

(2) ALL DEBTS AND CONTRACTS INCURRED BY THEM AS MEMBERS OF THE ORIGINAL CHURCH ARE DISCHARGED.

(B) NEW CHURCH ENTITLED TO BENEFITS OF INCORPORATION.

WHEN INCORPORATED, THE NEW CHURCH IS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF THIS SUBTITLE RELATING TO RELIGIOUS CORPORATIONS.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from Art. 23, §266.

5-312. VALIDATION OF RELIGIOUS CORPORATIONS AND UNFILED, LOST, OR DESTROYED PLANS OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

(A) EFFECT OF FILING PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AFTER STATUTORY PERIOD.

IF ANY CHURCH ORGANIZED SINCE 1800 AS A RELIGIOUS CORPORATION UNDER ANY LAW OF THE STATE DID NOT FILE ITS PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FOR RECORD IN THE PROPER OFFICE WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY LAW, BUT SUBSEQUENTLY FILES ITS PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION IN THE PROPER OFFICE:

(1) THE CHURCH IS A LAWFUL RELIGIOUS CORPORATION;

(2) THE DATE OF INCORPORATION IS THE DATE OF THE PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION; AND

(3) IF OTHERWISE LAWFUL, EVERY ACTION OF THE CHURCH FROM THE DATE OF INCORPORATION IS VALID.

(B) PRESUMPTION OF PROPER FILING.

THERE IS A CONCLUSIVE PRESUMPTION IN EVERY COURT OF THE STATE THAT A PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF A RELIGIOUS CORPORATION WERE PROPERLY FILED FOR RECORD IN THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE AND THAT THESE RECORDS WERE LOST OR DESTROYED, IF:

(1) IT APPEARS FROM THE RECORD BOOK OF THE RELIGIOUS CORPORATION OR FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE THAT THE CHURCH ADOPTED A VALID PLAN OR ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION; AND

(2) THERE IS NO BOOK OR RECORD IN THE APPROPRIATE OFFICE FOR RECORDING THE PLAN OR THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF RELIGIOUS CORPORATIONS.

(C) FILING UNFILED OR LOST PLAN OR ARTICLES OF