Florida Senate - 2019 Bill No. CS/CS/HB 7103, 2nd Eng.

House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

Floor: WD/2R 05/02/2019 11:41 AM

Senator Brandes moved the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (155860) (with title amendment)

Between lines 413 and 414

insert:

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Section 9. Paragraph (1) of subsection (2) of section 718.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.112 Bylaws.-

(2) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.—The bylaws shall provide for the following and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include the following:

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105244

12 (1) Firesafety.-An association must ensure reasonable 13 compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "reasonable compliance" means the 14 15 ability to select an alternative solution to ensure that the 16 property meets the level of fire safety required by the Florida 17 Fire Prevention Code. As to a residential condominium building that is a high-rise building as defined under the Florida Fire 18 Prevention Code, the association may either retrofit a fire 19 20 sprinkler system or an engineered life safety system as 21 specified in the Florida Fire Prevention Code Certificate of 22 compliance.-A provision that a certificate of compliance from a 23 licensed electrical contractor or electrician may be accepted by 24 the association's board as evidence of compliance of the 25 condominium units with the applicable fire and life safety code 26 must be included. Notwithstanding chapter 633 or of any other 27 code, statute, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation, or 28 any interpretation of the foregoing, an association, residential 29 condominium, or unit owner is not obligated to retrofit the 30 common elements, association property, or units of a residential 31 condominium with a fire sprinkler system or an engineered life 32 safety system in a building that has been certified for 33 occupancy by the applicable governmental entity if the unit 34 owners have voted to forego such retrofitting by the affirmative 35 vote of two-thirds a majority of all voting interests in the 36 affected condominium. The local authority having jurisdiction 37 may not require completion of retrofitting with a fire sprinkler 38 system or an engineered life safety system before January 1, 2024 2020. By December 31, 2016, a residential condominium 39 40 association that is not in compliance with the requirements for

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41 a fire sprinkler system and has not voted to forego retrofitting 42 of such a system must initiate an application for a building 43 permit for the required installation with the local government 44 having jurisdiction demonstrating that the association will 45 become compliant by December 31, 2019.

46 1. A vote to forego retrofitting may be obtained by limited proxy or by a ballot personally cast at a duly called membership 47 meeting, or by execution of a written consent by the member, and 48 49 is effective upon recording a certificate attesting to such vote in the public records of the county where the condominium is 50 51 located. The association shall mail or hand deliver to each unit 52 owner written notice at least 14 days before the membership 53 meeting in which the vote to forego retrofitting of the required 54 fire sprinkler system or engineered life safety system is to 55 take place. Within 30 days after the association's opt-out vote, 56 notice of the results of the opt-out vote must be mailed or hand 57 delivered to all unit owners. Evidence of compliance with this 58 notice requirement must be made by affidavit executed by the 59 person providing the notice and filed among the official records of the association. After notice is provided to each owner, a 60 copy must be provided by the current owner to a new owner before 61 62 closing and by a unit owner to a renter before signing a lease.

63 2. If there has been a previous vote to forego
64 retrofitting, a vote to require retrofitting may be obtained at
65 a special meeting of the unit owners called by a petition of at
66 least 10 percent of the voting interests. Such a vote may only
67 be called once every 3 years. Notice shall be provided as
68 required for any regularly called meeting of the unit owners,
69 and must state the purpose of the meeting. Electronic

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70 transmission may not be used to provide notice of a meeting 71 called in whole or in part for this purpose.

72 3. As part of the information collected annually from 73 condominiums, the division shall require condominium 74 associations to report the membership vote and recording of a 75 certificate under this subsection and, if retrofitting has been 76 undertaken, the per-unit cost of such work. The division shall 77 annually report to the Division of State Fire Marshal of the 78 Department of Financial Services the number of condominiums that 79 have elected to forego retrofitting.

4. Notwithstanding s. 553.509, a residential association may not be obligated to, and may forego the retrofitting of, any improvements required by s. 553.509(2) upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the voting interests in the affected condominium.

5. This paragraph does not apply to timeshare condominium associations, which shall be governed by s. 721.24.

Between lines 493 and 494

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amending s. 718.112, F.S.; requiring that condominium association bylaws provide requirements for the association's reasonable compliance with the Florida Fire Prevention Code; defining the term "reasonable compliance"; specifying authorized means of compliance for certain residential condominiums; deleting a requirement for association bylaws to contain a

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99 certain certificate of compliance provision; revising 100 unit and common elements required to be retrofitted; revising provisions relating to an association vote to 101 102 forego retrofitting; extending the date before which a local authority having jurisdiction may not require 103 104 completion of a condominium's retrofitting with a fire 105 sprinkler system or an engineered life safety system; 106 providing applicability;