A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to condominiums; amending s. 3 718.116, F.S.; increasing the time period during which certain mortgagees who acquire 4 5 title to a unit by foreclosure or by deed in lieu of foreclosure may be liable for certain 6 7 unpaid assessments; increasing the maximum 8 limit on the responsibility for the payment of 9 certain unpaid assessments by such mortgagees; providing for application; providing an 10 11 effective date. 12 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 15 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (1) of 16 section 718.116, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 17 718.116 Assessments; liability; lien and priority; interest; collection. --18 19 (1)20 (b)1. The liability of a first mortgagee or its 21 successor or assignees who acquire title to a unit by 22 foreclosure or by deed in lieu of foreclosure for the unpaid assessments that became due prior to the mortgagee's 23 24 acquisition of title is limited to the lesser of: 25 a.1. The unit's unpaid common expenses and regular 26 periodic assessments which accrued or came due during the 6 27 months immediately preceding the acquisition of title and for 28 which payment in full has not been received by the 29 association; or

b.2. One percent of the original mortgage debt. The

31 provisions of this paragraph shall not apply unless the first

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mortgagee joined the association as a defendant in the foreclosure action. Joinder of the association is not required if, on the date the complaint is filed, the association was dissolved or did not maintain an office or agent for service of process at a location which was known to or reasonably discoverable by the mortgagee.

- 2. With respect to mortgages recorded after April 1, 2001, the liability of a mortgagee or its successor or assignees who acquire title to a unit by foreclosure or by deed in lieu of foreclosure for the unpaid assessments that became due prior to the mortgagee's acquisition of title is limited to the lesser of:
- a. The unit's unpaid common expenses and regular periodic assessments which accrued or came due during the 9 months immediately preceding the acquisition of title and for which payment in full has not been received by the association; or
- b. Two percent of the original mortgage debt. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply unless the mortgagee joined the association as a defendant in the foreclosure action. Joinder of the association is not required if, on the date the complaint is filed, the association was dissolved or did not maintain an office or agent for service of process at a location which was known to or reasonably discoverable by the mortgagee.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph paragraph (b)1., a first mortgagee or its successor or assignees who acquire title to a condominium unit as a result of the foreclosure of the mortgage or by deed in lieu of foreclosure of the mortgage shall be exempt from liability for 31 | all unpaid assessments attributable to the parcel or

chargeable to the previous owner which came due prior to acquisition of title if the first mortgage was recorded prior to April 1, 1992. If, however, the first mortgage was recorded on or after April 1, 1992 and prior to April 1, 2001, or on the date the mortgage was recorded, the declaration included language incorporating by reference future amendments to this chapter, the provisions of subparagraph paragraph (b)1.shall apply. If, however, the mortgage was recorded after April 1, 2001, or on the date the mortgage was recorded, the declaration included language incorporating by reference future amendments to this chapter, the provisions of subparagraph (b)2. shall apply. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. HOUSE SUMMARY Provides that with respect to mortgages recorded after Provides that with respect to mortgages recorded after April 1, 2001, the liability of any mortgagee who acquires title to a condominium unit by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure for the unpaid assessments that became due prior to such acquisition is limited to the lesser of the unit's unpaid common expenses and regular periodic assessments which accrued or came due during the 9 months immediately prior to the acquisition of title and for which payment in full has not been received by the association, or 2 percent of the original mortgage debt. Provides for application.