

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 03/28/2011

The Committee on Community Affairs (Ring) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1568 and 1569 insert:

Section 16. Subsection (9) of section 720.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

720.306 Meetings of members; voting and election procedures; amendments.-

- (9) ELECTIONS AND BOARD VACANCIES.—Elections of directors must be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the governing documents of the association.
 - (a) All members of the association are eligible to serve on

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the board of directors, and a member may nominate himself or herself as a candidate for the board at a meeting where the election is to be held or, if the election process allows voting by absentee ballot, in advance of the balloting. However:

- 1. A person who is delinquent in the payment of any fee, fine, or other monetary obligation to the association for more than 90 days is not eligible for board membership.
- 2. A person who has been convicted of any felony in this state or in a United States District or Terrritorial Court, or has been convicted of any offense in another jurisdiction which would be considered a felony if committed in this state, is not eligible for board membership unless such felon's civil rights have been restored for at least 5 years as of the date on which such person seeks election to the board. The validity of any action by the board is not affected if it is later determined that a member of the board is ineligible for board membership due to having been convicted of a felony.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in the governing documents, boards of directors must be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by eligible voters.
- (c) Any election dispute between a member and an association must be submitted to mandatory binding arbitration with the division. Such proceedings must be conducted in the manner provided by s. 718.1255 and the procedural rules adopted by the division.
- (d) Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, any vacancy occurring on the board before the expiration of a term may be filled by an affirmative vote of the majority of the remaining directors, even if the remaining directors constitute less than

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a quorum, or by the sole remaining director. In the alternative, a board may hold an election to fill the vacancy, in which case the election procedures must conform to the requirements of the governing documents.

- (e) Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, a board member appointed or elected under this section is appointed for the unexpired term of the seat being filled.
- (f) Filling vacancies created by recall is governed by s. 720.303(10) and rules adopted by the division.

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

Delete line 74 and insert:

> at a noticed board meeting; amending s. 720.306, F.S.; providing limitations on who may serve on the board of directors of a homeowners' association; amending s. 720.3085,