decision made or communicated with the assistance of a supporter in conformity with this chapter shall be recognized as the request or decision of the” decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-6. SDMA agreement that complies with the law is “presumed valid.” <i>Id.</i> § 29-3-14-10.	Ind. Code § 29-3-14-8 (revocation); <i>id.</i> § 29-3-14-9 (termination).
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Kansas	<u>SDMA only:</u> Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 2(m) (2026). SDMA: “[A]n agreement authorized under section 3, and amendments thereto.” See <i>also id.</i> § 3(a) (“A supported decision-making agreement allows an adult to receive decision-making assistance with the adult’s affairs from one or more other adults.”).	<u>Informal SDM:</u> SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 9(c)(2). <u>Formal SDM:</u> Must be in substantial compliance with a form set forth by the judicial council. <i>Id.</i> § 5(b). Must also comply with list of required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 4(a),(c), 5(a).	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who enters into a supported decision-making agreement under the supported decision-making agreements act to receive decision-making assistance.” Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 2(k). <u>Limits:</u> None indicated. <u>Guardianship:</u> Can coexist with guardianship or conservatorship but cannot encroach without guardian/conservator’s approval. <i>Id.</i> §§ 3(c), 5(a)(4). The SDMA is terminated if the decision-maker “becomes incapacitated.” <i>Id.</i> § 6(d). <u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 9(b).	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A]n adult who enters into a supported decision-making agreement under the supported decision-making agreements act and provides decision-making assistance.” Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 2(n). <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> “A supporter owes the principal a fiduciary duty to act in accordance with the supported decision-making agreement.” <i>Id.</i> § 7(a). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 7(f)(1). <u>Scope:</u> Lists types of assistance supporter may provide such as assisting with making/communicating decisions, accompanying the decision-maker in discussions, and accessing information. <i>Id.</i> § 7(b). Lists supporter prohibitions such as exerting undue influence and making decisions on behalf of the principal. <i>Id.</i> § 7(e).	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Supporter protected from liability if acting in good faith in accordance with the statute’s provisions. Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 7(g). <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Third parties relying in good faith are not liable for honoring or declining to honor the SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 8(b). <u>Reporting:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reliance:</u> “A person shall recognize a decision or request made or communicated with the decision-making assistance of a supporter under the supported decision-making agreements act as the decision or request of the principal for the purposes of a provision of law.” <i>Id.</i> § 8(a).	Kan. Stat. Ann. Ch. 77, § 6 (termination).
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Louisiana	SDM and SDMA: La. Stat. Ann. §§ 13:4261.102(3)-(4) (2025). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult to enable the adult to make life decisions, including decisions related to where the adult wants to live, the services, supports, and medical care the adult wants to receive, with whom the adult wants to live, and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between an adult and a supporter entered into under this Chapter.”	Informal SDM: Not addressed. Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. La. Stat. Ann. § 13:4261.205.	Decision-Maker: “[A]n individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12102, who has attained eighteen years of age or who is an emancipated minor.” La. Stat. Ann. § 13:4261.102(1). Limits: Adults with disabilities as defined by the ADA (see above). Guardianship: SDMA must be signed by guardian if decision-maker “lacks capacity.” <i>Id.</i> § 13:4261.205.C. See also <i>id.</i> § 13:4261.207(6) (ending or requiring adjustments to the SDMA in the event of temporary or permanent guardianship appointment or incapacity determination). Capacity: Not addressed.	Supporter: “[A]n individual who has attained the age of eighteen years of age and entered into a supported decisionmaking agreement with an adult.” La. Stat. Ann. § 13:4261.102(5). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. Outlines “requirements of supporter” including acting honestly, diligently and in good faith, avoiding conflicts of interest, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 13:4261.203. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 13:4261.208.B. Scope: Outlines scope of supporter role and assistance supporter can provide (such as: assisting with accessing/ understanding information and communicating decisions). <i>Id.</i> §§ 13:4261.201-202. Supporter prohibitions are outlined (no undue influence, acting outside scope of SDMA, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 13:4261.204.	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: Not addressed. Reporting: Requires reporting when third party has “cause to believe” abuse, neglect, or exploitation. La. Stat. Ann. § 13:4261.302. Reliance: SDMA in compliance with the statute is presumed valid. <i>Id.</i> § 13:4261.301.	La. Stat. Ann. § 13:4261.206 (revocation); <i>id.</i> § 13:4261.207 (termination).
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Maryland	SDM and SDMA: Md. Code Ann., Est. & Trusts §§ 18-101(b)-(c) (2026). SDM: “[A] process by which an adult, with or without having entered a supported decisionmaking agreement, utilizes support from a series of relationships in order to make, communicate, or effectuate the adult’s own life decisions.” SDMA: “[A]n arrangement between an adult and a supporter or supporters that describes: (1) How the adult uses supported decision making to make decisions; (2) The rights of the adult; and (3) The responsibilities of the supporter or supporters.”	Informal SDM: “The availability of a supported decision-making agreement is not intended to limit the informal use of supported decision making or to preclude judicial consideration of informal supported decision-making arrangements as a less restrictive alternative to guardianship.” Md. Code Ann., Est. & Trusts § 18-104(e); <i>see also id.</i> § 18-103(d)(2)(i) (execution of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 18-107.	Decision-Maker: Not defined, can be any “adult.” See Md. Code Ann., Est. & Trusts § 18-101(b). Limits: None indicated. Guardianship: SDMA does not supplant guardian authority and is a less restrictive alternative to guardianship. <i>Id.</i> §§ 18-104(b)(1)-(2), (e); <i>see also id.</i> §§ 18-102(a)(2), 18-103(a)(2). However, SDMA must be approved by the court if it affects the authority of an appointed guardian. <i>Id.</i> § 18-107(b)(8). Capacity: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 18-103 (d)(1).	Supporter: “[A]n individual selected by an adult to provide support in making, communicating, or effectuating the adult’s own life decisions” Md. Code Ann., Est. & Trusts § 18-101(d). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. Outlines duties of supporter including acting honestly, diligently and in good faith, avoiding conflicts of interest, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 18-105. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 18-105(a)(6). Scope: Supporter prohibitions are outlined (no undue influence, coercion, acting outside authority of the SDMA). <i>Id.</i> § 18-105(c); <i>see also id.</i> § 18-107(9).	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: Third parties not subject to liability if acted in good faith in honoring or declining to honor SDMA, but certain conduct is carved out from this liability protection. Md. Code Ann., Est. & Trusts § 18-109(a)-(b). Reporting: Not addressed. Reliance: Not addressed separately from liability protections.	MD EST & TRST § 18-108 (revocation).
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Nevada	<u>SDMA only:</u> Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.080 (2025). SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a principal and one or more supporters that is entered into pursuant to this chapter.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.300. <u>Formal SDM:</u> No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.200.2.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who seeks to enter, or has entered, into a supported decision-making agreement with one or more supporters pursuant to this chapter” Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.060. <u>Limits:</u> None indicated. <u>Guardianship:</u> Not addressed directly, but “purpose” section states that adults should “receive the most effective, yet least restrictive” form of support. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.100.2.(c). <u>Capacity:</u> SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.300.	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A] person who is named in a supported decision-making agreement to provide specified assistance to a principal.” Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.090. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. General duty to act with care, competence and diligence. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.210.3. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.220.2. <u>Scope:</u> Outlines assistance supporter may provide (such as assisting the decision-maker understand information, helping the decision-maker make appointments and monitor their affairs. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.210.1. Supporter prohibitions are also details (no undue influence, making decisions on behalf of the decision-maker, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 162C.210.2.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Third parties are not subject to liability for good faith reliance. Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.320. <u>Reporting:</u> SDMA law does not affect existing reporting requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 162C.330. <u>Reliance:</u> “A decision or request made or communicated by a principal with the assistance of a supporter in accordance with this chapter must, for the purposes of any provision of law, be recognized as the decision or request of the principal[.]” <i>Id.</i> § 162C.310.	Nev. Rev. Stat. § 162C.200.3. (termination).
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New Hampshire	<u>SDM only:</u> N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:4.VI. (2026). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult with a disability to enable the adult to make life decisions, including, without limitation, decisions related to where the adult wants to live, the services, supports, and medical care the adult wants to receive, whom the adult wants to live with, education, and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting indecently. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:3.IV. <u>Formal SDM:</u> Statutory provided. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:16. The SDMA must “contain[] the elements of” the statutory form. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:7.III.(a). Also lists required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:7.I., III., IV., V.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who enters into a supported decision-making agreement under this chapter to receive decisionmaking assistance” N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:4.V. <u>Limits:</u> Adults with disabilities. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:4.VI. “Disability” defined as “physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of a person.” <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:4.II. <u>Guardianship:</u> SDMA can coexist but not conflict with guardianship. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:6.I. States that a purpose of the law is to establish an alternative to guardianship for adults with disabilities. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:1. <u>Capacity:</u> SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:3.III.	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A]n adult who enters into an agreement with an adult with a disability to provide supported decisionmaking” N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:4.VII. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> “A supporter is in a fiduciary relationship with the Decision-Maker” and must comply with specific requirements such as acting within the authority granted by the agreement, avoiding conflicts of interest, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:9. Confidentiality obligations. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:15.II. <u>Scope:</u> Authority of supporter and prohibitions are outlined (no undue influence, obtaining information without consent, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:10.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reporting:</u> Third parties must report if they have cause to believe abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation of decision-maker. N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:14.I. The law does not impact existing reporting obligations. <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:14.II. <u>Reliance:</u> “A decision or request made or communicated with the assistance of a supporter in conformity with this chapter shall be recognized for the purposes of any provision of law as the decision or request of the principal[.]” <i>Id.</i> § 464-D:11.	N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 464-D:8 (termination).
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New Mexico	<u>Defines “decision-making support” and SDMA:</u> N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-2.C.-D. (2026) Decision-making support: “means assistance in understanding the options, responsibilities and consequences of a decision-maker’s life decisions without making those decisions on behalf of the decision-maker[.]” SDMA: “means an agreement entered into between a decision-maker and a supporter pursuant to the provisions of the Supported Decision-Making Act[.]”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-5.C. <u>Formal SDM:</u> Required form to be provided by the State’s supreme court. <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-4. Statute also includes signature/notarization requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-4.B.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult who seeks to enter, or has entered, into a supported decision-making agreement with one or more supporters pursuant to the Supported Decision-Making Act” N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-2.B. <u>Limits:</u> None indicated. <u>Guardianship:</u> Not addressed. <u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-5.C.	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A]n adult who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a decision-maker pursuant to the Supported Decision-Making Act” N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-2.E. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. General duties of good faith, care, competence, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-6.A. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-8. <u>Scope:</u> Addresses supporter prohibitions (including prohibition against making decisions for the decision-maker, signing on behalf of decision-maker, binding the decision-maker to a legal agreement, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-6.B. Scope of supporter role is also outlined (may assist the decision-maker understand information, access information, communicate decisions, etc). <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-3.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reporting:</u> Third parties shall report if have cause to believe abuse, neglect or exploitation. N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-13 <u>Reliance:</u> Third parties shall rely on the agreement unless they suspect abuse, neglect, or exploitation. <i>Id.</i> §§ 24-7D-10. “A decision or request made or communicated with the assistance of a supporter in conformity with the Supported Decision-Making Act shall be recognized for the purposes of any provision of law as the decision or request of the decision-maker.” <i>Id.</i> § 24-7D-11.	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 24-7D-12 (termination and revocation).
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New York	SDM and SDMA: N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law §§ 82.02(i)–(j) (McKinney 2026). SDM: “[A] way by which a decision-maker utilizes support from trusted persons in their life, in order to make their own decisions about their life, including, but not limited to, decisions related to where and with whom the decision-maker wants to live; decisions about finances; the services, supports, and health care the decision-maker wants to receive; and where the decision-maker wants to work.” SDMA: “is an agreement a decision-maker enters into with one or more supporters under this section that describes how	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law § 82.04(b). The availability of SDMA is not intended to limit the informal use of SDM or “preclude judicial consideration of such informal arrangements as less restrictive alternatives to guardianship.” <i>Id.</i> § 82.04(f); <i>see also id.</i> § 82.02(j). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> § 82.10	Decision-Maker: “[A]n adult who has executed, or seeks to execute, a supported decision-making agreement” N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law § 82.02(d). Limits: People with intellectual and developmental disabilities. <i>Id.</i> § 82.05. Guardianship: “For the purposes of this article, every adult shall be presumed to have the capacity to enter into a supported decision-making agreement, unless that adult has a legal guardian, appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, whose granted authority is in conflict with the proposed supported decision-making agreement.” <i>Id.</i> § 82.03(a). “A supported decision-making agreement made pursuant to this article may be evidence that the decision-maker has a less restrictive alternative to guardianship in place.” <i>Id.</i> § 82.04(e)	Supporter: “[A]n adult who has voluntarily entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a decision-maker, agreeing to assist the decision-maker in making their own decisions as prescribed by the supported decision-making agreement, and who is not ineligible under section 82.08 of this article.” N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law § 82.02(k). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General duties of good faith, honesty, diligence, acting within scope of agreement, etc. <i>Id.</i> Supporters must also participate in specified facilitation/education programs. <i>Id.</i> § 82.05(a). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 82.05(f). Scope: Supporter prohibitions outlined (may not make decisions for decision-maker, exert undue influence, coerce, obtain information without consent, etc.). <i>Id.</i> §§ 82.05(b), (d).	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: A person is relieved of liability for certain actions based on good faith reliance if the SDMA was executed in accordance with “facilitation/education” processes described in regulations promulgated by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities. N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law §§ 82.09, 82.12. Reporting: Third parties shall report if have cause to believe abuse, physical coercion, or financial exploitation. <i>Id.</i> § 82.14(a). The law does not impact existing reporting requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 82.14(b). Reliance: If the SDMA was executed in accordance with “facilitation/education” processes described above, a “decision or request made or communicated by a	N.Y. Mental Hyg. Law § 82.07 (revocation).
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	the decision-maker uses supported decision-making to make their own decisions. Supported decision-making agreements can either be an informal arrangement between the decision-maker and his or her supporter or supporters, or one that is in accordance with section 82.11 of this article, which has been reviewed and signed by a facilitator.”		<u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 82.03(e).		decision-maker with the assistance of a supporter” is treated as the decision or request made by the decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 82.11(a)-(b).	
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North Dakota	SDM and SDMA: N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-01.3.-4. (2026). SDM: “[A]ssistance from a person of a named individual's choosing: a. To identify, collect, and organize documents that apply to a decision the named individual is considering; b. To identify, collect, and organize information that may be helpful to the named individual when making a decision; c. To help the named individual understand documents; d. To identify choices available for a responsible decision; e. To identify advantages and disadvantages of available choices; f. To communicate	Informal SDM: “A supported decisionmaking agreement does not prevent the named individual from: a. Getting decisionmaking assistance from someone who is not a supporter in a supported decisionmaking agreement; b. Making decisions independently without consulting a supporter; or c. Getting access to and copies of documents and records about the named individual” N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-04.5. Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. No list of required elements other than those indicated in the SDMA definition. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-01.4. Witnesses are required who meet certain criteria. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-07.	Decision-Maker: “[T]he individual identified in a supported decisionmaking agreement who is to receive decisionmaking assistance.” N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-01.2. Limits: None indicated. Guardianship: SDMA can be terminated if a court determines the decision-maker lacks capacity. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-05.3.(c) Capacity: SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> §§ 30.1-36-04.6.	Supporter: “[A] person that has signed a supported decisionmaking agreement, agreeing to provide assistance to the named Individual.” N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-01.5. Fiduciary/Obligations: Not addressed. Supporter must maintain confidentiality. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-06. Scope: Lists supports that may be provided by supporter. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-01.3 (see definitions section). SDMA “does not give a supporter the ability to act as a surrogate decisionmaker. A supported decisionmaking agreement does not give a supporter the authority to sign documents on behalf of the named Individual.” <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-04.7.	Liability of Supporters: Supporter not liable for acts performed in good faith unless certain conditions met. N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-03. Liability of Third Parties: Third parties not liable for good faith reliance on SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-08.2.-3. Reporting: Not addressed. Reliance: Third parties must rely on SDMA unless specified criteria are met. <i>Id.</i> § 30.1-36-08.1.	N.D. Cent. Code § 30.1-36-05 (termination).
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	any decision by the named individual to others at the request of the named individual; or g. To explain the decisionmaking process allowed under this subsection to the court in any proceeding to create or modify a guardianship or conservatorship for the named individual.” SDMA: “means a written, signed, dated, and witnessed understanding between a named individual and a trusted adult who agrees to provide assistance for decisionmaking to maximize the named individual's ability to make informed, voluntary choices, including choices within: a. Health					
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	care. b. Residence. c. Finances. d. Education. e. Legal affairs. f. Vocation.”					
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Rhode Island	SDM and SDMA: 42 R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 66.13-3(8)-(9) (2026). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult to enable the adult to make life decisions, including decisions related to where the adult wants to live; the services, supports, and medical care the adult wants to receive; with whom the adult wants to live; and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a Decision-Maker and a supporter entered into under this chapter.”	Informal SDM: The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. 42 R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66.13-4(c). Formal SDM: Form provided. <i>Id.</i> 42-66.13-10. May be in any form not inconsistent with that provided in statute and must include required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 42-66.13-5(a), (c)-(d).	Decision-Maker: “[A]n adult with a disability who seeks to enter, or has entered, into a supported decision-making agreement with a supporter under this chapter.” RI ST § 42-66.13-3(7). “Disability” defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of a person. <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-3(3). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see above). Guardianship: The purpose of this chapter is to . . . establish the use of supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship.” <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-2(a)(4). Capacity: An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. 42 R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66.13-4(c)	Supporter: “[A] person who is named in a supported decision-making agreement and is not prohibited from acting pursuant to § 42-66.13-6(b).” 42 R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66.13-3(10). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General duties to act with care, competence, and diligence. <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-6(c). Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-8(b). Scope: Outlines types of support supporters may provide such as: assisting the decision-maker understand their options, helping the decision-maker monitor information about their affairs, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-6(a).	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: Not addressed. Reporting: Third parties with cause to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation of an adult with a developmental disability or an elder shall report. 42 R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66.13-9. Reliance: “A decision or request made or communicated with the assistance of a supporter in conformity with this chapter shall be recognized for the purposes of any provision of law as the decision or request of the principal” <i>Id.</i> § 42-66.13-7.	42 R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-66.13-5(g) (revocation)
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Texas	SDM and SDMA: Tex. Est. Code Ann. §§ 1357.002(3)-(4) (West 2025). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult with a disability to enable the adult to make life decisions, including decisions related to where the adult wants to live, the services, supports, and medical care the adult wants to receive, whom the adult wants to live with, and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between an adult with a disability and a supporter entered into under this chapter.”	Informal SDM: Not addressed. Formal SDM: Must substantially follow the form provided in statute and comply with authorization and witness requirements. Tex. Est. Code Ann. §§ 1357.055-056.	Decision-Maker: “[A]n individual 18 years of age or older or an individual under 18 years of age who has had the disabilities of minority removed.” Tex. Est. Code Ann. § 1357.002(1). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see definitions section). Guardianship: The purpose of the law is to “recognize a less restrictive alternative to guardianship.” <i>Id.</i> § 1357.003. The SDMA is terminated if a guardian is appointed for decision-maker. <i>Id.</i> § 1357.053(b)(3) Capacity: Whether SDMA can be used as evidence of incapacity is not addressed, but the law notes SDM is for adults who are not considered incapacitated. <i>Id.</i> § 1357.003.	Supporter: “[A]n adult who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with an adult with a disability.” Tex. Est. Code Ann. § 1357.002(5). Fiduciary/Obligations: “The supporter owes to the adult with a disability fiduciary duties[.]” <i>Id.</i> § 1357.052(b). The relationship “is one of trust and confidence,” and the supporter shall keep information “privileged and confidential.” <i>Id.</i> §§ 1357.052(c)(1); 1357.054(b). Scope: Outlines scope of support supporters may provide such as: assisting the adult in understanding information, communicating decisions to appropriate persons, etc.. <i>Id.</i> § 1357.051.	Liability of Supporters: Not addressed. Liability of Third Parties: Not liable for good faith reliance on SDMA. Tex. Est. Code Ann. § 1357.101(b). Reporting: Person with cause to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation shall report. <i>Id.</i> § 1357.102; <i>see also id.</i> § 1357.056. Reliance: Persons who receive the SDMA “shall rely” on it. <i>Id.</i> § 1357.101(a).	Tex. Est. Code Ann. § 1357.053 (termination)
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Utah	SDM and SDMA: Utah Code Ann. §§ 75-5-701(12)-(13) (West 2026). SDM: “[T]he process of supporting and accommodating an individual in the decision-making process to make, communicate, and effectuate life decisions, without impeding the self-determination of the individual.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a principal and at least one supporter, subject to the requirements described in Section 75-5-704.”	Informal SDM: “The availability of a supported decision-making agreement does not limit the informal use of supported decision making, or preclude judicial consideration of informal supported decision-making arrangements as a less restrictive alternative to a guardianship or conservatorship Utah Code Ann. § 75-5-708(2). Formal SDM: No form provided in statute. List of required elements. <i>Id.</i> §§ 75-5-704(3), (6).	Decision-Maker: “[A]n individual who: (a) is 18 years old or older; (b) has a disability, as that term is defined in Section 26B-6-801; and (c) has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with at least one supporter.” Utah Code Ann. § 75-5-701(8). Limits: Adults with disabilities (see above). Guardianship: Decision-Maker can be under guardianship or conservatorship, but guardian/conservator is entitled to notice, an opportunity to review the agreement and, in some cases, participate in SDM and sign the SDMA. <i>See Id.</i> § 75-5-704(2). An SDMA terminates if a court determines the decision-maker does not have capacity, or if the court appoints a guardian (unless appointment allows the SDMA to continue). <i>Id.</i> § 75-7-707(6).	Supporter: “means an individual: (a) who is 18 years old or older; (b) who is not being paid to provide support to the principal, unless the individual is receiving caregiver compensation through the Division of Services for People with Disabilities or is a sibling of the Decision-Maker who cares for the Decision-Maker; (c) who does not have any of the following: (i) a substantiated allegation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation; (ii) a protective or restraining order; or (iii) a conviction for: (A) harm of another; (B) theft; or (C) financial crime; and (d) who has agreed to provide specified assistance to a principal by entering into a supported decision-making agreement with the principal.” Utah Code Ann. § 75-5-701(14). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. General obligations to act with care, competence, diligence, good faith, and to maintain specified records and ensure confidentiality.	Liability of Supporters: Supporter can be liable to decision-maker if violated terms of SDMA. Utah Code Ann. § 75-5-709(4). Liability of Third Parties: Not liable for good faith reliance on SDMA. <i>Id.</i> § 75-5-709(1). Reporting: A person with reason to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation must immediately report. <i>Id.</i> § 75-5-709(2). Reliance: “A decision or request made or communicated by a principal with the assistance of a supporter in accordance with the terms of a supported decision-making agreement and this part shall, for the purposes of any provision of law, be recognized as the decision or request of the principal[.]” <i>Id.</i> §§ 75-5-708(1).	Utah Code Ann. § 75-5-706 (revocation); <i>id.</i> § 75-5-707 (termination).
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			<u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 75-5-708(4).	<i>Id.</i> § 75-5-705(1). <u>Scope:</u> Supporter is prohibited from certain actions (coercion, making decisions on behalf of decision-maker, signing documents, etc.). <i>Id.</i> § 75-5-705(3). The law also outlines the types of support a supporter may provide such as assisting the decision-maker obtain information, helping the decision-maker monitor their affairs, etc. <i>Id.</i> § 75-5-705((2).		
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Virginia	<u>SDMA only:</u> Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-314.3.A. (2026). SDMA: “[A]n agreement between a principal and a supporter that sets out the specific terms of support to be provided by the supporter, including (i) helping the principal monitor and manage his medical, financial, and other affairs; (ii) assisting the principal in accessing, obtaining, and understanding information relevant to decisions regarding his affairs; (iii) assisting the principal in understanding information, options, responsibilities, and consequences of decisions; and (iv) ascertaining	<u>Informal SDM:</u> Not addressed. <u>Formal SDM:</u> None indicated.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> “[A]n adult with an intellectual or developmental disability who seeks to enter or has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a supporter.” Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-314.A. <u>Limits:</u> Adults with IDD (see above). <u>Guardianship:</u> Not addressed. <u>Capacity:</u> Not addressed.	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A] person who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with a principal.” Va. Code Ann. § 37.2-314.3.A. <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> Not addressed. <u>Scope:</u> Not addressed.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed. <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reporting:</u> Not addressed. <u>Reliance:</u> Not addressed.	None.
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	the wishes and decisions of the principal regarding his affairs, assisting in communicating such wishes and decisions to other persons, and advocating to ensure the wishes and decisions of the principal are implemented.”					
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Washington	<u>SDMA only:</u> Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.700(2) (2026). SDMA: “[A]n agreement between an adult with a disability and one or more supporters entered into under this chapter.”	<u>Informal SDM:</u> The existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.710(3). <u>Formal SDM:</u> Must substantially follow the form provided in statute. <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.745. Also includes a list of requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.740.	<u>Decision-Maker:</u> Not directly defined. Limited to adults with disabilities. Disability defined as “a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.” Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.700(1). <u>Limits:</u> Adults with disabilities. <u>Guardianship:</u> Purpose of SDMA is to “recognize a less restrictive alternative to guardianship for adults with disabilities who need assistance with decisions regarding daily living.” <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.705. <u>Capacity:</u> An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.710(3).	<u>Supporter:</u> “[A]n adult who has entered into a supported decision-making agreement with an adult with a disability.” Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.700(3). <u>Fiduciary/Obligations:</u> No fiduciary obligation. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.735(2). <u>Scope:</u> Outlines types of assistance supporter may provide such as help understanding options or accessing information. <i>Id.</i> §§ 11.130.715., 11.130.720.	<u>Liability of Supporters:</u> Not addressed <u>Liability of Third Parties:</u> Not liable for relying on SDMA in good faith. Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.750(2). <u>Reporting:</u> Third parties shall report if cause to believe abuse, abandonment, neglect, or exploitation. <i>Id.</i> § 11.130.755; <i>see also id.</i> § 11.130.745. <u>Reliance:</u> Third parties shall rely on SDMA but may request certification from supporter. <i>Id.</i> §§ 11.130.750(1), (3)-(6).	Wash. Rev. Code § 11.130.725 (termination).
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Wisconsin	SDM and SDMA: Wis. Stat. §§ 52.01(6)-(7) (2026). SDM: “[A] process of supporting and accommodating an adult with a functional impairment to enable the adult to make life decisions, including decisions related to where the adult wants to live, the services, supports, and medical care the adult wants to receive, whom the adult wants to live with, and where the adult wants to work, without impeding the self-determination of the adult.” SDMA: “[A]n agreement between an adult with a functional impairment and a supporter entered into	Informal SDM: Existence of an SDMA does not preclude acting independently. Wis. Stat. § 52.03. Formal SDM: Must substantially follow the form. <i>Id.</i> § 52.20. Also includes a list of requirements. <i>Id.</i> § 52.18.	Decision-Maker: Not directly defined. Limited to adults with “functional impairment[s]”. Wis. Stat. § 52.01(8). Functional impairment is defined as: (a) A physical, developmental, or mental condition that substantially limits one or more of an individual's major life activities, including any of the following: 1. Capacity for independent living. 2. Self direction. 3. Self care. 4. Mobility. 5. Communication. 6. Learning. (b) Impairment, as defined under s. 54.01(14) (c) Other like incapacities, as defined under s. 54.01(22). <i>Id.</i> § 52.01(2). Limits: Adults with functional impairments (see above). Guardianship: Not addressed.	Supporter: “[A]n adult who is willing to enter into an agreement with an adult with a functional impairment to provide supported decision-making.” Wis. Stat. § 52.01(8). Fiduciary/Obligations: No fiduciary obligation. Confidentiality obligation. <i>Id.</i> § 52.16(4). Scope: Lists of forms of support supporter may provide such as providing assistance in accessing information, understanding information, or communicating decisions. <i>Id.</i> § 52.10(1); see also <i>id.</i> § 52.10. The supporter is not a surrogate decision maker or signatory. <i>Id.</i> § 52.10(2).	Liability of Supporters: Not civilly liable if perform duties in good faith, in conformance with SDMA, and with degree or prudence an ordinarily prudent person exercises in their own affairs. Wis. Stat. § 52.30(8). Liability of Third Parties: Not liable for relying on SDMA in good faith. <i>Id.</i> § 52.30(2)-(6). Reporting: Person with reasonable cause to believe abuse, neglect, or exploitation may report. <i>Id.</i> § 52.32(1). The statute does not impact existing reporting obligations. <i>Id.</i> § 52.32(2). Reliance: A person who receives SDMA shall rely on the agreement unless they have reason to believe the decision-maker is being abused, neglected, unduly influenced, or exploited. <i>Id.</i> § 52.30(1).	Wis. Stat. § 52.14(3) (revocation).
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	under this chapter.”		<u>Capacity</u> : An SDMA is not evidence of incapacity. <i>Id.</i> § 52.03.			
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