Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House

Representatives Shoaf and Rodriguez, A. offered the following:

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Amendment to Amendment (246539) (with title amendment)

Between lines 5 and 6 of the amendment, insert:

Section 7. Paragraph (e) of subsection (3) of section 194.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

194.011 Assessment notice; objections to assessments.-

A petition to the value adjustment board must be in substantially the form prescribed by the department. Notwithstanding s. 195.022, a county officer may not refuse to accept a form provided by the department for this purpose if the taxpayer chooses to use it. A petition to the value adjustment board must be signed by the taxpayer or be accompanied at the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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time of filing by the taxpayer's written authorization or power of attorney, unless the person filing the petition is listed in s. 194.034(1)(a). A person listed in s. 194.034(1)(a) may file a petition with a value adjustment board without the taxpayer's signature or written authorization by certifying under penalty of perjury that he or she has authorization to file the petition on behalf of the taxpayer. If a taxpayer notifies the value adjustment board that a petition has been filed for the taxpayer's property without his or her consent, the value adjustment board may require the person filing the petition to provide written authorization from the taxpayer authorizing the person to proceed with the appeal before a hearing is held. If the value adjustment board finds that a person listed in s. 194.034(1)(a) willfully and knowingly filed a petition that was not authorized by the taxpayer, the value adjustment board shall require such person to provide the taxpayer's written authorization for representation to the value adjustment board clerk before any petition filed by that person is heard, for 1 year after imposition of such requirement by the value adjustment board. A power of attorney or written authorization is valid for 1 assessment year, and a new power of attorney or written authorization by the taxpayer is required for each subsequent assessment year. A petition shall also describe the property by parcel number and shall be filed as follows:

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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(e) 1. A condominium association, as defined in s. 718.103, a cooperative association, as defined in s. 719.103, or any homeowners' association, as defined in s. 720.301 s. 723.075, with approval of its board of administration or directors, may file with the value adjustment board a single joint petition on behalf of any association members who own units or parcels of property which the property appraiser determines are substantially similar with respect to location, proximity to amenities, number of rooms, living area, and condition. The condominium association, cooperative association, or homeowners' association as defined in s. 723.075 shall provide the unit or parcel owners with notice of its intent to petition the value adjustment board by hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested, except that such notice may be electronically transmitted to a unit owner or parcel owner who has expressly consented in writing to receiving such notices by electronic transmission. If the association is a condominium or cooperative association, the notice must also be posted conspicuously on the condominium or cooperative property in the same manner as notice of board meetings under ss. 718.112(2) and 719.106(1). Such notice must and shall provide at least 14 20 days for a unit or parcel owner to elect, in writing, that his or her unit or parcel not be included in the petition. 2. A condominium association, as defined in s. 718.103, a

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

cooperative association, as defined in s. 719.103, or a

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

homeowners' association as defined in s. 720.301, that has filed a single joint petition under this subsection may continue to represent, prosecute, and defend the unit owners through any related subsequent proceeding in any tribunal, including judicial review under part II of this chapter and any appeals. This subparagraph is intended to clarify existing law and applies to cases pending on July 1, 2020.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 194.181, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

194.181 Parties to a tax suit.

- (2) (a) In any case brought by <u>a</u> the taxpayer or <u>a</u> condominium, cooperative, or homeowners' association, as defined in ss. 718.103, 719.103, and 720.301, respectively, on behalf of some or all unit owners, contesting the assessment of any property, the county property appraiser <u>is the</u> shall be party defendant.
- (b) In any case brought by the property appraiser under pursuant to s. 194.036(1)(a) or (b), the taxpayer is the shall be party defendant.
- (c)1. In any case brought by the property appraiser under s. 194.036(1)(a) or (b) concerning a value adjustment board decision on a single joint petition filed by a condominium, cooperative, or homeowners' association under s. 194.011(3), the association and all unit or parcel owners included in the single joint petition are the party defendants.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

	2.	The o	condo	omini	ium,	COC	per	ative,	or	home	owners	s '	
asso	ciati	on mi	ust p	provi	ide	unit	or	parce	1 0	wners	with	notice	of
its	inten	t to	resp	ond	to	or a	nsw	er the	pr	opert	y appı	raiser'	S
comp	laint	and	advi	lse t	the	unit	or	parce	1 0	wners	that	they m	ay
elec	t to:												

- a. Retain their own counsel to defend the appeal;
- b. Choose not to defend the appeal; or
- c. Be represented together with other unit or parcel owners by the association.
- 3. The notice required in subparagraph 2. must be hand delivered or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the unit or parcel owners, except that such notice may be electronically transmitted to a unit or parcel owner who has expressly consented in writing to receiving notices through electronic transmission. Additionally, the notice must be posted conspicuously on the condominium or cooperative property, if applicable, in the same manner as notice of board meetings under ss. 718.112(2) and 719.106(1). The association must provide at least 14 days for a unit or parcel owner to respond to the notice. Any unit or parcel owner who does not respond to the association's notice will be represented by the association.
- $\underline{\text{(d)}}$ In any case brought by the property appraiser $\underline{\text{under}}$ $\underline{\text{pursuant to}}$ s. 194.036(1)(c), the value adjustment board $\underline{\text{is the}}$ $\underline{\text{shall be}}$ party defendant.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 514.0115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

514.0115 Exemptions from supervision or regulation;

(2) (a) Pools serving condominium, cooperative, and homeowners' associations, as well as other property associations, which have no more than 32 condominium or cooperative units or parcels and which are not operated as a public lodging establishments are establishment shall be exempt from supervision under this chapter, except for water quality.

Section 10. Section 548.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

548.003 Florida <u>Athletic</u> State Boxing Commission.—

(1) The Florida Athletic State Boxing Commission is created and is assigned to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation for administrative and fiscal accountability purposes only. The Florida State Boxing commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. One member must be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459, who must maintain an unencumbered license in good standing, and who must, at the time of her or his appointment, have practiced medicine for at least 5 years. Upon the expiration of the term of a commissioner, the Governor shall appoint a successor to serve for a 4-year term. A commissioner whose term has expired

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

shall continue to serve on the commission until such time as a
replacement is appointed. If a vacancy on the commission occurs
$\underline{\text{before}}$ $\underline{\text{prior to}}$ the expiration of the term, it shall be filled
for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the
original appointment.

- (2) The Florida State Boxing commission, as created by subsection (1), shall administer the provisions of this chapter. The commission has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this chapter and to implement each of the duties and responsibilities conferred upon the commission, including, but not limited to:
- (a) Development of an ethical code of conduct for commissioners, commission staff, and commission officials.
- (b) Facility and safety requirements relating to the ring, floor plan and apron seating, emergency medical equipment and services, and other equipment and services necessary for the conduct of a program of matches.
- (c) Requirements regarding a participant's apparel, bandages, handwraps, gloves, mouthpiece, and appearance during a match.
- (d) Requirements relating to a manager's participation, presence, and conduct during a match.
- (e) Duties and responsibilities of all licensees under this chapter.
 - (f) Procedures for hearings and resolution of disputes.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- (g) Qualifications for appointment of referees and judges.
- (h) Qualifications for and appointment of chief inspectors and inspectors and duties and responsibilities of chief inspectors and inspectors with respect to oversight and coordination of activities for each program of matches regulated under this chapter.
 - (i) Designation and duties of a knockdown timekeeper.
- (j) Setting fee and reimbursement schedules for referees and other officials appointed by the commission or the representative of the commission.
- (k) Establishment of criteria for approval, disapproval, suspension of approval, and revocation of approval of amateur sanctioning organizations for amateur boxing, kickboxing, and mixed martial arts held in this state, including, but not limited to, the health and safety standards the organizations use before, during, and after the matches to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the amateurs participating in the matches, including the qualifications and numbers of health care personnel required to be present, the qualifications required for referees, and other requirements relating to the health, safety, and well-being of the amateurs participating in the matches. The commission may adopt by rule, or incorporate by reference into rule, the health and safety standards of USA Boxing as the minimum health and safety standards for an amateur boxing sanctioning organization, the health and safety standards

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

of the International Sport Kickboxing Association as the minimum health and safety standards for an amateur kickboxing sanctioning organization, and the minimum health and safety standards for an amateur mixed martial arts sanctioning organization. The commission shall review its rules for necessary revision at least every 2 years and may adopt by rule, or incorporate by reference into rule, the then-existing current health and safety standards of USA Boxing and the International Sport Kickboxing Association. The commission may adopt emergency rules to administer this paragraph.

- (3) The commission shall maintain an office in Tallahassee. At the first meeting of the commission after June 1 of each year, the commission shall select a chair and a vice chair from among its membership. Three members shall constitute a quorum and the concurrence of at least three members is necessary for official commission action.
- (4) Three consecutive unexcused absences or absences constituting 50 percent or more of the commission's meetings within any 12-month period shall cause the commission membership of the member in question to become void, and the position shall be considered vacant. The commission shall, by rule, define unexcused absences.
- (5) Each commission member shall be accountable to the Governor for the proper performance of duties as a member of the commission. The Governor shall cause to be investigated any

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

complaint or unfavorable report received by the Governor or the
department concerning an action of the commission or any member
and shall take appropriate action thereon. The Governor may
remove from office any member for malfeasance, unethical
conduct, misfeasance, neglect of duty, incompetence, permanent
inability to perform official duties, or pleading guilty or nolo
contendere to or being found guilty of a felony.

- (6) Each member of the commission shall be compensated at the rate of \$50 for each day she or he attends a commission meeting and shall be reimbursed for other expenses as provided in s. 112.061.
- (7) The commission shall be authorized to join and participate in the activities of the Association of Boxing Commissions (ABC).
- (8) The department shall provide all legal and investigative services necessary to implement this chapter. The department may adopt rules as provided in ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to carry out its duties under this chapter.
- Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 548.043, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 548.043 Weights and classes, limitations; gloves.-
- (3) The commission shall establish by rule the need for gloves, if any, and the weight of any such gloves to be used in each pugilistic match the appropriate weight of gloves to be used in each boxing match; however, all participants in boxing

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

matches shall wear gloves weighing not less than 8 ounces each and participants in mixed martial arts matches shall wear gloves weighing 4 to 8 ounces each. Participants shall wear such protective devices as the commission deems necessary.

Section 12. Subsection (20) of section 561.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 561.01 Definitions.—As used in the Beverage Law:
- (20) "Permit carrier" means a licensee authorized to make deliveries as provided in s. 561.57.

Section 13. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 561.17, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

- 561.17 License and registration applications; approved person.—
- (1) Any person, before engaging in the business of manufacturing, bottling, distributing, selling, or in any way dealing in alcoholic beverages, shall file, with the district licensing personnel of the district of the division in which the place of business for which a license is sought is located, a sworn application in the format prescribed by the division. The applicant must be a legal or business entity, person, or persons and must include all persons, officers, shareholders, and directors of such legal or business entity that have a direct or indirect interest in the business seeking to be licensed under this part. However, the applicant does not include any person

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

that derives revenue from the license solely through a
contractual relationship with the licensee, the substance of
which contractual relationship is not related to the control of
the sale of alcoholic beverages. Before any application is
approved, the division may require the applicant to file a set
of fingerprints <u>electronically through an approved electronic</u>
fingerprinting vendor or on regular United States Department of
Justice forms prescribed by the Florida Department of Law
$\underline{\texttt{Enforcement}}$ for herself or himself and for any person or persons
interested directly or indirectly with the applicant in the
business for which the license is being sought, when required by
the division. If the applicant or any person who is interested
with the applicant either directly or indirectly in the business
or who has a security interest in the license being sought or
has a right to a percentage payment from the proceeds of the
business, either by lease or otherwise, is not qualified, the
division shall deny the application. However, any company
regularly traded on a national securities exchange and not over
the counter; any insurer, as defined in the Florida Insurance
Code; or any bank or savings and loan association chartered by
this state, another state, or the United States which has an
interest, directly or indirectly, in an alcoholic beverage
license is not required to obtain the division's approval of its
officers, directors, or stockholders or any change of such
positions or interests. A shopping center with five or more

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 12 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

stores, one or more of which has an alcoholic beverage license and is required under a lease common to all shopping center tenants to pay no more than 10 percent of the gross proceeds of the business holding the license to the shopping center, is not considered as having an interest, directly or indirectly, in the license. A performing arts center, as defined in s. 561.01, which has an interest, directly or indirectly, in an alcoholic beverage license is not required to obtain division approval of its volunteer officers or directors or of any change in such positions or interests.

- must be accompanied by proof of the applicant's right of

 occupancy for the entire premises sought to be licensed. All

 applications for alcoholic beverage licenses for consumption on
 the premises shall be accompanied by a certificate of the

 Division of Hotels and Restaurants of the Department of Business
 and Professional Regulation, the Department of Agriculture and
 Consumer Services, the Department of Health, the Agency for
 Health Care Administration, or the county health department that
 the place of business wherein the business is to be conducted
 meets all of the sanitary requirements of the state.
- (5) Any person or entity licensed or permitted by the division must provide an electronic mail address to the division to function as the primary contact for all communication by the division to the licensee or permittees. Licensees and permittees

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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are responsible for maintaining accurate contact information on file with the division.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 561.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 561.20 Limitation upon number of licenses issued.-
- (2)(a) The limitation of the number of licenses as provided in this section does not prohibit the issuance of a special license to:
- Any bona fide hotel, motel, or motor court of not fewer than 80 quest rooms in any county having a population of less than 50,000 residents, and of not fewer than 100 quest rooms in any county having a population of 50,000 residents or greater; or any bona fide hotel or motel located in a historic structure, as defined in s. 561.01(20) s. 561.01(21), with fewer than 100 quest rooms which derives at least 51 percent of its gross revenue from the rental of hotel or motel rooms, which is licensed as a public lodging establishment by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants; provided, however, that a bona fide hotel or motel with no fewer than 10 and no more than 25 guest rooms which is a historic structure, as defined in s. 561.01(20) s. 561.01(21), in a municipality that on the effective date of this act has a population, according to the University of Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research Estimates of Population for 1998, of no fewer than 25,000 and no more than 35,000 residents and that is within a constitutionally chartered

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

county may be issued a special license. This special license shall allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages only on the licensed premises of the hotel or motel. In addition, the hotel or motel must derive at least 60 percent of its gross revenue from the rental of hotel or motel rooms and the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages; provided that this subparagraph shall supersede local laws requiring a greater number of hotel rooms;

- 2. Any condominium accommodation of which no fewer than 100 condominium units are wholly rentable to transients and which is licensed under chapter 509, except that the license shall be issued only to the person or corporation that operates the hotel or motel operation and not to the association of condominium owners;
- 3. Any condominium accommodation of which no fewer than 50 condominium units are wholly rentable to transients, which is licensed under chapter 509, and which is located in any county having home rule under s. 10 or s. 11, Art. VIII of the State Constitution of 1885, as amended, and incorporated by reference in s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, except that the license shall be issued only to the person or corporation that operates the hotel or motel operation and not to the association of condominium owners;
- 4. A food service establishment that has 2,500 square feet of service area, is equipped to serve meals to 150 persons at

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

one time, and derives at least 51 percent of its gross food and
beverage revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic
beverages during the first $\underline{120-day}$ $\underline{60-day}$ operating period and
the first each 12-month operating period thereafter. Subsequent
audit timeframes must be based upon the audit percentage
established by the most recent audit and conducted on a
staggered scale as follows: level 1, 51 percent to 60 percent,
every year; level 2, 61 percent to 75 percent, every 2 years;
level 3, 76 percent to 90 percent, every 3 years; and level 4,
91 percent to 100 percent, every 4 years. A food service
establishment granted a special license on or after January 1,
1958, pursuant to general or special law may not operate as a
package store and may not sell intoxicating beverages under such
license after the hours of serving or consumption of food have
elapsed. Failure by a licensee to meet the required percentage
of food and nonalcoholic beverage gross revenues during the
covered operating period shall result in revocation of the
license or denial of the pending license application. A licensee
whose license is revoked or an applicant whose pending
application is denied, or any person required to qualify on the
special license application, is ineligible to have any interest
in a subsequent application for such a license for a period of
120 days after the date of the final denial or revocation;
5. Any caterer, deriving at least 51 percent of its gross
food and beverage revenue from the sale of food and nonalcoholic

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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beverages at each catered event, licensed by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants under chapter 509. This subparagraph does not apply to a culinary education program, as defined in s. 381.0072(2), which is licensed as a public food service establishment by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants and provides catering services. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a licensee under this subparagraph shall sell or serve alcoholic beverages only for consumption on the premises of a catered event at which the licensee is also providing prepared food, and shall prominently display its license at any catered event at which the caterer is selling or serving alcoholic beverages. A licensee under this subparagraph shall purchase all alcoholic beverages it sells or serves at a catered event from a vendor licensed under s. 563.02(1), s. 564.02(1), or licensed under s. 565.02(1) subject to the limitation imposed in subsection (1), as appropriate. A licensee under this subparagraph may not store any alcoholic beverages to be sold or served at a catered event. Any alcoholic beverages purchased by a licensee under this subparagraph for a catered event that are not used at that event must remain with the customer; provided that if the vendor accepts unopened alcoholic beverages, the licensee may return such alcoholic beverages to the vendor for a credit or reimbursement. Regardless of the county or counties in which the licensee operates, a licensee under this subparagraph shall pay the annual state license tax set forth in s.

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

412	565.02(1)(b). A licensee under this subparagraph must maintain
413	for a period of 3 years all records and receipts for each
414	catered event, including all contracts, customers' names, event
415	locations, event dates, food purchases and sales, alcoholic
416	beverage purchases and sales, nonalcoholic beverage purchases
417	and sales, and any other records required by the department by
418	rule to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this
419	subparagraph. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any
420	vendor licensed under s. 565.02(1) subject to the limitation
421	imposed in subsection (1), may, without any additional licensure
422	under this subparagraph, serve or sell alcoholic beverages for
423	consumption on the premises of a catered event at which prepared
424	food is provided by a caterer licensed under chapter 509. If a
425	licensee under this subparagraph also possesses any other
426	license under the Beverage Law, the license issued under this
427	subparagraph shall not authorize the holder to conduct
428	activities on the premises to which the other license or
429	licenses apply that would otherwise be prohibited by the terms
430	of that license or the Beverage Law. Nothing in this section
431	shall permit the licensee to conduct activities that are
432	otherwise prohibited by the Beverage Law or local law. The
433	Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco is hereby authorized
434	to adopt rules to administer the license created in this
435	subparagraph, to include rules governing licensure,
436	recordkeeping, and enforcement. The first \$300,000 in fees

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

collected by the division each fiscal year pursuant to this subparagraph shall be deposited in the Department of Children and Families' Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund to be used only for alcohol and drug abuse education, treatment, and prevention programs. The remainder of the fees collected shall be deposited into the Hotel and Restaurant Trust Fund created pursuant to s. 509.072; or

- 6. A culinary education program as defined in s. 381.0072(2) which is licensed as a public food service establishment by the Division of Hotels and Restaurants.
- a. This special license shall allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the licensed premises of the culinary education program. The culinary education program shall specify designated areas in the facility where the alcoholic beverages may be consumed at the time of application. Alcoholic beverages sold for consumption on the premises may be consumed only in areas designated pursuant to s. 561.01(11) and may not be removed from the designated area. Such license shall be applicable only in and for designated areas used by the culinary education program.
- b. If the culinary education program provides catering services, this special license shall also allow the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises of a catered event at which the licensee is also providing prepared food. A culinary education program that provides catering services is

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

462 not required to derive at least 51 percent of its gross revenue 463 from the sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages. 464 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a licensee that 465 provides catering services under this sub-subparagraph shall 466 prominently display its beverage license at any catered event at 467 which the caterer is selling or serving alcoholic beverages. 468 Regardless of the county or counties in which the licensee 469 operates, a licensee under this sub-subparagraph shall pay the annual state license tax set forth in s. 565.02(1)(b). A 470 licensee under this sub-subparagraph must maintain for a period 471 472 of 3 years all records required by the department by rule to 473 demonstrate compliance with the requirements of this sub-474 subparagraph.

c. If a licensee under this subparagraph also possesses any other license under the Beverage Law, the license issued under this subparagraph does not authorize the holder to conduct activities on the premises to which the other license or licenses apply that would otherwise be prohibited by the terms of that license or the Beverage Law. Nothing in this subparagraph shall permit the licensee to conduct activities that are otherwise prohibited by the Beverage Law or local law. Any culinary education program that holds a license to sell alcoholic beverages shall comply with the age requirements set forth in ss. 562.11(4), 562.111(2), and 562.13.

342291

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Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- d. The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco may adopt rules to administer the license created in this subparagraph, to include rules governing licensure, recordkeeping, and enforcement.
- e. A license issued pursuant to this subparagraph does not permit the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages by the package for off-premises consumption.

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However, any license heretofore issued to any such hotel, motel, motor court, or restaurant or hereafter issued to any such hotel, motel, or motor court, including a condominium accommodation, under the general law shall not be moved to a new location, such license being valid only on the premises of such hotel, motel, motor court, or restaurant. Licenses issued to hotels, motels, motor courts, or restaurants under the general law and held by such hotels, motels, motor courts, or restaurants on May 24, 1947, shall be counted in the quota limitation contained in subsection (1). Any license issued for any hotel, motel, or motor court under this law shall be issued only to the owner of the hotel, motel, or motor court or, in the event the hotel, motel, or motor court is leased, to the lessee of the hotel, motel, or motor court; and the license shall remain in the name of the owner or lessee so long as the license is in existence. Any special license now in existence heretofore issued under this law cannot be renewed except in the name of

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

511	the owner of the hotel, motel, motor court, or restaurant or, in
512	the event the hotel, motel, motor court, or restaurant is
513	leased, in the name of the lessee of the hotel, motel, motor
514	court, or restaurant in which the license is located and must
515	remain in the name of the owner or lessee so long as the license
516	is in existence. Any license issued under this section shall be
517	marked "Special," and nothing herein provided shall limit,
518	restrict, or prevent the issuance of a special license for any
519	restaurant or motel which shall hereafter meet the requirements
520	of the law existing immediately prior to the effective date of
521	this act, if construction of such restaurant has commenced prior
522	to the effective date of this act and is completed within 30
523	days thereafter, or if an application is on file for such
524	special license at the time this act takes effect; and any such
525	licenses issued under this proviso may be annually renewed as
526	now provided by law. Nothing herein prevents an application for
527	transfer of a license to a bona fide purchaser of any hotel,
528	motel, motor court, or restaurant by the purchaser of such
529	facility or the transfer of such license pursuant to law.
530	Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 561.42, Florida
531	Statutes, is amended to read:
532	561.42 Tied house evil; financial aid and assistance to
533	vendor by manufacturer, distributor, importer, primary American
534	source of supply, brand owner or registrant, or any broker,

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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sales agent, or sales person thereof, prohibited; procedure for
enforcement; exception.-

(4) Before the division shall so declare and prohibit such sales to such vendor, it shall, within 2 days after receipt of such notice, the division shall give written notice to such vendor by electronic mail of the receipt by the division of such notification of delinquency and such vendor shall be directed to forthwith make payment thereof or, upon failure to do so, to show cause before the division why further sales to such vendor shall not be prohibited. Good and sufficient cause to prevent such action by the division may be made by showing payment, failure of consideration, or any other defense which would be considered sufficient in a common-law action. The vendor shall have 5 days after service receipt of such notice via electronic mail within which to show such cause, and he or she may demand a hearing thereon, provided he or she does so in writing within said 5 days, such written demand to be delivered to the division either in person, by electronic mail, or by due course of mail within such 5 days. If no such demand for hearing is made, the division shall thereupon declare in writing to such vendor and to all manufacturers and distributors within the state that all further sales to such vendor are prohibited until such time as the division certifies in writing that such vendor has fully paid for all liquors previously purchased. In the event such prohibition of sales and declaration thereof to the vendor,

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

 manufacturers, and distributors is ordered by the division, the vendor may seek review of such decision by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation within 5 days. In the event application for such review is filed within such time, such prohibition of sales shall not be made, published, or declared until final disposition of such review by the department.

Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 561.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 561.55 Manufacturers', distributors', brokers', sales agents', importers', vendors', and exporters' records and reports.—
- (2) Each manufacturer, distributor, broker, sales agent, and importer shall make a full and complete report by the 10th day of each month for the previous calendar month. The report must be shall be made out in triplicate; two copies shall be sent to the division, and the third copy shall be retained for the manufacturer's, distributor's, broker's, sales agent's, or importer's record. Reports shall be made on forms prepared and furnished by the division and filed with the division through the division's electronic data submission system.

Section 17. Section 562.455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

562.455 Adulterating liquor; penalty.—Whoever adulterates, for the purpose of sale, any liquor, used or intended for drink, with cocculus indicus, vitriol, grains of paradise, opium, alum,

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

capsicum, copperas, laurel water, logwood, brazil wood,
cochineal, sugar of lead, or any other substance which is
poisonous or injurious to health, and whoever knowingly sells
any liquor so adulterated, $\underline{\text{commits}}$ $\underline{\text{shall be guilty of}}$ a felony
of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 18. Subsection (4) of section 627.714, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 627.714 Residential condominium unit owner coverage; loss assessment coverage required.—
- (4) Every individual unit owner's residential property policy must contain a provision stating that the coverage afforded by such policy is excess coverage over the amount recoverable under any other policy covering the same property. If a condominium association's insurance policy does not provide rights for subrogation against the unit owners in the association, an insurance policy issued to an individual unit owner located in the association may not provide rights of subrogation against the condominium association.
- Section 19. Section 712.065, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
 - 712.065 Extinguishment of discriminatory restrictions.—
- (1) As used in this section, the term "discriminatory

 restriction" means a provision in a title transaction recorded

 in the state which restricts the ownership, occupancy, or use of

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

any real property in this state by any natural person on the basis of a characteristic that has been held, or is held after July 1, 2020, by the United States Supreme Court or the Florida Supreme Court to be protected against discrimination under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution or under s. 2, Art. I of the State Constitution, including race, color, national origin, religion, gender, or physical disability.

- (2) A discriminatory restriction is not enforceable in the state, and a discriminatory restriction contained in a title transaction recorded in the state is unlawful, unenforceable, and void. A discriminatory restriction contained in a previously recorded title transaction is extinguished and severed from the recorded title transaction and the remainder of the title transaction remains enforceable and effective. The recording of a notice preserving or protecting interests or rights under s. 712.06 does not reimpose or preserve a discriminatory restriction that is extinguished under this section.
- (3) Upon request of a parcel owner, a discriminatory restriction appearing in a covenant or restriction affecting the parcel may be removed from the covenant or restriction by an amendment approved by a majority vote of the board of directors of the respective property owners' association or an owners' association in which all owners may voluntarily join, notwithstanding any other requirements for approval of an amendment of the covenant or restriction. Unless the amendment

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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also changes other provisions of the covenant or restriction, the recording of an amendment removing a discriminatory restriction does not constitute a title transaction occurring after the root of title for purposes of s. 712.03(4).

Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), subsection (3), and paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (f), and (g) of subsection (12) of section 718 111. Florida Statutes, are amended to read

- (12) of section 718.111, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 718.111 The association.—
 - (1) CORPORATE ENTITY.-
- The operation of the condominium shall be by the association, which must be a Florida corporation for profit or a Florida corporation not for profit. However, any association which was in existence on January 1, 1977, need not be incorporated. The owners of units shall be shareholders or members of the association. The officers and directors of the association have a fiduciary relationship to the unit owners. It is the intent of the Legislature that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as providing for or removing a requirement of a fiduciary relationship between any manager employed by the association and the unit owners. An officer, director, or manager may not solicit, offer to accept, or accept any thing or service of value or kickback for which consideration has not been provided for his or her own benefit or that of his or her immediate family, from any person providing or proposing to provide goods or services to the association. Any such officer,

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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director, or manager who knowingly so solicits, offers to accept, or accepts any thing or service of value or kickback is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to $\underline{s.718.501(2)(d)}$ $\underline{s.718.501(1)(d)}$ and, if applicable, a criminal penalty as provided in paragraph (d). However, this paragraph does not prohibit an officer, director, or manager from accepting services or items received in connection with trade fairs or education programs. An association may operate more than one condominium.

- (3) POWER TO MANAGE CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY AND TO CONTRACT, SUE, AND BE SUED; CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—
- (a) The association may contract, sue, or be sued with respect to the exercise or nonexercise of its powers. For these purposes, the powers of the association include, but are not limited to, the maintenance, management, and operation of the condominium property.
- (b) After control of the association is obtained by unit owners other than the developer, the association may:
- 1. Institute, maintain, settle, or appeal actions or hearings in its name on behalf of all unit owners concerning matters of common interest to most or all unit owners, including, but not limited to, the common elements; the roof and structural components of a building or other improvements; mechanical, electrical, and plumbing elements serving an improvement or a building; representations of the developer pertaining to any existing or proposed commonly used facilities;

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 2. Protest and protesting ad valorem taxes on commonly used facilities and on units; and may
- 3. Defend actions <u>pertaining to ad valorem taxation of commonly used facilities or units or related to in eminent domain;</u> or
 - 4. Bring inverse condemnation actions.
- (c) If the association has the authority to maintain a class action, the association may be joined in an action as representative of that class with reference to litigation and disputes involving the matters for which the association could bring a class action.
- (d) The association, in its own name or on behalf of some or all unit owners, may institute, file, protest, maintain, or defend any administrative challenge, lawsuit, appeal, or other challenge to ad valorem taxes assessed on units, commonly used facilities, or common elements. Other than as provided in s. 194.181(2)(c)1., the affected association members are not necessary or indispensable parties to such actions. This paragraph is intended to clarify existing law and applies to cases pending on July 1, 2020.
- (e) Nothing herein limits any statutory or common-law right of any individual unit owner or class of unit owners to bring any action without participation by the association which may otherwise be available.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- <u>(f)</u> An association may not hire an attorney who represents the management company of the association.
 - (12) OFFICIAL RECORDS.
- (a) From the inception of the association, the association shall maintain each of the following items, if applicable, which constitutes the official records of the association:
- 1. A copy of the plans, permits, warranties, and other items provided by the developer under pursuant to s. 718.301(4).
- 2. A photocopy of the recorded declaration of condominium of each condominium operated by the association and each amendment to each declaration.
- 3. A photocopy of the recorded bylaws of the association and each amendment to the bylaws.
- 4. A certified copy of the articles of incorporation of the association, or other documents creating the association, and each amendment thereto.
 - 5. A copy of the current rules of the association.
- 6. A book or books that contain the minutes of all meetings of the association, the board of administration, and the unit owners.
- 7. A current roster of all unit owners and their mailing addresses, unit identifications, voting certifications, and, if known, telephone numbers. The association shall also maintain the e-mail addresses and facsimile numbers of unit owners consenting to receive notice by electronic transmission. The e-

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- mail addresses and facsimile numbers are not accessible to unit
 owners if consent to receive notice by electronic transmission
 is not provided in accordance with sub-subparagraph (c)3.e.
 However, the association is not liable for an inadvertent
 disclosure of the e-mail address or facsimile number for
 receiving electronic transmission of notices.
 - 8. All current insurance policies of the association and condominiums operated by the association.
 - 9. A current copy of any management agreement, lease, or other contract to which the association is a party or under which the association or the unit owners have an obligation or responsibility.
 - 10. Bills of sale or transfer for all property owned by the association.
 - 11. Accounting records for the association and separate accounting records for each condominium that the association operates. Any person who knowingly or intentionally defaces or destroys such records, or who knowingly or intentionally fails to create or maintain such records, with the intent of causing harm to the association or one or more of its members, is personally subject to a civil penalty <u>under s. 718.501(2)(d)</u> pursuant to s. 718.501(1)(d). The accounting records must include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Accurate, itemized, and detailed records of all receipts and expenditures.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- b. A current account and a monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly statement of the account for each unit designating the name of the unit owner, the due date and amount of each assessment, the amount paid on the account, and the balance due.
- c. All audits, reviews, accounting statements, and financial reports of the association or condominium.
- d. All contracts for work to be performed. Bids for work to be performed are also considered official records and must be maintained by the association for at least 1 year after receipt of the bid.
- 12. Ballots, sign-in sheets, voting proxies, and all other papers and electronic records relating to voting by unit owners, which must be maintained for 1 year from the date of the election, vote, or meeting to which the document relates, notwithstanding paragraph (b).
- 13. All rental records if the association is acting as agent for the rental of condominium units.
- 14. A copy of the current question and answer sheet as described in s. 718.504.
- 15. All other written records of the association not specifically included in the foregoing which are related to the operation of the association.
- 16. A copy of the inspection report as described in s. 718.301(4)(p).
 - 17. Bids for materials, equipment, or services.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

(b) The official records specified in subparagraphs (a)1
6. must be permanently maintained from the inception of the
association. Bids for work to be performed or for materials,
equipment, or services must be maintained for at least 1 year
after receipt of the bid. All other official records must be
maintained within the state for at least 7 years, unless
otherwise provided by general law. All official records must be
maintained in a manner and format determined by the division so
that the records are easily accessible for inspection. The
records of the association shall be made available to a unit
owner within 45 miles of the condominium property or within the
county in which the condominium property is located within 10
working days after receipt of a written request by the board or
its designee. However, such distance requirement does not apply
to an association governing a timeshare condominium. This
paragraph may be complied with by having a copy of the official
records of the association available for inspection or copying
on the condominium property or association property, or the
association may offer the option of making the records available
to a unit owner electronically via the Internet or by allowing
the records to be viewed in electronic format on a computer
screen and printed upon request. The association is not
responsible for the use or misuse of the information provided to
an association member or his or her authorized representative $\underline{\text{in}}$
$\frac{\text{pursuant to the}}{\text{compliance with requirements of}}$ this chapter

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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unless the association has an affirmative duty not to disclose such information under pursuant to this chapter.

The official records of the association are open to (c)1. inspection by any association member or the authorized representative of such member at all reasonable times. The right to inspect the records includes the right to make or obtain copies, at the reasonable expense, if any, of the member or authorized representative of such member. A renter of a unit only has a right to inspect and copy the declaration of condominium and association's bylaws and rules. The association must provide a checklist to the member or the authorized representative of such member of all records that are made available for inspection and copying in response to a written request. If any or all of the association's official records are not available, such records must be identified on the checklist provided to the person requesting the records. The checklist must be signed by a manager licensed under part VIII of chapter 468 certifying that the checklist is accurate to the best of his or her knowledge and belief or the association must provide the person requesting the records a sworn affidavit attesting to the veracity of the checklist executed by the person responding to the written request on behalf of the association. The association must maintain a copy of the checklist and affidavit, if required, for at least 7 years. Delivery of the checklist and affidavit, if required, to the person requesting the records

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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creates a rebuttable presumption that the association complied with this paragraph. The association may adopt reasonable rules regarding the frequency, time, location, notice, and manner of record inspections and copying, but may not require a member to demonstrate any purpose or state any reason for the inspection. The failure of an association to provide the records within 10 working days after receipt of a written request creates a rebuttable presumption that the association willfully failed to comply with this paragraph. A unit owner who is denied access to official records is entitled to the actual damages or minimum damages for the association's willful failure to comply. Minimum damages are \$50 per calendar day for up to 10 days, beginning on the 11th working day after receipt of the written request. The failure to permit inspection entitles any person prevailing in an enforcement action to recover reasonable attorney fees from the person in control of the records who, directly or indirectly, knowingly denied access to the records.

2. Any person who knowingly or intentionally defaces or destroys accounting records that are required by this chapter to be maintained during the period for which such records are required to be maintained, or who knowingly or intentionally fails to create or maintain accounting records that are required to be created or maintained, with the intent of causing harm to the association or one or more of its members, is personally

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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subject to a civil penalty <u>under s. 718.501(2)(d)</u> pursuant to s. 718.501(1)(d).

- 3. The association shall maintain an adequate number of copies of the declaration, articles of incorporation, bylaws, and rules, and all amendments to each of the foregoing, as well as the question and answer sheet as described in s. 718.504 and year-end financial information required under this section, on the condominium property to ensure their availability to unit owners and prospective purchasers, and may charge its actual costs for preparing and furnishing these documents to those requesting the documents. An association shall allow a member or his or her authorized representative to use a portable device, including a smartphone, tablet, portable scanner, or any other technology capable of scanning or taking photographs, to make an electronic copy of the official records in lieu of the association's providing the member or his or her authorized representative with a copy of such records. The association may not charge a member or his or her authorized representative for the use of a portable device. Notwithstanding this paragraph, the following records are not accessible to unit owners:
- a. Any record protected by the lawyer-client privilege as described in s. 90.502 and any record protected by the work-product privilege, including a record prepared by an association attorney or prepared at the attorney's express direction, which reflects a mental impression, conclusion, litigation strategy,

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

or legal theory of the attorney or the association, and which was prepared exclusively for civil or criminal litigation or for adversarial administrative proceedings, or which was prepared in anticipation of such litigation or proceedings until the conclusion of the litigation or proceedings.

- b. Information obtained by an association in connection with the approval of the lease, sale, or other transfer of a unit.
- c. Personnel records of association or management company employees, including, but not limited to, disciplinary, payroll, health, and insurance records. For purposes of this subsubparagraph, the term "personnel records" does not include written employment agreements with an association employee or management company, or budgetary or financial records that indicate the compensation paid to an association employee.
 - d. Medical records of unit owners.
- e. Social security numbers, driver license numbers, credit card numbers, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, emergency contact information, addresses of a unit owner other than as provided to fulfill the association's notice requirements, and other personal identifying information of any person, excluding the person's name, unit designation, mailing address, property address, and any address, e-mail address, or facsimile number provided to the association to fulfill the association's notice requirements. Notwithstanding the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

restrictions in this sub-subparagraph, an association may print and distribute to <u>unit parcel</u> owners a directory containing the name, <u>unit parcel</u> address, and all telephone numbers of each <u>unit parcel</u> owner. However, an owner may exclude his or her telephone numbers from the directory by so requesting in writing to the association. An owner may consent in writing to the disclosure of other contact information described in this subsubparagraph. The association is not liable for the inadvertent disclosure of information that is protected under this subsubparagraph if the information is included in an official record of the association and is voluntarily provided by an owner and not requested by the association.

- f. Electronic security measures that are used by the association to safeguard data, including passwords.
- g. The software and operating system used by the association which allow the manipulation of data, even if the owner owns a copy of the same software used by the association. The data is part of the official records of the association.
- (f) An outgoing board or committee member must relinquish all official records and property of the association in his or her possession or under his or her control to the incoming board within 5 days after the election. The division shall impose a civil penalty as set forth in $\underline{s. 718.501(2)(d)6.}$ $\underline{s.}$ $\underline{718.501(1)(d)6.}$ against an outgoing board or committee member

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

who willfully and knowingly fails to relinquish such records and property.

- (g)1. By January 1, 2019, an association managing a condominium with 150 or more units which does not contain timeshare units shall post digital copies of the documents specified in subparagraph 2. on its website or make such documents available through an application that can be downloaded on a mobile device.
 - a. The association's website or application must be:
- (I) An independent website, application, or web portal wholly owned and operated by the association; or
- (II) A website, application, or web portal operated by a third-party provider with whom the association owns, leases, rents, or otherwise obtains the right to operate a web page, subpage, web portal, or collection of subpages or web portals, or application which is dedicated to the association's activities and on which required notices, records, and documents may be posted or made available by the association.
- b. The association's website <u>or application</u> must be accessible through the Internet and must contain a subpage, web portal, or other protected electronic location that is inaccessible to the general public and accessible only to unit owners and employees of the association.
- c. Upon a unit owner's written request, the association must provide the unit owner with a username and password and

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

 access to the protected sections of the association's website $\underline{\text{or}}$ application that contain any notices, records, or documents that must be electronically provided.

- 2. A current copy of the following documents must be posted in digital format on the association's website $\underline{\text{or}}$ application:
- a. The recorded declaration of condominium of each condominium operated by the association and each amendment to each declaration.
- b. The recorded bylaws of the association and each amendment to the bylaws.
- c. The articles of incorporation of the association, or other documents creating the association, and each amendment to the articles of incorporation or other documents thereto. The copy posted pursuant to this sub-subparagraph must be a copy of the articles of incorporation filed with the Department of State.
 - d. The rules of the association.
- e. A list of all executory contracts or documents to which the association is a party or under which the association or the unit owners have an obligation or responsibility and, after bidding for the related materials, equipment, or services has closed, a list of bids received by the association within the past year. Summaries of bids for materials, equipment, or services which exceed \$500 must be maintained on the website or

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- application for 1 year. In lieu of summaries, complete copies of the bids may be posted.
 - f. The annual budget required by s. 718.112(2)(f) and any proposed budget to be considered at the annual meeting.
 - g. The financial report required by subsection (13) and any monthly income or expense statement to be considered at a meeting.
 - h. The certification of each director required by s. 718.112(2)(d)4.b.
 - i. All contracts or transactions between the association and any director, officer, corporation, firm, or association that is not an affiliated condominium association or any other entity in which an association director is also a director or officer and financially interested.
 - j. Any contract or document regarding a conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest as provided in ss. 468.436(2) (b) 6. and 718.3027(3).
 - k. The notice of any unit owner meeting and the agenda for the meeting, as required by s. 718.112(2)(d)3., no later than 14 days before the meeting. The notice must be posted in plain view on the front page of the website or application, or on a separate subpage of the website or application labeled "Notices" which is conspicuously visible and linked from the front page. The association must also post on its website or application any document to be considered and voted on by the owners during the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

meeting or any document listed on the agenda at least 7 days before the meeting at which the document or the information within the document will be considered.

- 1. Notice of any board meeting, the agenda, and any other document required for the meeting as required by s. 718.112(2)(c), which must be posted no later than the date required for notice under pursuant to s. 718.112(2)(c).
- 3. The association shall ensure that the information and records described in paragraph (c), which are not allowed to be accessible to unit owners, are not posted on the association's website or application. If protected information or information restricted from being accessible to unit owners is included in documents that are required to be posted on the association's website or application, the association shall ensure the information is redacted before posting the documents online. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the association or its agent is not liable for disclosing information that is protected or restricted under pursuant to this paragraph unless such disclosure was made with a knowing or intentional disregard of the protected or restricted nature of such information.
- 4. The failure of the association to post information required under subparagraph 2. is not in and of itself sufficient to invalidate any action or decision of the association's board or its committees.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

1031	Section 21.	Paragrapl	hs (d),	(f),	(i), (j), ((k),	and	(p)	of
1032	subsection (2) of	section '	718.112,	Flor	rida St	atute	es, a	are		
1033	amended, and para	graph (c)	is adde	ed to	subsec	tion	(1)	of t	that	
1034	section, to read:									

718.112 Bylaws.-

- (1) GENERALLY.-
- (c) The association may extinguish a discriminatory restriction as provided under s. 712.065.
- (2) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.—The bylaws shall provide for the following and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include the following:
 - (d) Unit owner meetings.-
- 1. An annual meeting of the unit owners must be held at the location provided in the association bylaws and, if the bylaws are silent as to the location, the meeting must be held within 45 miles of the condominium property. However, such distance requirement does not apply to an association governing a timeshare condominium.
- 2. Unless the bylaws provide otherwise, a vacancy on the board caused by the expiration of a director's term must be filled by electing a new board member, and the election must be by secret ballot. An election is not required if the number of vacancies equals or exceeds the number of candidates. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "candidate" means an eligible person who has timely submitted the written notice, as

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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described in sub-subparagraph 4.a., of his or her intention to become a candidate. Except in a timeshare or nonresidential condominium, or if the staggered term of a board member does not expire until a later annual meeting, or if all members' terms would otherwise expire but there are no candidates, the terms of all board members expire at the annual meeting, and such members may stand for reelection unless prohibited by the bylaws. Board members may serve terms longer than 1 year if permitted by the bylaws or articles of incorporation. A board member may not serve more than 8 consecutive years unless approved by an affirmative vote of unit owners representing two-thirds of all votes cast in the election or unless there are not enough eligible candidates to fill the vacancies on the board at the time of the vacancy. Only board service that occurs on or after July 1, 2018, may be used when calculating a board member's term limit. If the number of board members whose terms expire at the annual meeting equals or exceeds the number of candidates, the candidates become members of the board effective upon the adjournment of the annual meeting. Unless the bylaws provide otherwise, any remaining vacancies shall be filled by the affirmative vote of the majority of the directors making up the newly constituted board even if the directors constitute less than a quorum or there is only one director. In a residential condominium association of more than 10 units or in a residential condominium association that does not include

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 44 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

timeshare units or timeshare interests, co-owners of a unit may
not serve as members of the board of directors at the same time
unless they own more than one unit or unless there are not
enough eligible candidates to fill the vacancies on the board at
the time of the vacancy. A unit owner in a residential
condominium desiring to be a candidate for board membership must
comply with sub-subparagraph 4.a. and must be eligible to be a
candidate to serve on the board of directors at the time of the
deadline for submitting a notice of intent to run in order to
have his or her name listed as a proper candidate on the ballot
or to serve on the board. A person who has been suspended or
removed by the division under this chapter, or who is delinquent
in the payment of any <u>assessment</u> monetary obligation due to the
association, is not eligible to be a candidate for board
membership and may not be listed on the ballot. For purposes of
this paragraph, a person is delinquent if a payment is not made
by the due date as specifically identified in the declaration of
condominium, bylaws, or articles of incorporation. If a due date
is not specifically identified in the declaration of
condominium, bylaws, or articles of incorporation, the due date
is the first day of the assessment period. A person who has been
convicted of any felony in this state or in a United States
District or Territorial Court, or who has been convicted of any
offense in another jurisdiction which would be considered a

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 45 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

1106

1107

1108

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membership unless such felon's civil rights have been restored for at least 5 years as of the date such person seeks election to the board. The validity of an action by the board is not affected if it is later determined that a board member is ineligible for board membership due to having been convicted of a felony. This subparagraph does not limit the term of a member of the board of a nonresidential or timeshare condominium.

The bylaws must provide the method of calling meetings of unit owners, including annual meetings. Written notice of an annual meeting must include an agenda; , must be mailed, hand delivered, or electronically transmitted to each unit owner at least 14 days before the annual meeting; and must be posted in a conspicuous place on the condominium property at least 14 continuous days before the annual meeting. Written notice of a meeting other than an annual meeting must include an agenda; be mailed, hand delivered, or electronically transmitted to each unit owner; and be posted in a conspicuous place on the condominium property in accordance with the minimum period of time for posting a notice as set forth in the bylaws, and if the bylaws do not provide such notice requirements, then at least 14 continuous days before the meeting. Upon notice to the unit owners, the board shall, by duly adopted rule, designate a specific location on the condominium property where all notices of unit owner meetings must be posted. This requirement does not apply if there is no condominium property for posting notices.

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

1131	In lieu of, or in addition to, the physical posting of meeting
1132	notices, the association may, by reasonable rule, adopt a
1133	procedure for conspicuously posting and repeatedly broadcasting
1134	the notice and the agenda on a closed-circuit cable television
1135	system serving the condominium association. However, if
1136	broadcast notice is used in lieu of a notice posted physically
1137	on the condominium property, the notice and agenda must be
1138	broadcast at least four times every broadcast hour of each day
1139	that a posted notice is otherwise required under this section.
1140	If broadcast notice is provided, the notice and agenda must be
1141	broadcast in a manner and for a sufficient continuous length of
1142	time so as to allow an average reader to observe the notice and
1143	read and comprehend the entire content of the notice and the
1144	agenda. In addition to any of the authorized means of providing
1145	notice of a meeting of the board, the association may, by rule,
1146	adopt a procedure for conspicuously posting the meeting notice
1147	and the agenda on a website serving the condominium association
1148	for at least the minimum period of time for which a notice of a
1149	meeting is also required to be physically posted on the
1150	condominium property. Any rule adopted shall, in addition to
1151	other matters, include a requirement that the association send
1152	an electronic notice in the same manner as a notice for a
1153	meeting of the members, which must include a hyperlink to the
1154	website where the notice is posted, to unit owners whose e-mail
1155	addresses are included in the association's official records.

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 47 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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Unless a unit owner waives in writing the right to receive notice of the annual meeting, such notice must be hand delivered, mailed, or electronically transmitted to each unit owner. Notice for meetings and notice for all other purposes must be mailed to each unit owner at the address last furnished to the association by the unit owner, or hand delivered to each unit owner. However, if a unit is owned by more than one person, the association must provide notice to the address that the developer identifies for that purpose and thereafter as one or more of the owners of the unit advise the association in writing, or if no address is given or the owners of the unit do not agree, to the address provided on the deed of record. An officer of the association, or the manager or other person providing notice of the association meeting, must provide an affidavit or United States Postal Service certificate of mailing, to be included in the official records of the association affirming that the notice was mailed or hand delivered in accordance with this provision.

4. The members of the board of a residential condominium shall be elected by written ballot or voting machine. Proxies may not be used in electing the board in general elections or elections to fill vacancies caused by recall, resignation, or otherwise, unless otherwise provided in this chapter. This subparagraph does not apply to an association governing a timeshare condominium.

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

a. At least 60 days before a scheduled election, the
association shall mail, deliver, or electronically transmit, by
separate association mailing or included in another association
mailing, delivery, or transmission, including regularly
published newsletters, to each unit owner entitled to a vote, a
first notice of the date of the election. A unit owner or other
eligible person desiring to be a candidate for the board must
give written notice of his or her intent to be a candidate to
the association at least 40 days before a scheduled election.
Together with the written notice and agenda as set forth in
subparagraph 3., the association shall mail, deliver, or
electronically transmit a second notice of the election to all
unit owners entitled to vote, together with a ballot that lists
all candidates <u>not less than 14 days or more than 34 days before</u>
all candidates <u>not less than 14 days or more than 34 days before</u> the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches,
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or transmission of the ballot, with the costs of mailing, delivery,
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or transmission of the ballot, with the costs of mailing, delivery, or electronic transmission and copying to be borne by the
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or transmission of the ballot, with the costs of mailing, delivery, or electronic transmission and copying to be borne by the association. The association is not liable for the contents of
the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an information sheet, no larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches, which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or transmission of the ballot, with the costs of mailing, delivery, or electronic transmission and copying to be borne by the association. The association is not liable for the contents of the information sheets prepared by the candidates. In order to

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

sub-subparagraph, including rules establishing procedures for giving notice by electronic transmission and rules providing for the secrecy of ballots. Elections shall be decided by a plurality of ballots cast. There is no quorum requirement; however, at least 20 percent of the eligible voters must cast a ballot in order to have a valid election. A unit owner may not authorize any other person to vote his or her ballot, and any ballots improperly cast are invalid. A unit owner who violates this provision may be fined by the association in accordance with s. 718.303. A unit owner who needs assistance in casting the ballot for the reasons stated in s. 101.051 may obtain such assistance. The regular election must occur on the date of the annual meeting. Notwithstanding this sub-subparagraph, an election is not required unless more candidates file notices of intent to run or are nominated than board vacancies exist.

b. Within 90 days after being elected or appointed to the board of an association of a residential condominium, each newly elected or appointed director shall certify in writing to the secretary of the association that he or she has read the association's declaration of condominium, articles of incorporation, bylaws, and current written policies; that he or she will work to uphold such documents and policies to the best of his or her ability; and that he or she will faithfully discharge his or her fiduciary responsibility to the association's members. In lieu of this written certification,

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

within 90 days after being elected or appointed to the board,
the newly elected or appointed director may submit a certificate
of having satisfactorily completed the educational curriculum
administered by a division-approved condominium education
provider within 1 year before or 90 days after the date of
election or appointment. The written certification or
educational certificate is valid and does not have to be
resubmitted as long as the director serves on the board without
interruption. A director of an association of a residential
condominium who fails to timely file the written certification
or educational certificate is suspended from service on the
board until he or she complies with this sub-subparagraph. The
board may temporarily fill the vacancy during the period of
suspension. The secretary shall cause the association to retain
a director's written certification or educational certificate
for inspection by the members for 5 years after a director's
election or the duration of the director's uninterrupted tenure,
whichever is longer. Failure to have such written certification
or educational certificate on file does not affect the validity
of any board action.

- c. Any challenge to the election process must be commenced within 60 days after the election results are announced.
- 5. Any approval by unit owners called for by this chapter or the applicable declaration or bylaws, including, but not limited to, the approval requirement in s. 718.111(8), must be

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

made at a duly noticed meeting of unit owners and is subject to all requirements of this chapter or the applicable condominium documents relating to unit owner decisionmaking, except that unit owners may take action by written agreement, without meetings, on matters for which action by written agreement without meetings is expressly allowed by the applicable bylaws or declaration or any law that provides for such action.

- 6. Unit owners may waive notice of specific meetings if allowed by the applicable bylaws or declaration or any law. Notice of meetings of the board of administration, unit owner meetings, except unit owner meetings called to recall board members under paragraph (j), and committee meetings may be given by electronic transmission to unit owners who consent to receive notice by electronic transmission. A unit owner who consents to receiving notices by electronic transmission is solely responsible for removing or bypassing filters that block receipt of mass <u>e-mails</u> emails sent to members on behalf of the association in the course of giving electronic notices.
- 7. Unit owners have the right to participate in meetings of unit owners with reference to all designated agenda items. However, the association may adopt reasonable rules governing the frequency, duration, and manner of unit owner participation.
- 8. A unit owner may tape record or videotape a meeting of the unit owners subject to reasonable rules adopted by the division.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689

Amendment No.

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- Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, any vacancy occurring on the board before the expiration of a term may be filled by the affirmative vote of the majority of the remaining directors, even if the remaining directors constitute less than 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 sub-subparagraph 4.a. unless the association governs 10 units or fewer and has opted out of the statutory election process, in which case the bylaws of the association control. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, a board member appointed or elected under this section shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the seat being filled. Filling vacancies created by recall is governed by paragraph (j) and rules adopted by the division.
- This chapter does not limit the use of general or limited proxies, require the use of general or limited proxies, or require the use of a written ballot or voting machine for any agenda item or election at any meeting of a timeshare condominium association or nonresidential condominium association.

1302 Notwithstanding subparagraph (b) 2. and sub-subparagraph 4.a., an association of 10 or fewer units may, by affirmative vote of a 1303 majority of the total voting interests, provide for different 1304

voting and election procedures in its bylaws, which may be by a

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342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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1329 1330 proxy specifically delineating the different voting and election procedures. The different voting and election procedures may provide for elections to be conducted by limited or general proxy.

- (f) Annual budget.-
- The proposed annual budget of estimated revenues and expenses must be detailed and must show the amounts budgeted by accounts and expense classifications, including, at a minimum, any applicable expenses listed in s. 718.504(21). The annual budget must be proposed to unit owners and adopted by the board of directors no later than 30 days before the beginning of the fiscal year. A multicondominium association shall adopt a separate budget of common expenses for each condominium the association operates and shall adopt a separate budget of common expenses for the association. In addition, if the association maintains limited common elements with the cost to be shared only by those entitled to use the limited common elements as provided for in s. 718.113(1), the budget or a schedule attached to it must show the amount budgeted for this maintenance. If, after turnover of control of the association to the unit owners, any of the expenses listed in s. 718.504(21) are not applicable, they need not be listed.
- 2.a. In addition to annual operating expenses, the budget must include reserve accounts for capital expenditures and deferred maintenance. These accounts must include, but are not

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

limited to, roof replacement, building painting, and pavement resurfacing, regardless of the amount of deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost, and any other item that has a deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000. The amount to be reserved must be computed using a formula based upon estimated remaining useful life and estimated replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of each reserve item. The association may adjust replacement reserve assessments annually to take into account any changes in estimates or extension of the useful life of a reserve item caused by deferred maintenance. This subsection does not apply to an adopted budget in which the members of an association have determined, by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the association, to provide no reserves or less reserves than required by this subsection.

b. Before turnover of control of an association by a developer to unit owners other than a developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer may vote the voting interests allocated to its units to waive the reserves or reduce the funding of reserves through the period expiring at the end of the second fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the certificate of a surveyor and mapper is recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded,

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

whichever occurs first, after which time reserves may be waived or reduced only upon the vote of a majority of all nondeveloper voting interests voting in person or by limited proxy at a duly called meeting of the association. If a meeting of the unit owners has been called to determine whether to waive or reduce the funding of reserves and no such result is achieved or a quorum is not attained, the reserves included in the budget shall go into effect. After the turnover, the developer may vote its voting interest to waive or reduce the funding of reserves.

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

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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reserves in question. Proxy questions relating to waiving or reducing the funding of reserves or using existing reserve funds for purposes other than purposes for which the reserves were intended must contain the following statement in capitalized, bold letters in a font size larger than any other used on the face of the proxy ballot: WAIVING OF RESERVES, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, OR ALLOWING ALTERNATIVE USES OF EXISTING RESERVES MAY RESULT IN UNIT OWNER LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF UNANTICIPATED SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS REGARDING THOSE ITEMS.

Transfer fees.—An association may not no charge a fee shall be made by the association or any body thereof in connection with the sale, mortgage, lease, sublease, or other transfer of a unit unless the association is required to approve such transfer and a fee for such approval is provided for in the declaration, articles, or bylaws. Any such fee may be preset, but may not in no event may such fee exceed \$150 \$100 per applicant other than spouses or parent and dependent child, who husband/wife or parent/dependent child, which are considered one applicant. However, if the lease or sublease is a renewal of a lease or sublease with the same lessee or sublessee, a charge may not no charge shall be made. Such fees shall be adjusted every 5 years in an amount equal to the total of the annual increases for that 5-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

periodically calculate the fees, rounded to the nearest dollar,
and publish the amounts, as adjusted, on its website. The
foregoing notwithstanding, an association may, if the authority
to do so appears in the declaration, articles, or bylaws,
require that a prospective lessee place a security deposit, in
an amount not to exceed the equivalent of 1 month's rent, into
an escrow account maintained by the association. The security
deposit shall protect against damages to the common elements or
association property. Payment of interest, claims against the
deposit, refunds, and disputes under this paragraph shall be
handled in the same fashion as provided in part II of chapter
83.

- (j) Recall of board members.—Subject to s. 718.301, any member of the board of administration may be recalled and removed from office with or without cause by the vote or agreement in writing by a majority of all the voting interests. A special meeting of the unit owners to recall a member or members of the board of administration may be called by 10 percent of the voting interests giving notice of the meeting as required for a meeting of unit owners, and the notice shall state the purpose of the meeting. Electronic transmission may not be used as a method of giving notice of a meeting called in whole or in part for this purpose.
- 1. If the recall is approved by a majority of all voting interests by a vote at a meeting, the recall will be effective

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

as provided in this paragraph. The board shall duly notice and hold a board meeting within 5 full business days after the adjournment of the unit owner meeting to recall one or more board members. Such member or members shall be recalled effective immediately upon conclusion of the board meeting, provided that the recall is facially valid. A recalled member must turn over to the board, within 10 full business days after the vote, any and all records and property of the association in their possession.

- 2. If the proposed recall is by an agreement in writing by a majority of all voting interests, the agreement in writing or a copy thereof shall be served on the association by certified mail or by personal service in the manner authorized by chapter 48 and the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. The board of administration shall duly notice and hold a meeting of the board within 5 full business days after receipt of the agreement in writing. Such member or members shall be recalled effective immediately upon the conclusion of the board meeting, provided that the recall is facially valid. A recalled member must turn over to the board, within 10 full business days, any and all records and property of the association in their possession.
- 3. If the board fails to duly notice and hold a board meeting within 5 full business days after service of an agreement in writing or within 5 full business days after the adjournment of the unit owner recall meeting, the recall \underline{is}

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

 shall be deemed effective and the board members so recalled shall turn over to the board within 10 full business days after the vote any and all records and property of the association.

- 4. If the board fails to duly notice and hold the required meeting or at the conclusion of the meeting determines that the recall is not facially valid, the unit owner representative may file a petition or court action under pursuant to s. 718.1255 challenging the board's failure to act or challenging the board's determination on facial validity. The petition or action must be filed within 60 days after the expiration of the applicable 5-full-business-day period. The review of a petition or action under this subparagraph is limited to the sufficiency of service on the board and the facial validity of the written agreement or ballots filed.
- 5. If a vacancy occurs on the board as a result of a recall or removal and less than a majority of the board members are removed, the vacancy may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in this subsection. If vacancies occur on the board as a result of a recall and a majority or more of the board members are removed, the vacancies shall be filled in accordance with procedural rules to be adopted by the division, which rules need not be consistent with this subsection. The rules must provide procedures governing the conduct of the recall election as well as the operation of the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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association during the period after a recall but before the recall election.

- 6. A board member who has been recalled may file a petition or court action under pursuant to s. 718.1255 challenging the validity of the recall. The petition or action must be filed within 60 days after the recall. The association and the unit owner representative shall be named as the respondents. The petition or action may challenge the facial validity of the written agreement or ballots filed or the substantial compliance with the procedural requirements for the recall. If the arbitrator or court determines the recall was invalid, the petitioning board member shall immediately be reinstated and the recall is null and void. A board member who is successful in challenging a recall is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and costs from the respondents. The arbitrator or court may award reasonable attorney fees and costs to the respondents if they prevail, if the arbitrator or court makes a finding that the petitioner's claim is frivolous.
- 7. The division or a court of competent jurisdiction may not accept for filing a recall petition or court action, whether filed under pursuant to subparagraph 1., subparagraph 2., subparagraph 4., or subparagraph 6. when there are 60 or fewer days until the scheduled reelection of the board member sought to be recalled or when 60 or fewer days have elapsed since the election of the board member sought to be recalled.

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

(k) Alternative dispute resolution Arbitration.—There	must
shall be a provision for mandatory <u>alternative dispute</u>	
resolution nonbinding arbitration as provided for in s. 718	.1255
for any residential condominium.	

- (p) Service providers; conflicts of interest. An association, which is not a timeshare condominium association, may not employ or contract with any service provider that is owned or operated by a board member or with any person who has a financial relationship with a board member or officer, or a relative within the third degree of consanguinity by blood or marriage of a board member or officer. This paragraph does not apply to a service provider in which a board member or officer, or a relative within the third degree of consanguinity by blood or marriage of a board member or officer, owns less than 1 percent of the equity shares.
- Section 22. Subsection (8) of section 718.113, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 718.113 Maintenance; limitation upon improvement; display of flag; hurricane shutters and protection; display of religious decorations.—
- (8) The Legislature finds that the use of electric <u>and</u> <u>natural gas fuel</u> vehicles conserves and protects the state's environmental resources, provides significant economic savings to drivers, and serves an important public interest. The participation of condominium associations is essential to the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

state's efforts to conserve and protect the state's
environmental resources and provide economic savings to drivers.
For purposes of this subsection, the term "natural gas fuel" has
the same meaning as in s. 206.9951, and the term "natural gas
fuel vehicle" means any motor vehicle, as defined in s. 320.01,
that is powered by natural gas fuel. Therefore, the installation
of an electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel
station shall be governed as follows:

- (a) A declaration of condominium or restrictive covenant may not prohibit or be enforced so as to prohibit any unit owner from installing an electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station within the boundaries of the unit owner's limited common element or exclusively designated parking area. The board of administration of a condominium association may not prohibit a unit owner from installing an electric vehicle charging station for an electric vehicle, as defined in s. 320.01, or a natural gas fuel station for a natural gas fuel vehicle within the boundaries of his or her limited common element or exclusively designated parking area. The installation of such charging or fuel stations are subject to the provisions of this subsection.
- (b) The installation may not cause irreparable damage to the condominium property.
- (c) The electricity for the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station must be separately metered

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

1556	or metered by an embedded meter and payable by the unit own	ıer
1557	installing such charging or fuel station or by his or her	
1558	successor.	

- (d) The cost for supply and storage of the natural gas fuel must be paid by the unit owner installing the natural gas fuel station or by his or her successor.
- (e) (d) The unit owner who is installing an electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station is responsible for the costs of installation, operation, maintenance, and repair, including, but not limited to, hazard and liability insurance. The association may enforce payment of such costs under pursuant to s. 718.116.
- <u>(f) (e)</u> If the unit owner or his or her successor decides there is no longer a need for the electronic vehicle charging station <u>or natural gas fuel station</u>, such person is responsible for the cost of removal of <u>such the electronic vehicle</u> charging <u>or fuel</u> station. The association may enforce payment of such costs under pursuant to s. 718.116.
- (g) The unit owner installing, maintaining, or removing the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station is responsible for complying with all federal, state, or local laws and regulations applicable to such installation, maintenance, or removal.
 - (h) (f) The association may require the unit owner to:

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 1. Comply with bona fide safety requirements, consistent with applicable building codes or recognized safety standards, for the protection of persons and property.
- 2. Comply with reasonable architectural standards adopted by the association that govern the dimensions, placement, or external appearance of the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station, provided that such standards may not prohibit the installation of such charging or fuel station or substantially increase the cost thereof.
- 3. Engage the services of a licensed and registered <u>firm</u> electrical contractor or engineer familiar with the installation <u>or removal</u> and core requirements of an electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station.
- 4. Provide a certificate of insurance naming the association as an additional insured on the owner's insurance policy for any claim related to the installation, maintenance, or use of the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station within 14 days after receiving the association's approval to install such charging or fuel station or notice to provide such a certificate.
- 5. Reimburse the association for the actual cost of any increased insurance premium amount attributable to the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station within 14 days after receiving the association's insurance premium invoice.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

(i) (g) The association provides an implied easement across the common elements of the condominium property to the unit owner for purposes of the installation of the electric vehicle charging station or natural gas fuel station installation, and the furnishing of electrical power or natural gas fuel supply, including any necessary equipment, to such charging or fuel station, subject to the requirements of this subsection.

Section 23. Subsection (16) of section 718.117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.117 Termination of condominium.

a plan of termination by initiating a petition in accordance with for mandatory nonbinding arbitration pursuant to s.

718.1255 within 90 days after the date the plan is recorded. A unit owner or lienor may only contest the fairness and reasonableness of the apportionment of the proceeds from the sale among the unit owners, that the liens of the first mortgages of unit owners other than the bulk owner have not or will not be satisfied to the extent required by subsection (3), or that the required vote to approve the plan was not obtained. A unit owner or lienor who does not contest the plan within the 90-day period is barred from asserting or prosecuting a claim against the association, the termination trustee, any unit owner, or any successor in interest to the condominium property. In an action contesting a plan of termination, the person

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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contesting the plan has the burden of pleading and proving that the apportionment of the proceeds from the sale among the unit owners was not fair and reasonable or that the required vote was not obtained. The apportionment of sale proceeds is presumed fair and reasonable if it was determined pursuant to the methods prescribed in subsection (12). If the petition is filed with the division for arbitration, the arbitrator shall determine the rights and interests of the parties in the apportionment of the sale proceeds. If the arbitrator determines that the apportionment of sales proceeds is not fair and reasonable, the arbitrator may void the plan or may modify the plan to apportion the proceeds in a fair and reasonable manner pursuant to this section based upon the proceedings and order the modified plan of termination to be implemented. If the arbitrator determines that the plan was not properly approved, or that the procedures to adopt the plan were not properly followed, the arbitrator may void the plan or grant other relief it deems just and proper. The arbitrator shall automatically void the plan upon a finding that any of the disclosures required in subparagraph (3)(c)5. are omitted, misleading, incomplete, or inaccurate. Any challenge to a plan, other than a challenge that the required vote was not obtained, does not affect title to the condominium property or the vesting of the condominium property in the trustee, but shall only be a claim against the proceeds of the

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 67 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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plan. In any such action, the prevailing party shall recover reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 718.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.121 Liens.-

Labor performed on or materials furnished to a unit may shall not be the basis for the filing of a lien under pursuant to part I of chapter 713, the Construction Lien Law, against the unit or condominium parcel of any unit owner not expressly consenting to or requesting the labor or materials. Labor performed on or materials furnished for the installation of a natural gas fuel station or an electronic vehicle charging station under pursuant to s. 718.113(8) may not be the basis for filing a lien under part I of chapter 713 against the association, but such a lien may be filed against the unit owner. Labor performed on or materials furnished to the common elements are not the basis for a lien on the common elements, but if authorized by the association, the labor or materials are deemed to be performed or furnished with the express consent of each unit owner and may be the basis for the filing of a lien against all condominium parcels in the proportions for which the owners are liable for common expenses.

Section 25. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 718.1255, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) and (7), respectively, subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4)

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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of that section are amended, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

718.1255 Alternative dispute resolution; voluntary mediation; mandatory nonbinding arbitration; legislative findings.—

- (2) VOLUNTARY MEDIATION.—Voluntary Mediation through Citizen Dispute Settlement Centers as provided for in s. 44.201 is encouraged.
- (4)MANDATORY NONBINDING ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION OF DISPUTES.—The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation may employ full-time attorneys to act as arbitrators to conduct the arbitration hearings provided by this chapter. The division may also certify attorneys who are not employed by the division to act as arbitrators to conduct the arbitration hearings provided by this chapter. A No person may not be employed by the department as a full-time arbitrator unless he or she is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar. A person may only be certified by the division to act as an arbitrator if he or she has been a member in good standing of The Florida Bar for at least 5 years and has mediated or arbitrated at least 10 disputes involving condominiums in this state during the 3 years immediately preceding the date of application, mediated or arbitrated at least 30 disputes in any subject area in this state during the 3 years immediately preceding the date of

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689

Amendment No.

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application, or attained board certification in real estate law or condominium and planned development law from The Florida Bar. Arbitrator certification is valid for 1 year. An arbitrator who does not maintain the minimum qualifications for initial certification may not have his or her certification renewed. The department may not enter into a legal services contract for an arbitration hearing under this chapter with an attorney who is not a certified arbitrator unless a certified arbitrator is not available within 50 miles of the dispute. The department shall adopt rules of procedure to govern such arbitration hearings including mediation incident thereto. The decision of an arbitrator is shall be final; however, a decision is shall not be deemed final agency action. Nothing in this provision shall be construed to foreclose parties from proceeding in a trial de novo unless the parties have agreed that the arbitration is binding. If judicial proceedings are initiated, the final decision of the arbitrator is shall be admissible in evidence in the trial de novo.

Before Prior to the institution of court litigation, a (a) party to a dispute, other than an election or recall dispute, shall either petition the division for nonbinding arbitration or initiate presuit mediation as provided in subsection (5). Arbitration is binding on the parties if all parties in arbitration agree to be bound in a writing filed in arbitration.

The petition must be accompanied by a filing fee in the amount

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

of \$50. Filing fees collected under this section must be used to defray the expenses of the alternative dispute resolution program.

(5) PRESUIT MEDIATION.—In lieu of the initiation of nonbinding arbitration as set forth in subsections (1)-(4), a party may submit a dispute to presuit mediation in accordance with s. 720.311. Election and recall disputes are not eligible for mediation and such disputes must be arbitrated by the division or filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 26. Subsection (3) of section 718.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.202 Sales or reservation deposits prior to closing.-

(3) If the contract for sale of the condominium unit so provides, the developer may withdraw escrow funds in excess of 10 percent of the purchase price from the special account required by subsection (2) when the construction of improvements has begun. He or she may use the funds for the actual costs incurred by the developer in the actual construction and development of the condominium property in which the unit to be sold is located. Actual costs include, but are not limited to, expenditures for demolition, site clearing, permit fees, impact fees, and utility reservation fees, as well as architectural, engineering, and surveying fees that directly relate to construction and development. However, no part of these funds may be used for salaries, commissions, or expenses of

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

salespersons; er for advertising, marketing, or promotional purposes; or for loan fees, costs or interest, attorney fees, accounting fees, or insurance. A contract which permits use of the advance payments for these purposes shall include the following legend conspicuously printed or stamped in boldfaced type on the first page of the contract and immediately above the place for the signature of the buyer: ANY PAYMENT IN EXCESS OF 10 PERCENT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE MADE TO DEVELOPER PRIOR TO CLOSING PURSUANT TO THIS CONTRACT MAY BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES BY THE DEVELOPER.

Section 27. Subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 718.303, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
718.303 Obligations of owners and occupants; remedies.—

(1) Each unit owner, each tenant and other invitee, and each association is governed by, and must comply with the provisions of, this chapter, the declaration, the documents creating the association, and the association bylaws which are shall be deemed expressly incorporated into any lease of a unit. Actions at law or in equity for damages or for injunctive relief, or both, for failure to comply with these provisions may be brought by the association or by a unit owner against:

Page 72 of 122

- (a) The association.
- (b) A unit owner.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- (c) Directors designated by the developer, for actions taken by them before control of the association is assumed by unit owners other than the developer.
- (d) Any director who willfully and knowingly fails to comply with these provisions.
- (e) Any tenant leasing a unit, and any other invitee occupying a unit.

The prevailing party in any such action or in any action in which the purchaser claims a right of voidability based upon contractual provisions as required in s. 718.503(1)(a) is entitled to recover reasonable attorney attorney's fees. A unit owner prevailing in an action between the association and the unit owner under this subsection section, in addition to recovering his or her reasonable attorney attorney's fees, may recover additional amounts as determined by the court to be necessary to reimburse the unit owner for his or her share of assessments levied by the association to fund its expenses of the litigation. This relief does not exclude other remedies provided by law. Actions arising under this subsection are not considered may not be deemed to be actions for specific performance.

(3) The association may levy reasonable fines for the failure of the owner of the unit or its occupant, licensee, or invitee to comply with any provision of the declaration, the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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1825 1826 association bylaws, or reasonable rules of the association. A fine may not become a lien against a unit. A fine may be levied by the board on the basis of each day of a continuing violation, with a single notice and opportunity for hearing before a committee as provided in paragraph (b). However, the fine may not exceed \$100 per violation, or \$1,000 in the aggregate.

A fine or suspension levied by the board of administration may not be imposed unless the board first provides at least 14 days' written notice to the unit owner and, if applicable, any tenant occupant, licensee, or invitee of the unit owner sought to be fined or suspended, and an opportunity for a hearing before a committee of at least three members appointed by the board who are not officers, directors, or employees of the association, or the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of an officer, director, or employee. The role of the committee is limited to determining whether to confirm or reject the fine or suspension levied by the board. If the committee does not approve the proposed fine or suspension by majority vote, the fine or suspension may not be imposed. If the proposed fine or suspension is approved by the committee, the fine payment is due 5 days after notice of the approved fine is provided to the unit owner and, if applicable, to any tenant, licensee, or invitee of the unit owner the date of the committee meeting at which the fine is approved. The association must provide written notice of such fine or suspension by mail or

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

hand delivery to the unit owner and, if applicable, to any 1827 tenant, licensee, or invitee of the unit owner. 1828 1829 Section 28. Section 718.501, Florida Statutes, is amended 1830 to read: 1831 718.501 Authority, responsibility, and duties of Division 1832 of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes.-1833 (1) As used in this section, the term "financial issue" 1834 means an issue related to operating budgets; reserve schedules; accounting records under s. 718.111(12)(a)11.; notices of 1835 1836 meetings; minutes of meetings discussing budget or financial 1837 issues; assessments for common expenses, fees, or fines; the 1838 commingling of funds; and any other record necessary to determine the revenues and expenses of the association. The 1839 1840 division may adopt rules to further define what a financial 1841 issue is under this section and to adopt the checklist provided 1842 for in s. 718.111(12)(c)1. 1843 (2) The division may enforce and ensure compliance with 1844 the provisions of this chapter and rules relating to the 1845 development, construction, sale, lease, ownership, operation, 1846 and management of residential condominium units. In performing 1847 its duties, the division has complete jurisdiction to 1848 investigate complaints and enforce compliance with respect to associations that are still under developer control or the 1849

342291

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Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

control of a bulk assignee or bulk buyer pursuant to part VII of

this chapter and complaints against developers, bulk assignees,

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

or bulk buyers involving improper turnover or failure to turnover, pursuant to s. 718.301. However, after turnover has occurred, the division has jurisdiction to investigate complaints related only to financial issues, elections, and the maintenance of and unit owner access to association records under pursuant to s. 718.111(12).

- (a)1. The division may make necessary public or private investigations within or outside this state to determine whether any person has violated this chapter or any rule or order hereunder, to aid in the enforcement of this chapter, or to aid in the adoption of rules or forms.
- 2. The division may submit any official written report, worksheet, or other related paper, or a duly certified copy thereof, compiled, prepared, drafted, or otherwise made by and duly authenticated by a financial examiner or analyst to be admitted as competent evidence in any hearing in which the financial examiner or analyst is available for cross-examination and attests under oath that such documents were prepared as a result of an examination or inspection conducted pursuant to this chapter.
- (b) The division may require or permit any person to file a statement in writing, under oath or otherwise, as the division determines, as to the facts and circumstances concerning a matter to be investigated.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- (c) For the purpose of any investigation under this chapter, the division director or any officer or employee designated by the division director may administer oaths or affirmations, subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any matter which is relevant to the investigation, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, and location of any books, documents, or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of relevant facts or any other matter reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of material evidence. Upon the failure by a person to obey a subpoena or to answer questions propounded by the investigating officer and upon reasonable notice to all affected persons, the division may apply to the circuit court for an order compelling compliance.
- (d) Notwithstanding any remedies available to unit owners and associations, if the division has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of any provision of this chapter or related rule has occurred, the division may institute enforcement proceedings in its own name against any developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, officer, or member of the board of administration, or its assignees or agents, as follows:
- 1. The division may permit a person whose conduct or actions may be under investigation to waive formal proceedings

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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and enter into a consent proceeding whereby orders, rules, or letters of censure or warning, whether formal or informal, may be entered against the person.

The division may issue an order requiring the developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, developerdesignated officer, or developer-designated member of the board of administration, developer-designated assignees or agents, bulk assignee-designated assignees or agents, bulk buyerdesignated assignees or agents, community association manager, or community association management firm to cease and desist from the unlawful practice and take such affirmative action as in the judgment of the division carry out the purposes of this chapter. If the division finds that a developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, officer, or member of the board of administration, or its assignees or agents, is violating or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, any rule adopted or order issued by the division, or any written agreement entered into with the division, and presents an immediate danger to the public requiring an immediate final order, it may issue an emergency cease and desist order reciting with particularity the facts underlying such findings. The emergency cease and desist order is effective for 90 days. If the division begins nonemergency cease and desist proceedings, the emergency cease and desist order remains effective until the conclusion of the proceedings under ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 78 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 3. If a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer, fails to pay any restitution determined by the division to be owed, plus any accrued interest at the highest rate permitted by law, within 30 days after expiration of any appellate time period of a final order requiring payment of restitution or the conclusion of any appeal thereof, whichever is later, the division must bring an action in circuit or county court on behalf of any association, class of unit owners, lessees, or purchasers for restitution, declaratory relief, injunctive relief, or any other available remedy. The division may also temporarily revoke its acceptance of the filing for the developer to which the restitution relates until payment of restitution is made.
- 4. The division may petition the court for appointment of a receiver or conservator. If appointed, the receiver or conservator may take action to implement the court order to ensure the performance of the order and to remedy any breach thereof. In addition to all other means provided by law for the enforcement of an injunction or temporary restraining order, the circuit court may impound or sequester the property of a party defendant, including books, papers, documents, and related records, and allow the examination and use of the property by the division and a court-appointed receiver or conservator.
- 5. The division may apply to the circuit court for an order of restitution whereby the defendant in an action brought under pursuant to subparagraph 4. is ordered to make restitution

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM Page 79 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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of those sums shown by the division to have been obtained by the defendant in violation of this chapter. At the option of the court, such restitution is payable to the conservator or receiver appointed <u>under pursuant to</u> subparagraph 4. or directly to the persons whose funds or assets were obtained in violation of this chapter.

The division may impose a civil penalty against a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer, or association, or its assignee or agent, for any violation of this chapter or related rule. The division may impose a civil penalty individually against an officer or board member who willfully and knowingly violates a provision of this chapter, adopted rule, or a final order of the division; may order the removal of such individual as an officer or from the board of administration or as an officer of the association; and may prohibit such individual from serving as an officer or on the board of a community association for a period of time. The term "willfully and knowingly" means that the division informed the officer or board member that his or her action or intended action violates this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division and that the officer or board member refused to comply with the requirements of this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division. The division, before initiating formal agency action under chapter 120, must afford the officer or board member an opportunity to

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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voluntarily comply, and an officer or board member who complies within 10 days is not subject to a civil penalty. A penalty may be imposed on the basis of each day of continuing violation, but the penalty for any offense may not exceed \$5,000. By January 1, 1998, The division shall adopt, by rule, penalty guidelines applicable to possible violations or to categories of violations of this chapter or rules adopted by the division. The guidelines must specify a meaningful range of civil penalties for each such violation of the statute and rules and must be based upon the harm caused by the violation, the repetition of the violation, and upon such other factors deemed relevant by the division. For example, the division may consider whether the violations were committed by a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer, or owner-controlled association, the size of the association, and other factors. The guidelines must designate the possible mitigating or aggravating circumstances that justify a departure from the range of penalties provided by the rules. It is the legislative intent that minor violations be distinguished from those which endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the condominium residents or other persons and that such guidelines provide reasonable and meaningful notice to the public of likely penalties that may be imposed for proscribed conduct. This subsection does not limit the ability of the division to informally dispose of administrative actions or complaints by stipulation, agreed settlement, or consent order. All amounts

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 81 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2001

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collected shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund. If a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer fails to pay the civil penalty and the amount deemed to be owed to the association, the division shall issue an order directing that such developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer cease and desist from further operation until such time as the civil penalty is paid or may pursue enforcement of the penalty in a court of competent jurisdiction. If an association fails to pay the civil penalty, the division shall pursue enforcement in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the order imposing the civil penalty or the cease and desist order is not effective until 20 days after the date of such order. Any action commenced by the division shall be brought in the county in which the division has its executive offices or in the county where the violation occurred.

7. If a unit owner presents the division with proof that the unit owner has requested access to official records in writing by certified mail, and that after 10 days the unit owner again made the same request for access to official records in writing by certified mail, and that more than 10 days has elapsed since the second request and the association has still failed or refused to provide access to official records as required by this chapter, the division shall issue a subpoena

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

requiring production of the requested records where the records are kept pursuant to s. 718.112.

- 8. In addition to subparagraph 6., the division may seek the imposition of a civil penalty through the circuit court for any violation for which the division may issue a notice to show cause under paragraph (r). The civil penalty shall be at least \$500 but no more than \$5,000 for each violation. The court may also award to the prevailing party court costs and reasonable attorney attorney's fees and, if the division prevails, may also award reasonable costs of investigation.
- (e) The division may prepare and disseminate a prospectus and other information to assist prospective owners, purchasers, lessees, and developers of residential condominiums in assessing the rights, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto.
- (f) The division may adopt rules to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter.
- (g) The division shall establish procedures for providing notice to an association and the developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer during the period in which the developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer controls the association if the division is considering the issuance of a declaratory statement with respect to the declaration of condominium or any related document governing such condominium community.
- (h) The division shall furnish each association that pays the fees required by paragraph (3)(a) (2)(a) a copy of this

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

chapter, as amended, and the rules adopted thereto on an annual basis.

- (i) The division shall annually provide each association with a summary of declaratory statements and formal legal opinions relating to the operations of condominiums which were rendered by the division during the previous year.
- (j) The division shall provide training and educational programs for condominium association board members and unit owners. The training may, in the division's discretion, include web-based electronic media, and live training and seminars in various locations throughout the state. The division may review and approve education and training programs for board members and unit owners offered by providers and shall maintain a current list of approved programs and providers and make such list available to board members and unit owners in a reasonable and cost-effective manner. The division may adopt rules to establish requirements for the training and educational programs required in this paragraph.
- (k) The division shall maintain a toll-free telephone number accessible to condominium unit owners.
- (1) The division shall develop a program to certify both volunteer and paid mediators to provide mediation of condominium disputes. The division shall provide, upon request, a list of such mediators to any association, unit owner, or other participant in <u>alternative dispute resolution</u> arbitration

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

proceedings under s. 718.1255 requesting a copy of the list. The division shall include on the list of volunteer mediators only the names of persons who have received at least 20 hours of training in mediation techniques or who have mediated at least 20 disputes. In order to become initially certified by the division, paid mediators must be certified by the Supreme Court to mediate court cases in county or circuit courts. However, the division may adopt, by rule, additional factors for the certification of paid mediators, which must be related to experience, education, or background. Any person initially certified as a paid mediator by the division must, in order to continue to be certified, comply with the factors or requirements adopted by rule.

(m) If a complaint is made, the division must conduct its inquiry with due regard for the interests of the affected parties. Within 30 days after receipt of a complaint, the division shall acknowledge the complaint in writing and notify the complainant whether the complaint is within the jurisdiction of the division and whether additional information is needed by the division from the complainant. The division shall conduct its investigation and, within 90 days after receipt of the original complaint or of timely requested additional information, take action upon the complaint. However, the failure to complete the investigation within 90 days does not prevent the division from continuing the investigation,

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

accepting or considering evidence obtained or received after 90 days, or taking administrative action if reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation of this chapter or a rule has occurred. If an investigation is not completed within the time limits established in this paragraph, the division shall, on a monthly basis, notify the complainant in writing of the status of the investigation. When reporting its action to the complainant, the division shall inform the complainant of any right to a hearing under pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57. The division may adopt rules regarding the submission of a complaint against an association.

- (n) Condominium association directors, officers, and employees; condominium developers; bulk assignees, bulk buyers, and community association managers; and community association management firms have an ongoing duty to reasonably cooperate with the division in any investigation under pursuant to this section. The division shall refer to local law enforcement authorities any person whom the division believes has altered, destroyed, concealed, or removed any record, document, or thing required to be kept or maintained by this chapter with the purpose to impair its verity or availability in the department's investigation.
 - (o) The division may:
- 1. Contract with agencies in this state or other jurisdictions to perform investigative functions; or

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 2. Accept grants-in-aid from any source.
 - (p) The division shall cooperate with similar agencies in other jurisdictions to establish uniform filing procedures and forms, public offering statements, advertising standards, and rules and common administrative practices.
 - (q) The division shall consider notice to a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer to be complete when it is delivered to the address of the developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer currently on file with the division.
 - (r) In addition to its enforcement authority, the division may issue a notice to show cause, which must provide for a hearing, upon written request, in accordance with chapter 120.
 - (s) The division shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees an annual report that includes, but need not be limited to, the number of training programs provided for condominium association board members and unit owners, the number of complaints received by type, the number and percent of complaints acknowledged in writing within 30 days and the number and percent of investigations acted upon within 90 days in accordance with paragraph (m), and the number of investigations exceeding the 90-day requirement. The annual report must also include an evaluation of the division's core business processes and make recommendations for improvements, including statutory

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

changes. The report shall be submitted by September 30 following the end of the fiscal year.

- (3)(a)(2)(a) Each condominium association which operates more than two units shall pay to the division an annual fee in the amount of \$4 for each residential unit in condominiums operated by the association. If the fee is not paid by March 1, the association shall be assessed a penalty of 10 percent of the amount due, and the association will not have standing to maintain or defend any action in the courts of this state until the amount due, plus any penalty, is paid.
- (b) All fees shall be deposited in the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund as provided by law.

Section 29. Section 718.5014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.5014 Ombudsman location.—The ombudsman shall maintain his or her principal office in <u>a Leon County on the premises of the division or, if suitable space cannot be provided there, at another place convenient to the offices of the division which will enable the ombudsman to expeditiously carry out the duties and functions of his or her office. The ombudsman may establish branch offices elsewhere in the state upon the concurrence of the Governor.</u>

Section 30. Subsection (25) of section 719.103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 2175 719.103 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:
- 2176 (25) "Unit" means a part of the cooperative property which
 2177 is subject to exclusive use and possession. A unit may be
 2178 improvements, land, or land and improvements together, as
 2179 specified in the cooperative documents. An interest in a unit is
 2180 an interest in real property.
 - Section 31. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 719.104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 719.104 Cooperatives; access to units; records; financial reports; assessments; purchase of leases.—
 - (2) OFFICIAL RECORDS.
 - (c) The official records of the association are open to inspection by any association member or the authorized representative of such member at all reasonable times. The right to inspect the records includes the right to make or obtain copies, at the reasonable expense, if any, of the association member. The association may adopt reasonable rules regarding the frequency, time, location, notice, and manner of record inspections and copying, but may not require a member to demonstrate any purpose or state any reason for the inspection. The failure of an association to provide the records within 10 working days after receipt of a written request creates a rebuttable presumption that the association willfully failed to comply with this paragraph. A member unit owner who is denied access to official records is entitled to the actual damages or

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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minimum damages for the association's willful failure to comply. The minimum damages are \$50 per calendar day for up to 10 days, beginning on the 11th working day after receipt of the written request. The failure to permit inspection entitles any person prevailing in an enforcement action to recover reasonable attorney fees from the person in control of the records who, directly or indirectly, knowingly denied access to the records. Any person who knowingly or intentionally defaces or destroys accounting records that are required by this chapter to be maintained during the period for which such records are required to be maintained, or who knowingly or intentionally fails to create or maintain accounting records that are required to be created or maintained, with the intent of causing harm to the association or one or more of its members, is personally subject to a civil penalty under pursuant to s. 719.501(1)(d). The association shall maintain an adequate number of copies of the declaration, articles of incorporation, bylaws, and rules, and all amendments to each of the foregoing, as well as the question and answer sheet as described in s. 719.504 and year-end financial information required by the department, on the cooperative property to ensure their availability to members unit owners and prospective purchasers, and may charge its actual costs for preparing and furnishing these documents to those requesting the same. An association shall allow a member or his or her authorized representative to use a portable

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 90 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

device, including a smartphone, tablet, portable scanner, or any other technology capable of scanning or taking photographs, to make an electronic copy of the official records in lieu of the association providing the member or his or her authorized representative with a copy of such records. The association may not charge a member or his or her authorized representative for the use of a portable device. Notwithstanding this paragraph, the following records shall not be accessible to members unit owners:

- 1. Any record protected by the lawyer-client privilege as described in s. 90.502 and any record protected by the work-product privilege, including any record prepared by an association attorney or prepared at the attorney's express direction which reflects a mental impression, conclusion, litigation strategy, or legal theory of the attorney or the association, and which was prepared exclusively for civil or criminal litigation or for adversarial administrative proceedings, or which was prepared in anticipation of such litigation or proceedings until the conclusion of the litigation or proceedings.
- 2. Information obtained by an association in connection with the approval of the lease, sale, or other transfer of a unit.
- 3. Personnel records of association or management company employees, including, but not limited to, disciplinary, payroll,

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM Page 91 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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health, and insurance records. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "personnel records" does not include written employment agreements with an association employee or management company, or budgetary or financial records that indicate the compensation paid to an association employee.

- 4. Medical records of unit owners.
- Social security numbers, driver license numbers, credit card numbers, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, emergency contact information, addresses of a unit owner other than as provided to fulfill the association's notice requirements, and other personal identifying information of any person, excluding the person's name, unit designation, mailing address, property address, and any address, e-mail address, or facsimile number provided to the association to fulfill the association's notice requirements. Notwithstanding the restrictions in this subparagraph, an association may print and distribute to unit parcel owners a directory containing the name, unit parcel address, and all telephone numbers of each unit parcel owner. However, an owner may exclude his or her telephone numbers from the directory by so requesting in writing to the association. An owner may consent in writing to the disclosure of other contact information described in this subparagraph. The association is not liable for the inadvertent disclosure of information that is protected under this subparagraph if the information is included in an official

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

record of the association and is voluntarily provided by an owner and not requested by the association.

- 6. Electronic security measures that are used by the association to safeguard data, including passwords.
- 7. The software and operating system used by the association which allow the manipulation of data, even if the owner owns a copy of the same software used by the association. The data is part of the official records of the association.

Section 32. Paragraphs (b), (f), and (l) of subsection (1) of section 719.106, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

719.106 Bylaws; cooperative ownership.-

- (1) MANDATORY PROVISIONS.—The bylaws or other cooperative documents shall provide for the following, and if they do not, they shall be deemed to include the following:
 - (b) Quorum; voting requirements; proxies.-
- 1. Unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, the percentage of voting interests required to constitute a quorum at a meeting of the members shall be a majority of voting interests, and decisions shall be made by owners of a majority of the voting interests. Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, or in the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or other cooperative documents, and except as provided in subparagraph (d)1., decisions shall be made by owners of a majority of the voting interests represented at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2. Except as specifically otherwise provided herein, after
January 1, 1992, unit owners may not vote by general proxy, but
may vote by limited proxies substantially conforming to a
limited proxy form adopted by the division. Limited proxies and
general proxies may be used to establish a quorum. Limited
proxies shall be used for votes taken to waive or reduce
reserves in accordance with subparagraph (j)2., for votes taken
to waive the financial reporting requirements of s.
719.104(4)(b), for votes taken to amend the articles of
incorporation or bylaws pursuant to this section, and for any
other matter for which this chapter requires or permits a vote
of the unit owners. Except as provided in paragraph (d), after
January 1, 1992, no proxy, limited or general, shall be used in
the election of board members. General proxies may be used for
other matters for which limited proxies are not required, and
may also be used in voting for nonsubstantive changes to items
for which a limited proxy is required and given. Notwithstanding
the provisions of this section, unit owners may vote in person
at unit owner meetings. Nothing contained herein shall limit the
use of general proxies or require the use of limited proxies or
require the use of limited proxies for any agenda item or
election at any meeting of a timeshare cooperative.

3. Any proxy given shall be effective only for the specific meeting for which originally given and any lawfully adjourned meetings thereof. In no event shall any proxy be valid

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

for a period longer than 90 days after the date of the first meeting for which it was given. Every proxy shall be revocable at any time at the pleasure of the unit owner executing it.

- 4. A member of the board of administration or a committee may submit in writing his or her agreement or disagreement with any action taken at a meeting that the member did not attend. This agreement or disagreement may not be used as a vote for or against the action taken and may not be used for the purposes of creating a quorum.
- 5. A board or committee member participating in a meeting via telephone, real-time video conferencing, or similar real-time electronic or video communication counts toward a quorum, and such member may vote as if physically present When some or all of the board or committee members meet by telephone conference, those board or committee members attending by telephone conference may be counted toward obtaining a quorum and may vote by telephone. A telephone speaker must shall be used utilized so that the conversation of such those board or committee members attending by telephone may be heard by the board or committee members attending in person, as well as by any unit owners present at a meeting.
- (f) Recall of board members.—Subject to s. 719.301, any member of the board of administration may be recalled and removed from office with or without cause by the vote or agreement in writing by a majority of all the voting interests.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

A special meeting of the voting interests to recall any member of the board of administration may be called by 10 percent of the unit owners giving notice of the meeting as required for a meeting of unit owners, and the notice shall state the purpose of the meeting. Electronic transmission may not be used as a method of giving notice of a meeting called in whole or in part for this purpose.

- 1. If the recall is approved by a majority of all voting interests by a vote at a meeting, the recall shall be effective as provided in this paragraph. The board shall duly notice and hold a board meeting within 5 full business days after the adjournment of the unit owner meeting to recall one or more board members. At the meeting, the board shall either certify the recall, in which case such member or members shall be recalled effective immediately and shall turn over to the board within 5 full business days any and all records and property of the association in their possession, or shall proceed as set forth in subparagraph 3.
- 2. If the proposed recall is by an agreement in writing by a majority of all voting interests, the agreement in writing or a copy thereof shall be served on the association by certified mail or by personal service in the manner authorized by chapter 48 and the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. The board of administration shall duly notice and hold a meeting of the board within 5 full business days after receipt of the agreement in

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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writing. At the meeting, the board shall either certify the written agreement to recall members of the board, in which case such members shall be recalled effective immediately and shall turn over to the board, within 5 full business days, any and all records and property of the association in their possession, or proceed as described in subparagraph 3.

If the board determines not to certify the written agreement to recall members of the board, or does not certify the recall by a vote at a meeting, the board shall, within 5 full business days after the board meeting, file with the division a petition for binding arbitration under pursuant to the procedures of s. 719.1255 or file an action with a court of competent jurisdiction. For purposes of this paragraph, the unit owners who voted at the meeting or who executed the agreement in writing shall constitute one party under the petition for arbitration or in a court action. If the arbitrator or court certifies the recall as to any member of the board, the recall is shall be effective upon the mailing of the final order of arbitration to the association or the final order of the court. If the association fails to comply with the order of the court or the arbitrator, the division may take action under pursuant to s. 719.501. Any member so recalled shall deliver to the board any and all records and property of the association in the member's possession within 5 full business days after the effective date of the recall.

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

- 4. If the board fails to duly notice and hold a board meeting within 5 full business days after service of an agreement in writing or within 5 full business days after the adjournment of the unit owner recall meeting, the recall <u>is</u> shall be deemed effective and the board members so recalled shall immediately turn over to the board any and all records and property of the association.
- 5. If the board fails to duly notice and hold the required meeting or fails to file the required petition or action, the unit owner representative may file a petition under pursuant to s. 719.1255 or file an action in a court of competent jurisdiction challenging the board's failure to act. The petition or action must be filed within 60 days after the expiration of the applicable 5-full-business-day period. The review of a petition or action under this subparagraph is limited to the sufficiency of service on the board and the facial validity of the written agreement or ballots filed.
- 6. If a vacancy occurs on the board as a result of a recall and less than a majority of the board members are removed, the vacancy may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in this chapter. If vacancies occur on the board as a result of a recall and a majority or more of the board members are removed, the vacancies shall be filled in accordance with procedural rules to be

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

adopted by the division, which rules need not be consistent with this chapter. The rules must provide procedures governing the conduct of the recall election as well as the operation of the association during the period after a recall but before the recall election.

- 7. A board member who has been recalled may file a petition under pursuant to s. 719.1255 or file an action in a court of competent jurisdiction challenging the validity of the recall. The petition or action must be filed within 60 days after the recall is deemed certified. The association and the unit owner representative shall be named as the respondents.
- 8. The division or court may not accept for filing a recall petition or action, whether filed under pursuant to subparagraph 1., subparagraph 2., subparagraph 5., or subparagraph 7. and regardless of whether the recall was certified, when there are 60 or fewer days until the scheduled reelection of the board member sought to be recalled or when 60 or fewer days have not elapsed since the election of the board member sought to be recalled.
- (1) Alternative dispute resolution Arbitration.—There shall be a provision for mandatory nonbinding alternative dispute resolution arbitration of internal disputes arising from the operation of the cooperative in accordance with s. 719.1255.
- (3) GENERALLY.—The association may extinguish a discriminatory restriction as provided under s. 712.065.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

Section 33. Paragraph (1) of subsection (4) of section 720.303, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (m), paragraph (c) of subsection (2), present paragraph (l) of subsection (4), paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (6), and paragraphs (b), (d), (g), (k), and (l) of subsection (10) are amended, and a new paragraph (l) is added to subsection (4) of that section, to read:

720.303 Association powers and duties; meetings of board; official records; budgets; financial reporting; association funds; recalls.—

- (2) BOARD MEETINGS.-
- (c) The bylaws shall provide the following for giving notice to parcel owners and members of all board meetings and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include the following:
- 1. Notices of all board meetings must be posted in a conspicuous place in the community at least 48 hours in advance of a meeting, except in an emergency. In the alternative, if notice is not posted in a conspicuous place in the community, notice of each board meeting must be mailed or delivered to each member at least 7 days before the meeting, except in an emergency. Notwithstanding this general notice requirement, for communities with more than 100 members, the association bylaws may provide for a reasonable alternative to posting or mailing of notice for each board meeting, including publication of notice, provision of a schedule of board meetings, or the

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2475 conspicuous posting and repeated broadcasting of the notice on a 2476 closed-circuit cable television system serving the homeowners' 2477 association. However, if broadcast notice is used in lieu of a 2478 notice posted physically in the community, the notice must be 2479 broadcast at least four times every broadcast hour of each day 2480 that a posted notice is otherwise required. When broadcast 2481 notice is provided, the notice and agenda must be broadcast in a 2482 manner and for a sufficient continuous length of time so as to 2483 allow an average reader to observe the notice and read and 2484 comprehend the entire content of the notice and the agenda. In 2485 addition to any of the authorized means of providing notice of a 2486 meeting of the board, the association may, by rule, adopt a 2487 procedure for conspicuously posting the meeting notice and the 2488 agenda on the association's website or an application that can 2489 be downloaded on a mobile device for at least the minimum period 2490 of time for which a notice of a meeting is also required to be 2491 physically posted on the association property. Any rule adopted 2492 shall, in addition to other matters, include a requirement that 2493 the association send an electronic notice in the same manner as 2494 is required for a notice of a meeting of the members, which must 2495 include a hyperlink to the website or such mobile application at 2496 which the notice is posted, to members whose e-mail addresses are included in the association's official records. The 2497 association may provide notice by electronic transmission in a 2498 2499 manner authorized by law for meetings of the board of directors,

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 101 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

committee meetings requiring notice under this section, and annual and special meetings of the members to any member who has provided a facsimile number or e-mail address to the association to be used for such purposes; however, a member must consent in writing to receiving notice by electronic transmission.

- 2. An assessment may not be levied at a board meeting unless the notice of the meeting includes a statement that assessments will be considered and the nature of the assessments. Written notice of any meeting at which special assessments will be considered or at which amendments to rules regarding parcel use will be considered must be mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted to the members and parcel owners and posted conspicuously on the property or broadcast on closed-circuit cable television not less than 14 days before the meeting.
- 3. Directors may not vote by proxy or by secret ballot at board meetings, except that secret ballots may be used in the election of officers. This subsection also applies to the meetings of any committee or other similar body, when a final decision will be made regarding the expenditure of association funds, and to any body vested with the power to approve or disapprove architectural decisions with respect to a specific parcel of residential property owned by a member of the community.

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2524	(4) OFFICIAL RECORDS.—The association shall maintain each
2525	of the following items, when applicable, which constitute the
2526	official records of the association:

- (1) Ballots, sign-in sheets, voting proxies, and all other papers and electronic records relating to voting by parcel owners, which must be maintained for at least 1 year after the date of the election, vote, or meeting.
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$ All other written records of the association not specifically included in <u>this subsection</u> the foregoing which are related to the operation of the association.
 - (6) BUDGETS.-
- (c)1. If the budget of the association does not provide for reserve accounts <u>under pursuant to</u> paragraph (d), or the <u>declaration of covenants</u>, articles, or bylaws do not obligate <u>the developer to create reserves</u>, and the association is responsible for the repair and maintenance of capital improvements that may result in a special assessment if reserves are not provided <u>or not fully funded</u>, <u>then</u> each financial report for the preceding fiscal year required by subsection (7) must contain the following statement in conspicuous type:

THE BUDGET OF THE ASSOCIATION DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR <u>FULLY FUNDED</u>

RESERVE ACCOUNTS FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND DEFERRED

MAINTENANCE THAT MAY RESULT IN SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS <u>REGARDING</u>

THOSE ITEMS. OWNERS MAY ELECT TO PROVIDE FOR <u>FULLY FUNDED</u>

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

RESERVE ACCOUNTS <u>UNDER PURSUANT TO</u> SECTION 720.303(6), FLORIDA STATUTES, UPON OBTAINING THE APPROVAL OF A MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL VOTING INTERESTS OF THE ASSOCIATION BY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS AT A MEETING OR BY WRITTEN CONSENT.

- 2. If the budget of the association does provide for funding accounts for deferred expenditures, including, but not limited to, funds for capital expenditures and deferred maintenance, but such accounts are not created or established under pursuant to paragraph (d), each financial report for the preceding fiscal year required under subsection (7) must also contain the following statement in conspicuous type:

 THE BUDGET OF THE ASSOCIATION PROVIDES FOR LIMITED VOLUNTARY DEFERRED EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND DEFERRED MAINTENANCE, SUBJECT TO LIMITS ON FUNDING CONTAINED IN OUR GOVERNING DOCUMENTS. BECAUSE THE OWNERS HAVE NOT ELECTED TO PROVIDE FOR RESERVE ACCOUNTS UNDER PURSUANT TO SECTION 720.303(6), FLORIDA STATUTES, THESE FUNDS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF SUCH FUNDS SET FORTH IN THAT STATUTE, NOR ARE RESERVES CALCULATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT STATUTE.
- (d) An association is deemed to have provided for reserve accounts if reserve accounts have been initially established by the developer or if the membership of the association affirmatively elects to provide for reserves. If reserve accounts are established by the developer, the budget must designate the components for which the reserve accounts may be

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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used. If reserve accounts are not initially provided by the developer, the membership of the association may elect to do so upon the affirmative approval of a majority of the total voting interests of the association. Such approval may be obtained by vote of the members at a duly called meeting of the membership or by the written consent of a majority of the total voting interests of the association. The approval action of the membership must state that reserve accounts shall be provided for in the budget and must designate the components for which the reserve accounts are to be established. Upon approval by the membership, the board of directors shall include the required reserve accounts in the budget in the next fiscal year following the approval and each year thereafter. Once established as provided in this subsection, the reserve accounts must be funded or maintained or have their funding waived in the manner provided in paragraph (f).

- (10) RECALL OF DIRECTORS.
- (b)1. Board directors may be recalled by an agreement in writing or by written ballot without a membership meeting. The agreement in writing or the written ballots, or a copy thereof, shall be served on the association by certified mail or by personal service in the manner authorized by chapter 48 and the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 2. The board shall duly notice and hold a meeting of the board within 5 full business days after receipt of the agreement

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

in writing or written ballots. At the meeting, the board shall either certify the written ballots or written agreement to recall a director or directors of the board, in which case such director or directors shall be recalled effective immediately and shall turn over to the board within 5 full business days any and all records and property of the association in their possession, or proceed as described in paragraph (d).

- 3. When it is determined by the department pursuant to binding arbitration proceedings or the court in an action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction that an initial recall effort was defective, written recall agreements or written ballots used in the first recall effort and not found to be defective may be reused in one subsequent recall effort. However, in no event is a written agreement or written ballot valid for more than 120 days after it has been signed by the member.
- 4. Any rescission or revocation of a member's written recall ballot or agreement must be in writing and, in order to be effective, must be delivered to the association before the association is served with the written recall agreements or ballots.
- 5. The agreement in writing or ballot shall list at least as many possible replacement directors as there are directors subject to the recall, when at least a majority of the board is sought to be recalled; the person executing the recall

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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instrument may vote for as many replacement candidates as there are directors subject to the recall.

- If the board determines not to certify the written agreement or written ballots to recall a director or directors of the board or does not certify the recall by a vote at a meeting, the board shall, within 5 full business days after the meeting, file an action with a court of competent jurisdiction or file with the department a petition for binding arbitration under pursuant to the applicable procedures in ss. 718.112(2)(j) and 718.1255 and the rules adopted thereunder. For the purposes of this section, the members who voted at the meeting or who executed the agreement in writing shall constitute one party under the petition for arbitration or in a court action. If the arbitrator or court certifies the recall as to any director or directors of the board, the recall will be effective upon the final order of the court or the mailing of the final order of arbitration to the association. The director or directors so recalled shall deliver to the board any and all records of the association in their possession within 5 full business days after the effective date of the recall.
- (g) If the board fails to duly notice and hold the required meeting or fails to file the required petition or action, the parcel unit owner representative may file a petition or a court action under pursuant to s. 718.1255 challenging the board's failure to act. The petition or action must be filed

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

within 60 days after the expiration of the applicable 5-full-business-day period. The review of a petition or action under this paragraph is limited to the sufficiency of service on the board and the facial validity of the written agreement or ballots filed.

- (k) A board member who has been recalled may file <u>an</u> action with a court of competent jurisdiction or a petition <u>under pursuant to</u> ss. 718.112(2)(j) and 718.1255 and the rules adopted challenging the validity of the recall. The petition <u>or action</u> must be filed within 60 days after the recall is deemed certified. The association and the <u>parcel unit</u> owner representative shall be named as respondents.
- (1) The division or a court of competent jurisdiction may not accept for filing a recall petition or action, whether filed under pursuant to paragraph (b), paragraph (c), paragraph (g), or paragraph (k) and regardless of whether the recall was certified, when there are 60 or fewer days until the scheduled reelection of the board member sought to be recalled or when 60 or fewer days have not elapsed since the election of the board member sought to be recalled.

Section 34. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 720.304, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

720.304 Right of owners to peaceably assemble; display of flag; SLAPP suits prohibited.—

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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- (2) (a) Any homeowner may display one portable, removable United States flag or official flag of the State of Florida in a respectful manner, and one portable, removable official flag, in a respectful manner, not larger than 4 1/2 feet by 6 feet, which represents any state, as defined in s. 624.08, or the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or a POW-MIA flag, regardless of any covenants, restrictions, bylaws, rules, or requirements of the association.
- Any homeowner may erect a freestanding flagpole no more than 20 feet high on any portion of the homeowner's real property, regardless of any covenants, restrictions, bylaws, rules, or requirements of the association, if the flagpole does not obstruct sightlines at intersections and is not erected within or upon an easement. The homeowner may further display in a respectful manner from that flagpole, regardless of any covenants, restrictions, bylaws, rules, or requirements of the association, one official United States flag, not larger than 4 1/2 feet by 6 feet, and may additionally display one official flag of the State of Florida, any state, as defined in s. 624.08, or the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, or Coast Guard, or a POW-MIA flag. Such additional flag must be equal in size to or smaller than the United States flag. The flagpole and display are subject to all building codes, zoning setbacks, and other applicable governmental regulations, including, but not limited to, noise and lighting ordinances in

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

the county or municipality in which the flagpole is erected and all setback and locational criteria contained in the governing documents.

Section 35. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 720.305, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

720.305 Obligations of members; remedies at law or in equity; levy of fines and suspension of use rights.—

- (1) Each member and the member's tenants, guests, and invitees, and each association, are governed by, and must comply with, this chapter and, the governing documents of the community, and the rules of the association. Actions at law or in equity, or both, to redress alleged failure or refusal to comply with these provisions may be brought by the association or by any member against:
 - (a) The association;
 - (b) A member;
- (c) Any director or officer of an association who willfully and knowingly fails to comply with these provisions; and
- (d) Any tenants, guests, or invitees occupying a parcel or using the common areas.

The prevailing party in any such litigation is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and costs. A member prevailing in an action between the association and the member under this

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

section, in addition to recovering his or her reasonable attorney fees, may recover additional amounts as determined by the court to be necessary to reimburse the member for his or her share of assessments levied by the association to fund its expenses of the litigation. This relief does not exclude other remedies provided by law. This section does not deprive any person of any other available right or remedy.

- (2) An The association may levy reasonable fines. A fine may not exceed \$100 per violation against any member or any member's tenant, guest, or invitee for the failure of the owner of the parcel or its occupant, licensee, or invitee to comply with any provision of the declaration, the association bylaws, or reasonable rules of the association unless otherwise provided in the governing documents. A fine may be levied by the board for each day of a continuing violation, with a single notice and opportunity for hearing, except that the fine may not exceed \$1,000 in the aggregate unless otherwise provided in the governing documents. A fine of less than \$1,000 may not become a lien against a parcel. In any action to recover a fine, the prevailing party is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs from the nonprevailing party as determined by the court.
- (a) An association may suspend, for a reasonable period of time, the right of a member, or a member's tenant, guest, or invitee, to use common areas and facilities for the failure of the owner of the parcel or its occupant, licensee, or invitee to

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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comply with any provision of the declaration, the association bylaws, or reasonable rules of the association. This paragraph does not apply to that portion of common areas used to provide access or utility services to the parcel. A suspension may not prohibit an owner or tenant of a parcel from having vehicular and pedestrian ingress to and egress from the parcel, including, but not limited to, the right to park.

A fine or suspension levied by the board of administration may not be imposed unless the board first provides at least 14 days' notice to the parcel owner and, if applicable, any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the parcel owner, sought to be fined or suspended and an opportunity for a hearing before a committee of at least three members appointed by the board who are not officers, directors, or employees of the association, or the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of an officer, director, or employee. If the committee, by majority vote, does not approve a proposed fine or suspension, the proposed fine or suspension may not be imposed. The role of the committee is limited to determining whether to confirm or reject the fine or suspension levied by the board. If the proposed fine or suspension levied by the board is approved by the committee, the fine payment is due 5 days after notice of the approved fine is provided to the parcel owner and, if applicable, to any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the parcel owner the date of the committee meeting at which the fine is

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

approved. The association must provide written notice of such fine or suspension by mail or hand delivery to the parcel owner and, if applicable, to any occupant tenant, licensee, or invitee of the parcel owner.

Section 36. Paragraph (g) of subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 720.306, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:

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

- (1) QUORUM; AMENDMENTS.-
- (g) A notice required under this section must be mailed or delivered to the address identified as the parcel owner's mailing address in the official records of the association as required under s. 720.303(4) on the property appraiser's website for the county in which the parcel is located, or electronically transmitted in a manner authorized by the association if the parcel owner has consented, in writing, to receive notice by electronic transmission.
- (h)1. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, an amendment to any governing document that is enacted after July 1, 2020, that prohibits a parcel owner from renting the parcel, alters the authorized duration of a rental term, or specifies or limits the number of times that a parcel owner may rent his or her parcel during a specified term, applies only to a parcel

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

owner who acquires title to the parcel after the effective date
of the amendment, or to a parcel owner who consents,
individually or through a representative, to the amendment.

- 2. Notwithstanding subparagraph 1., an association may amend its governing documents to prohibit or regulate rentals for a term of less than 6 months and to prohibit rentals more than three times in a calendar year, and such amendments shall apply to all parcel owners.
- 3. This paragraph does not affect the amendment restrictions for associations of 15 or fewer parcel owners under s. 720.303(1).
- 4. For purposes of this paragraph, a change of ownership does not occur when a parcel owner conveys the parcel to an affiliated entity or when beneficial ownership of the parcel does not change. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "affiliated entity" means an entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the parcel owner or that becomes a parent or successor entity by reason of transfer, merger, consolidation, public offering, reorganization, dissolution or sale of stock, or transfer of membership partnership interests. For a conveyance to be recognized as one made to an affiliated entity, the entity must furnish the association a document certifying that this paragraph applies, as well as providing any organizational documents for the parcel

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

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owner and the affiliated entity that support the representations in the certificate, as requested by the association.

- (9) ELECTIONS AND BOARD VACANCIES.-
- Any election dispute between a member and an association must be submitted to mandatory binding arbitration with the division or filed with a court of competent jurisdiction. Such proceedings that are submitted to binding arbitration with the division must be conducted in the manner provided by s. 718.1255 and the procedural rules adopted by the division. 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 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. 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. Filling vacancies created by recall is governed by s. 720.303(10) and rules adopted by the division. Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 720.311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

720.311 Dispute resolution.—

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

(1) The Legislature finds that alternative dispute
resolution has made progress in reducing court dockets and
trials and in offering a more efficient, cost-effective option
to litigation. The filing of any petition for arbitration or the
serving of a demand for presuit mediation as provided for in
this section shall toll the applicable statute of limitations.
Any recall dispute filed with the department $\underline{\text{under}}$ $\underline{\text{pursuant to}}$
s. 720.303(10) shall be conducted by the department in
accordance with the provisions of ss. 718.112(2)(j) and 718.1255
and the rules adopted by the division. In addition, the
department shall conduct mandatory binding arbitration of
election disputes between a member and an association $\underline{\text{in}}$
$\underline{\text{accordance with}}$ $\underline{\text{pursuant to}}$ s. 718.1255 and rules adopted by the
division. Neither Election disputes $\underline{\text{and}}$ $\underline{\text{nor}}$ recall disputes are
$\underline{\text{not}}$ eligible for presuit mediation; these disputes $\underline{\text{must}}$ $\underline{\text{shall}}$ be
arbitrated by the department or filed in a court of competent
$\underline{\text{jurisdiction}}$. At the conclusion of $\underline{\text{an arbitration}}$ $\underline{\text{the}}$
proceeding, the department shall charge the parties a fee in an
amount adequate to cover all costs and expenses incurred by the
department in conducting the proceeding. Initially, the
petitioner shall remit a filing fee of at least \$200 to the
department. The fees paid to the department shall become a
recoverable cost in the arbitration proceeding, and the
prevailing party in an arbitration proceeding shall recover its
reasonable costs and

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

reasonable by the arbitrator. The department shall adopt rules to effectuate the purposes of this section.

Section 38. Subsection (6) is added to section 720.3075, Florida Statutes, to read:

720.3075 Prohibited clauses in association documents.-

(6) The association may extinguish a discriminatory restriction, as provided in 712.065.

TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove line 35 of the amendment and insert:
relating to gloves; amending s. 194.011, F.S.;
providing that certain associations may represent,
prosecute, or defend owners in certain proceedings;
providing applicability; requiring specified notice be
provided to unit or parcel owners in a specified way;
amending s. 194.181, F.S.; providing and revising the
parties considered as the defendant in a tax suit;
requiring certain notice to be provided to unit owners
in a specified way; providing unit owners options for
defending a tax suit; imposing certain actions for
unit owners who fail to respond to a specified notice;
amending s. 514.0115, F.S.; exempting certain property
association pools from Department of Health

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 117 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2896	regulations; amending s. 548.003, F.S.; renaming the
2897	Florida State Boxing Commission as the Florida
2898	Athletic Commission; amending s. 548.043, F.S.;
2899	revising rulemaking requirements for the commission
2900	relating to gloves; amending s. 561.01, F.S.; deleting
2901	the definition of the term "permit carrier"; amending
2902	s. 561.17, F.S.; revising a requirement related to the
2903	filing of fingerprints with the division; requiring
2904	that applications be accompanied by certain
2905	information relating to right of occupancy; providing
2906	requirements relating to contact information for
2907	licensees and permittees; amending s. 561.20, F.S.;
2908	conforming cross-references; revising requirements for
2909	issuing special licenses to certain food service
2910	establishments; amending s. 561.42, F.S.; requiring
2911	the division, and authorizing vendors, to use
2912	electronic mail to give certain notice; amending s.
2913	561.55, F.S.; revising requirements for reports
2914	relating to alcoholic beverages; amending s. 562.455,
2915	F.S.; removing grains of paradise from the list of
2916	specified substances subject to penalties relating to
2917	adulterating liquor; amending s. 627.714, F.S.;
2918	prohibiting subrogation rights against a condominium
2919	association under certain circumstances; creating s.
2920	712.065, F.S.; defining the term "discriminatory

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

restriction"; providing that discriminatory
restrictions are unlawful, unenforceable, and void;
providing that discriminatory restrictions are
extinguished and severed from recorded title
transactions; specifying that the recording of certain
notices does not reimpose or preserve a discriminatory
restriction; providing requirements for a parcel owner
to remove a discriminatory restriction from a covenant
or restriction; amending s. 718.111, F.S.; providing
that a condominium association may take certain
actions relating to a challenge to ad valorem taxes in
its own name or on behalf of unit owners; providing
applicability; requiring an association to provide a
checklist to certain persons requesting records;
requiring that the checklist be signed by a specified
person or the association to provide an affidavit
attesting to the veracity of the checklist; providing
a timeframe for maintaining such checklist and
affidavit; creating a rebuttable presumption; amending
s. 718.112, F.S.; authorizing a condominium
association to extinguish discriminatory restrictions;
revising calculation of a board member's term limit;
providing requirements for certain notices; revising
the fees an association may charge for transfers;
deleting a prohibition against employing or

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 119 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2946	contracting with certain service providers; amending
2947	s. 718.113, F.S.; defining the terms "natural gas
2948	fuel" and "natural gas fuel vehicle"; revising
2949	legislative findings; revising requirements for
2950	electric vehicle charging stations; providing
2951	requirements for the installation of natural gas fuel
2952	stations on property governed by condominium
2953	associations; amending s. 718.117, F.S.; conforming
2954	provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
2955	718.121, F.S.; providing when the installation of a
2956	natural gas fuel station may be the basis of a lien;
2957	amending s. 718.1255, F.S.; authorizing parties to
2958	initiate presuit mediation under certain
2959	circumstances; specifying when arbitration is binding
2960	on the parties; providing requirements for presuit
2961	mediation; amending s. 718.202, F.S.; revising use of
2962	certain withdrawn escrow funds by developers; amending
2963	s. 718.303, F.S.; revising requirements for certain
2964	actions for failure to comply with specified
2965	provisions; revising requirements for certain fines;
2966	amending s. 718.501, F.S.; defining the term
2967	"financial issue"; authorizing the Division of
2968	Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes to adopt
2969	rules; amending s. 718.5014, F.S.; revising where the
2970	principal office of the Office of the Condominium

342291

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

Ombudsman must be maintained; amending s. 719.103,
F.S.; revising the definition of the term "unit" to
specify that an interest in a cooperative unit is an
interest in real property; amending s. 719.104, F.S.;
prohibiting an association from requiring certain
actions relating to the inspection of records;
amending s. 719.106, F.S.; revising provisions
relating to a quorum and voting rights for members
remotely participating in meetings; amending procedure
to challenge a board member recall; authorizing
cooperative associations to extinguish discriminatory
restrictions; amending s. 720.303, F.S.; authorizing
an association to adopt procedures for electronic
meeting notices; revising the documents that
constitute the official records of an association;
revising when a specified statement must be included
in an association's financial report; revising
requirements for such statement; revising when an
association is deemed to have provided for reserve
accounts; amending procedure to challenge a board
member recall; amending s. 720.304, F.S.; authorizing
a homeowner to display certain flags; amending s.
720.305, F.S.; providing requirements for certain
fines; amending s. 720.306, F.S.; revising
requirements for providing certain notices; providing

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 121 of 122

Bill No. CS/CS/CS/HB 689 (2020)

Amendment No.

2996	limitations on associations when a parcel owner
2997	attempts to rent or lease his or her parcel; amending
2998	the procedure for election disputes; amending s.
2999	720.311, F.S.; amending the procedure for election
3000	disputes; amending s. 720.3075, F.S.; authorizing
3001	homeowners' associations to extinguish discriminatory
3002	restrictions; creating s. 553.843, F.S.;

342291

Approved For Filing: 3/6/2020 7:27:38 AM

Page 122 of 122