

	LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Senate		House
Comm: RS		
04/09/2015		
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The Committee on Judiciary (Stargel) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

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Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 718.116, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.116 Assessments; liability; lien and priority; interest; collection.-

(8) An association shall issue an estoppel certificate to a unit owner or the unit owner's designee or a unit mortgagee or the unit mortgagee's designee within 10 business <del>15</del> days after

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receiving a written request for the certificate. The estoppel certificate must be delivered by mail, by hand delivery, or by electronic means to the requester on the date of issuance.

- (a) The estoppel certificate must contain all of the following:
  - 1. The date of issuance.
- 2. The amount of all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the unit owner for a specific unit on the date of issuance. This amount is limited to amounts authorized by statute to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 718.111(12).
- 3. The amount of any additional assessments and other moneys that are scheduled to become due for each day after the date of issuance for the 30-day or 35-day effective period of the estoppel certificate. This amount is limited to amounts authorized by statute to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 718.111(12). In calculating the amounts that are scheduled to become due, the association may assume that any delinquent amounts will remain delinquent during the effective period of the estoppel certificate.
- 4. The amount of any fee charged by the association for preparing and delivering the estoppel certificate. This fee is in addition to any other amounts on the estoppel certificate.
  - 5. The signature of an officer or agent of the association.
- (b) An estoppel certificate that is delivered on the date of issuance has a 30-day effective period. An estoppel certificate that is mailed to the requester has a 35-day effective period.
  - (c) An association waives the right to collect any moneys

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owed in excess of the amounts specified in the estoppel certificate from any person who in good faith relies upon the estoppel certificate and from the person's successors and assigns. therefor from a unit owner or his or her designee, or a unit mortgagee or his or her designee, the association shall provide a certificate signed by an officer or agent of the association stating all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the unit owner with respect to the condominium parcel.

- (a) Any person other than the owner who relies upon such certificate shall be protected thereby.
- (d) (b) A summary proceeding pursuant to s. 51.011 may be brought to compel compliance with this subsection, and in any such action the prevailing party is entitled to recover reasonable attorney attorney's fees.
- (e)1.<del>(c)</del> Notwithstanding any limitation on transfer fees contained in s. 718.112(2)(i), an the association or its authorized agent may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed its reasonable costs to prepare and deliver for the preparation of the estoppel certificate. However, the fee for the estoppel certificate may not exceed \$100 if on the date the certificate is issued, there are no delinquent amounts owed to the association for the applicable unit. If delinquent amounts are owed to the association for the applicable unit, the fee for the estoppel certificate may not exceed \$300. The association may not charge a fee for an estoppel certificate that is issued more than 10 business days after it receives the request for the certificate. The amount of the fee must be included on the certificate.

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2. If the estoppel certificate is requested in conjunction with the sale or refinancing of a unit, the fee for the certificate shall be paid to the association from the closing or settlement proceeds. If the closing does not occur within 60 days after the issuance of the estoppel certificate, the fee for the certificate is the obligation of the unit owner, and the association may collect the fee in the same manner as an assessment against the unit. An association may not require the payment of any other fees as a condition for the preparation or delivery of an estoppel certificate.

(f) (d) The authority to charge a fee for the estoppel certificate must shall be established by a written resolution adopted by the board or provided by a written management, bookkeeping, or maintenance contract and is payable upon the preparation of the certificate. If the certificate is requested in conjunction with the sale or mortgage of a unit but the closing does not occur and no later than 30 days after the closing date for which the certificate was sought the preparer receives a written request, accompanied by reasonable documentation, that the sale did not occur from a payor that is not the unit owner, the fee shall be refunded to that payor within 30 days after receipt of the request. The refund is the obligation of the unit owner, and the association may collect it from that owner in the same manner as an assessment as provided in this section.

Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 719.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

719.108 Rents and assessments; liability; lien and priority; interest; collection; cooperative ownership.-

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- (6) An association shall issue an estoppel certificate to a unit owner or the unit owner's designee or a unit mortgagee or the unit mortgagee's designee within 10 business 15 days after receiving a written request for the certificate. The estoppel certificate must be delivered by mail, by hand delivery, or by electronic means to the requester on the date of issuance.
- (a) The estoppel certificate must contain all of the following:
  - 1. The date of issuance.
- 2. The amount of all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the unit owner for a specific unit on the date of issuance. This amount is limited to the amounts authorized to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 719.104(2).
- 3. The amount of any additional assessments and other moneys that are scheduled to become due for each day after the date of issuance for the 30-day or 35-day effective period of the estoppel certificate. This amount is limited to the amounts authorized to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 719.104(2). In calculating the amounts that are scheduled to become due, the association may assume that any delinquent amounts will remain delinquent during the effective period of the estoppel certificate.
- 4. The amount of any fee charged by the association for preparing and delivering the estoppel certificate. This fee is in addition to any other amounts on the estoppel certificate.
  - 5. The signature of an officer or agent of the association.
- (b) An estoppel certificate that is delivered on the date of issuance has a 30-day effective period. An estoppel

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certificate that is mailed to the requester has a 35-day effective period.

- (c) An association waives the right to collect any moneys owed in excess of the amounts specified in the estoppel certificate from any person who in good faith relies upon the estoppel certificate and from that person's successors and assigns.
- (d) A summary proceeding pursuant to s. 51.011 may be brought to compel compliance with this subsection, and in any such action the prevailing party is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees. by a unit owner or mortgagee, the association shall provide a certificate stating all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the unit owner with respect to the cooperative parcel. Any person other than the unit owner who relies upon such certificate shall be protected thereby.
- (e) 1. Notwithstanding any limitation on transfer fees contained in s. 719.106(1)(i), an the association or its authorized agent may charge a reasonable fee, not to exceed its reasonable costs to prepare and deliver for the preparation of the estoppel certificate. However, the fee for the estoppel certificate may not exceed \$100 if on the date the certificate is issued, there are no delinquent amounts owed to the association for the applicable unit. If delinquent amounts are owed to the association for the applicable unit, the fee for the estoppel certificate may not exceed \$300. The association may not charge a fee for an estoppel certificate that is issued more than 10 business days after it receives a request for the certificate.

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- 2. If the estoppel certificate is requested in conjunction with the sale or refinancing of a unit, the fee for the certificate shall be paid to the association from the closing or settlement proceeds. If the closing does not occur within 60 days after the issuance of the estoppel certificate, the fee for the certificate is the obligation of the unit owner, and the association may collect the fee in the same manner as an assessment against the unit. An association may not require the payment of any other fees as a condition for the preparation or delivery of an estoppel certificate.
- (f) The authority to charge a fee for the estoppel certificate must be established by a written resolution adopted by the board or provided by a written management, bookkeeping, or maintenance contract.

Section 3. Section 720.30851, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

720.30851 Estoppel certificates.—An association shall issue an estoppel certificate to a parcel owner or the parcel owner's designee or a mortgagee or the mortgagee's designee within 10 business <del>15</del> days after receiving a written request for the certificate. The estoppel certificate must be delivered by mail, by hand delivery, or by electronic means to the requester on the date of issuance.

- (1) The estoppel certificate must contain all of the following:
  - (a) The date of issuance.
- (b) The amount of all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the parcel owner for a specific parcel as recorded on the date of issuance. This amount is limited to

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amounts authorized by statute to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 720.303(4).

- (c) The amount of any additional assessments and other moneys that are scheduled to become due for each day after the date of issuance for the 30-day or 35-day effective period of the estoppel certificate. This amount is limited to amounts authorized by statute to be recorded in the official records of the association under s. 720.303(4). In calculating the amounts that are scheduled to become due, the association may assume that any delinquent amounts will remain delinquent during the effective period of the estoppel certificate.
- (d) The amount of any fee charged by the association for preparing and delivering the estoppel certificate. This fee is in addition to any other amounts on the certificate.
- (e) The signature of an officer or agent of the association.
- (2) An estoppel certificate that is delivered on the date of issuance has a 30-day effective period. An estoppel certificate that is mailed to the requester has a 35-day effective period.
- (3) An association waives the right to collect any moneys owed in excess of the amounts specified in the estoppel certificate from any person who in good faith relies upon the estoppel certificate and from that person's successors and assigns. the date on which a request for an estoppel certificate is received from a parcel owner or mortgagee, or his or her designee, the association shall provide a certificate signed by an officer or authorized agent of the association stating all assessments and other moneys owed to the association by the

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parcel owner or mortgagee with respect to the parcel. An association may charge a fee for the preparation of such certificate, and the amount of such fee must be stated on the certificate.

- (1) Any person other than a parcel owner who relies upon a certificate receives the benefits and protection thereof.
- (4) (2) A summary proceeding pursuant to s. 51.011 may be brought to compel compliance with this section, and the prevailing party is entitled to recover reasonable attorney attorney's fees.
- (5) (a) An association or its agent may charge a fee, not to exceed its reasonable costs to prepare and deliver the estoppel certificate. However, the fee for the estoppel certificate may not exceed \$100 if on the date the certificate is issued, there are no delinquent amounts owed to the association for the applicable parcel. If delinquent amounts are owed to the association for the applicable parcel, the fee for the certificate may not exceed \$300. The association may not charge a fee for an estoppel certificate that is issued more than 10 business days after it receives the request for the certificate.
- (b) If the estoppel certificate is requested in conjunction with the sale or refinancing of a parcel, the fee for the certificate shall be paid to the association from the closing or settlement proceeds. If the closing does not occur within 60 days after the issuance of the estoppel certificate, the fee for the certificate is the obligation of the parcel owner, and the association may collect the fee in the same manner as an assessment against the parcel. An association may not require the payment of any other fees as a condition for the preparation



or delivery of an estoppel certificate.

(6)(3) The authority to charge a fee for the estoppel certificate must shall be established by a written resolution adopted by the board or provided by a written management, bookkeeping, or maintenance contract and is payable upon the preparation of the certificate. If the certificate is requested in conjunction with the sale or mortgage of a parcel but the closing does not occur and no later than 30 days after the closing date for which the certificate was sought the preparer receives a written request, accompanied by reasonable documentation, that the sale did not occur from a payor that is not the parcel owner, the fee shall be refunded to that payor within 30 days after receipt of the request. The refund is the obligation of the parcel owner, and the association may collect it from that owner in the same manner as an assessment as provided in this section.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

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========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to residential properties; amending ss. 718.116, 719.108, and 720.30851, F.S.; revising requirements relating to the issuance of an estoppel certificate to specified persons; requiring that an estoppel certificate contain certain information; providing an effective period for a certificate based

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upon the date of issuance and form of delivery; providing that the association waives a specified claim against a person or such person's successors or assigns who rely on the certificate in good faith; authorizing a summary proceeding to be brought to compel an association to prepare or deliver an estoppel certificate; specifying the maximum amounts an association may charge for an estoppel certificate; providing that the authority to charge a fee for the estoppel certificate must be established by a specified written resolution or provided by a written management, bookkeeping, or maintenance contract; deleting obsolete provisions; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.