By the Committees on Rules; and Regulated Industries; and Senator Latvala

595-02835-13

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A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to condominiums; amending s. 718.104, 3 F.S.; allowing condominium units to come into 4 existence regardless of requirements or restrictions 5 in a declaration; amending s. 718.105, F.S.; extending 6 the amount of time that a clerk may hold a sum of 7 money before notifying the registered agent of an 8 association that the sum is still available and the 9 purpose for which it was deposited; amending s. 10 718.110, F.S.; changing the requirements relating to the circumstances under which a declaration of 11 condominium or other documents are effective to create 12 13 a condominium; making technical changes; amending s. 14 718.111, F.S.; revising the conditions under which 15 unit owners may vote on issues related to the 16 preparation of financial reports; making technical 17 changes; amending s. 718.112, F.S.; revising the 18 conditions under which a developer may vote to waive or reduce the funding of reserves; making technical 19 changes; amending s. 718.114, F.S.; revising the 20 21 conditions under which a developer may acquire 22 leaseholds, memberships, or other possessory or use 23 interests; making technical changes; amending s. 24 718.301, F.S.; revising the conditions under which 25 unit owners other than the developer are entitled to 26 elect at least a majority of the members of a board of 27 administration; revising requirements related to the 28 documents that the developer must deliver to the 29 association; making technical changes; amending s.

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30	718.403, F.S.; revising the conditions under which a
31	developer may amend a declaration of condominium
32	governing a phase condominium; providing for an
33	extension of the 7-year period for the completion of a
34	phase; providing requirements for the adoption of an
35	amendment; providing that an amendment adopted
36	pursuant to this section is exempt from other
37	requirements of law; providing an effective date.
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39	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
40	
41	Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 718.104, Florida
42	Statutes, is amended to read:
43	718.104 Creation of condominiums; contents of declaration
44	Every condominium created in this state shall be created
45	pursuant to this chapter.
46	(2) A condominium is created by recording a declaration in
47	the public records of the county where the land is located,
48	executed and acknowledged with the requirements for a deed. All
49	persons who have record title to the interest in the land being
50	submitted to condominium ownership, or their lawfully authorized
51	agents, must join in the execution of the declaration. Upon the
52	recording of the declaration, or an amendment adding a phase to
53	the condominium under s. 718.403(6), all units described in the
54	declaration or phase amendment as being located in or on the
55	land then being submitted to condominium ownership shall come
56	into existence, regardless of the state of completion of planned
57	improvements in which the units may be located <u>or any other</u>
58	requirement or description that a declaration may provide. Upon

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59	recording the declaration of condominium pursuant to this
60	section, the developer shall file the recording information with
61	the division within 120 calendar days on a form prescribed by
62	the division.
63	Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section
64	718.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
65	718.105 Recording of declaration
66	(4)
67	(c) If the sum of money held by the clerk has not been paid
68	to the developer or association as provided in paragraph (b)
69	within $5$ $3$ years after the date the declaration was originally
70	recorded, the clerk may notify, in writing, the registered agent
71	of the association that the sum is still available and the
72	purpose for which it was deposited. If the association does not
73	record the certificate within 90 days after the clerk has given
74	the notice, the clerk may disburse the money to the developer.
75	If the developer cannot be located, the clerk shall disburse the
76	money to the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and
77	Mobile Homes for deposit in the Division of Florida
78	Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund.
79	Section 3. Subsection (10) of section 718.110, Florida
80	Statutes, is amended to read:
81	718.110 Amendment of declaration; correction of error or
82	omission in declaration by circuit court
83	(10) If there is an omission or error in a declaration of
84	condominium, or any other document required to establish the
85	condominium, and the which omission or error would affect the
86	valid existence of the condominium, the circuit court <u>may</u> has
87	<del>jurisdiction to</del> entertain a petition of one or more of the unit

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595-02835-13 2013120c2 owners in the condominium, or of the association, to correct the 88 89 error or omission, and the action may be a class action. The 90 court may require that one or more methods of correcting the 91 error or omission be submitted to the unit owners to determine the most acceptable correction. All unit owners, the 92 93 association, and the mortgagees of a first mortgage of record 94 must be joined as parties to the action. Service of process on 95 unit owners may be by publication, but the plaintiff must furnish every unit owner not personally served with process with 96 97 a copy of the petition and final decree of the court by 98 certified mail, return receipt requested, at the unit owner's last known residence address. If an action to determine whether 99 100 the declaration or another condominium document complies with 101 the mandatory requirements for the formation of a condominium is 102 not brought within 3 years of the recording of the certificate 103 of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the 104 recording of an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the 105 condominium which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of 106 developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever 107 occurs first, recording of the declaration, the declaration and 108 other documents will effectively shall be effective under this 109 chapter to create a condominium, as of the date the declaration 110 was recorded, regardless of whether whether or not the documents 111 substantially comply with the mandatory requirements of law. However, both before and after the expiration of this 3-year 112 113 period, the circuit court has jurisdiction to entertain a 114 petition permitted under this subsection for the correction of 115 the documentation, and other methods of amendment may be 116 utilized to correct the errors or omissions at any time.

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117	Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (13) of section
118	718.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
119	718.111 The association
120	(13) FINANCIAL REPORTINGWithin 90 days after the end of
121	the fiscal year, or annually on a date provided in the bylaws,
122	the association shall prepare and complete, or contract for the
123	preparation and completion of, a financial report for the
124	preceding fiscal year. Within 21 days after the final financial
125	report is completed by the association or received from the
126	third party, but not later than 120 days after the end of the
127	fiscal year or other date as provided in the bylaws, the
128	association shall mail to each unit owner at the address last
129	furnished to the association by the unit owner, or hand deliver
130	to each unit owner, a copy of the financial report or a notice
131	that a copy of the financial report will be mailed or hand
132	delivered to the unit owner, without charge, upon receipt of a
133	written request from the unit owner. The division shall adopt
134	rules setting forth uniform accounting principles and standards
135	to be used by all associations and addressing the financial
136	reporting requirements for multicondominium associations. The
137	rules must include, but not be limited to, standards for
138	presenting a summary of association reserves, including a good
139	faith estimate disclosing the annual amount of reserve funds
140	that would be necessary for the association to fully fund
141	reserves for each reserve item based on the straight-line
142	accounting method. This disclosure is not applicable to reserves
143	funded via the pooling method. In adopting such rules, the
144	division shall consider the number of members and annual
145	revenues of an association. Financial reports shall be prepared

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146	as follows:
147	(d) If approved by a majority of the voting interests
148	present at a properly called meeting of the association, an
149	association may prepare:
150	1. A report of cash receipts and expenditures in lieu of a
151	compiled, reviewed, or audited financial statement;
152	2. A report of cash receipts and expenditures or a compiled
153	financial statement in lieu of a reviewed or audited financial
154	statement; or
155	3. A report of cash receipts and expenditures, a compiled
156	financial statement, or a reviewed financial statement in lieu
157	of an audited financial statement.
158	
159	Such meeting and approval must occur before the end of the
160	fiscal year and is effective only for the fiscal year in which
161	the vote is taken, except that the approval may also be
162	effective for the following fiscal year. If With respect to an
163	association to which the developer has not turned over control
164	of the association, all unit owners, including the developer,
165	may vote on issues related to the preparation of the
166	association's financial reports for the first 2 fiscal years of
167	the association's operation, from beginning with the date of
168	incorporation of the association through the end of the second
169	fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the certificate of a
170	surveyor and mapper is recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or
171	an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the condominium
172	which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer
173	rights in favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded,
174	whichever occurs first declaration is recorded. Thereafter, all

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175	unit owners except the developer may vote on such issues until
176	control is turned over to the association by the developer. Any
177	audit or review prepared under this section shall be paid for by
178	the developer if done before turnover of control of the
179	association. An association may not waive the financial
180	reporting requirements of this section for more than 3
181	consecutive years.
182	Section 5. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section
183	718.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
184	718.112 Bylaws
185	(2) REQUIRED PROVISIONSThe bylaws shall provide for the
186	following and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include
187	the following:
188	(f) Annual budget.—
189	1. The proposed annual budget of estimated revenues and
190	expenses must shall be detailed and must shall show the amounts
191	budgeted by accounts and expense classifications, including, if
192	applicable, but not limited to, those expenses listed in s.
193	718.504(21). A multicondominium association shall adopt a
194	separate budget of common expenses for each condominium the
195	association operates and shall adopt a separate budget of common
196	expenses for the association. In addition, if the association
197	maintains limited common elements with the cost to be shared
198	only by those entitled to use the limited common elements as
199	provided for in s. 718.113(1), the budget or <u>a schedule attached</u>
200	to it must a schedule attached thereto shall show the amount
201	budgeted for this maintenance amounts budgeted therefor. If,
202	after turnover of control of the association to the unit owners,
203	any of the expenses listed in s. 718.504(21) are not applicable,

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204 they need not be listed.

205 2. In addition to annual operating expenses, the budget 206 must shall include reserve accounts for capital expenditures and deferred maintenance. These accounts must shall include, but are 207 208 not limited to, roof replacement, building painting, and 209 pavement resurfacing, regardless of the amount of deferred 210 maintenance expense or replacement cost, and for any other item 211 that has a for which the deferred maintenance expense or 212 replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000. The amount to be reserved 213 must shall be computed using by means of a formula which is 214 based upon estimated remaining useful life and estimated 215 replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of each reserve 216 item. The association may adjust replacement reserve assessments 217 annually to take into account any changes in estimates or 218 extension of the useful life of a reserve item caused by 219 deferred maintenance. This subsection does not apply to an 220 adopted budget in which the members of an association have 221 determined, by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the 222 association, to provide no reserves or less reserves than 223 required by this subsection. However, prior to turnover of 224 control of an association by a developer to unit owners other 225 than a developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer may vote 226 to waive the reserves or reduce the funding of reserves through 227 the period expiring at the end of the second fiscal year after 228 the fiscal year in which the certificate of a surveyor and 229 mapper is recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or an instrument 230 that transfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not 231 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 232 favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded, whichever occurs

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233 first, for the first 2 fiscal years of the association's 234 operation, beginning with the fiscal year in which the initial 235 declaration is recorded, after which time reserves may be waived 236 or reduced only upon the vote of a majority of all nondeveloper 237 voting interests voting in person or by limited proxy at a duly called meeting of the association. If a meeting of the unit 238 239 owners has been called to determine whether to waive or reduce the funding of reserves, and no such result is achieved or a 240 quorum is not attained, the reserves as included in the budget 241 242 shall go into effect. After the turnover, the developer may vote 243 its voting interest to waive or reduce the funding of reserves.

244 3. Reserve funds and any interest accruing thereon shall 245 remain in the reserve account or accounts, and may shall be used only for authorized reserve expenditures unless their use for 246 247 other purposes is approved in advance by a majority vote at a 248 duly called meeting of the association. Prior to turnover of 249 control of an association by a developer to unit owners other 250 than the developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer-251 controlled association shall not vote to use reserves for 252 purposes other than that for which they were intended without the approval of a majority of all nondeveloper voting interests, 253 254 voting in person or by limited proxy at a duly called meeting of 255 the association.

4. The only voting interests <u>that</u> which are eligible to vote on questions that involve waiving or reducing the funding of reserves, or using existing reserve funds for purposes other than purposes for which the reserves were intended, are the voting interests of the units subject to assessment to fund the reserves in question. Proxy questions relating to waiving or

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595-02835-13 2013120c2 262 reducing the funding of reserves or using existing reserve funds 263 for purposes other than purposes for which the reserves were 264 intended shall contain the following statement in capitalized, 265 bold letters in a font size larger than any other used on the 266 face of the proxy ballot: WAIVING OF RESERVES, IN WHOLE OR IN 267 PART, OR ALLOWING ALTERNATIVE USES OF EXISTING RESERVES MAY 268 RESULT IN UNIT OWNER LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF UNANTICIPATED SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS REGARDING THOSE ITEMS. 269

270 Section 6. Section 718.114, Florida Statutes, is amended to 271 read:

272 718.114 Association powers. - An association may enter into 273 agreements to acquire leaseholds, memberships, and other 274 possessory or use interests in lands or facilities such as 275 country clubs, golf courses, marinas, and other recreational 276 facilities, regardless of whether or not the lands or facilities 277 are contiguous to the lands of the condominium, if such lands 278 and facilities are intended to provide enjoyment, recreation, or 279 other use or benefit to the unit owners. All of these leaseholds, memberships, and other possessory or use interests 280 281 existing or created at the time of recording the declaration 2.82 must be stated and fully described in the declaration. 283 Subsequent to the recording of the declaration, agreements acquiring these leaseholds, memberships, or other possessory or 284 285 use interests which are not entered into within 12 months of the 286 date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor and 287 mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an 288 instrument that transfers title to a unit in the condominium 289 which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer 290 rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs

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318 purchasers;

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(b) Three months after 90 percent of the units that will be

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     operated ultimately by the association have been conveyed to
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     purchasers;
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          (c) When all the units that will be operated ultimately by
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     the association have been completed, some of them have been
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     conveyed to purchasers, and none of the others are being offered
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     for sale by the developer in the ordinary course of business;
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          (d) When some of the units have been conveyed to purchasers
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     and none of the others are being constructed or offered for sale
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     by the developer in the ordinary course of business;
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           (e) When the developer files a petition seeking protection
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     in bankruptcy;
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          (f) When a receiver for the developer is appointed by a
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     circuit court and is not discharged within 30 days after such
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     appointment, unless the court determines within 30 days after
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     appointment of the receiver that transfer of control would be
     detrimental to the association or its members; or
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           (g) Seven years after the date of the recording of the
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     certificate of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s.
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     718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an instrument that transfers
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     title to a unit in the condominium which is not accompanied by a
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     recorded assignment of developer rights in favor of the grantee
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     of such unit, whichever occurs first; recordation of the
     declaration of condominium; or, in the case of an association
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     that may ultimately operate more than one condominium, 7 years
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     after the date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor
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     and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an
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     instrument that transfers title to a unit which is not
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     accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in
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     favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs first,
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595-02835-13 2013120c2 349 recordation of the declaration for the first condominium it 350 operates; or, in the case of an association operating a phase 351 condominium created pursuant to s. 718.403, 7 years after the 352 date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor and 353 mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an 354 instrument that transfers title to a unit which is not 355 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 356 favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs first 357 recordation of the declaration creating the initial phase, 358 whichever occurs first. The developer is entitled to elect at least one member of the board of administration of an 359 360 association as long as the developer holds for sale in the ordinary course of business at least 5 percent, in condominiums 361 362 with fewer than 500 units, and 2 percent, in condominiums with 363 more than 500 units, of the units in a condominium operated by 364 the association. After the developer relinquishes control of the 365 association, the developer may exercise the right to vote any 366 developer-owned units in the same manner as any other unit owner 367 except for purposes of reacquiring control of the association or 368 selecting the majority members of the board of administration.

369 (4) At the time that unit owners other than the developer 370 elect a majority of the members of the board of administration of an association, the developer shall relinquish control of the 371 372 association, and the unit owners shall accept control. 373 Simultaneously, or for the purposes of paragraph (c) not more 374 than 90 days thereafter, the developer shall deliver to the association, at the developer's expense, all property of the 375 376 unit owners and of the association which is held or controlled 377 by the developer, including, but not limited to, the following

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595-02835-13 2013120c2 436 developer had knowledge at any time in the development of the 437 condominium, of all contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers 438 utilized in the construction or remodeling of the improvements 439 and in the landscaping of the condominium or association 440 property which the developer had knowledge of at any time in the 441 development of the condominium. 442 (h) Insurance policies. 443 (i) Copies of any certificates of occupancy that which may have been issued for the condominium property. 444 445 (j) Any other permits applicable to the condominium 446 property which have been issued by governmental bodies and are 447 in force or were issued within 1 year prior to the date the unit 448 owners other than the developer took take control of the 449 association. 450 (k) All written warranties of the contractor, 451 subcontractors, suppliers, and manufacturers, if any, that are 452 still effective. 453 (1) A roster of unit owners and their addresses and 454 telephone numbers, if known, as shown on the developer's 455 records. (m) Leases of the common elements and other leases to which 456 457 the association is a party. 458 (n) Employment contracts or service contracts in which the 459 association is one of the contracting parties or service 460 contracts in which the association or the unit owners have an 461 obligation or responsibility, directly or indirectly, to pay 462 some or all of the fee or charge of the person or persons 463 performing the service. 464 (o) All other contracts to which the association is a

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465	party.
466	(p) A report included in the official records, under seal
467	of an architect or engineer authorized to practice in this
468	state, attesting to required maintenance, useful life, and
469	replacement costs of the following applicable common elements
470	comprising a turnover inspection report:
471	1. Roof.
472	2. Structure.
473	3. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.
474	4. Elevators.
475	5. Heating and cooling systems.
476	6. Plumbing.
477	7. Electrical systems.
478	8. Swimming pool or spa and equipment.
479	9. Seawalls.
480	10. Pavement and parking areas.
481	11. Drainage systems.
482	12. Painting.
483	13. Irrigation systems.
484	(q) A copy of the certificate of a surveyor and mapper
485	recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recorded instrument
486	that transfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not
487	accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in
488	favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurred first.
489	Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 718.403, Florida
490	Statutes, is amended to read:
491	718.403 Phase condominiums
492	(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 718.110, a
493	developer may develop a condominium in phases, if the original

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494	declaration of condominium submitting the initial phase to
495	condominium ownership or an amendment to the declaration which
496	has been approved by all of the unit owners and unit mortgagees
497	provides for and describes in detail all anticipated phases; the
498	impact, if any, which the completion of subsequent phases would
499	have upon the initial phase; and the time period <del>(which may not</del>
500	exceed 7 years from the date of recording the declaration of
501	<del>condominium)</del> within which all phases must be added to the
502	condominium and comply with the requirements of this section and
503	at the end of which the right to add additional phases expires.
504	(a) All phases must be added to the condominium within 7
505	years after the date of the recording of the certificate of a
506	surveyor and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the
507	recording of an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the
508	condominium which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of
509	developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever
510	occurs first, unless the unit owners vote to approve an
511	amendment extending the 7-year period pursuant to paragraph (b)
512	of this section.
513	(b) An amendment to extend the 7-year period shall require
514	the approval of the owners necessary to amend the declaration of
515	condominium pursuant to s. 718.110(1)(a). An extension of the 7-
516	year period may be submitted for approval only during the last 3
517	years of the 7-year period.
518	(c) An amendment must describe the time period within which
519	all phases must be added to the condominium and such time period
520	may not exceed 10 years from the date of the recording of the
521	certificate of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s.
522	718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an instrument that transfers

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523	title to a unit in the condominium which is not accompanied by a
524	recorded assignment of developer rights in favor of the grantee
525	of such unit, whichever occurs first.
526	(d) An amendment that extends the 7-year period pursuant to
527	this section is not subject to the requirements of s.
528	718.110(4).
529	Section 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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