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1	
2	An act relating to community associations; amending s.
3	468.4334, F.S.; requiring community association
4	managers and community association management firms to
5	return official records of an association within a
6	specified time after termination of a contract;
7	requiring notices of termination of certain
8	contractual agreements to be sent in a specified
9	manner; authorizing community association managers and
10	community association management firms to retain, for
11	a specified timeframe, records necessary to complete
12	an ending financial statement or report; relieving
13	community association managers and community
14	association management firms from certain
15	responsibilities and liability under certain
16	circumstances; providing a rebuttable presumption
17	regarding noncompliance; providing penalties for the
18	failure to timely return official records; providing
19	an exception for certain time periods for timeshare
20	plans; creating s. 468.4335, F.S.; requiring community
21	association managers and community association
22	management firms to disclose certain conflicts of
23	interest to the association's board; providing a
24	rebuttable presumption as to the existence of a
25	conflict; requiring an association to solicit multiple

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26	bids for goods or services under certain
27	circumstances; providing requirements for an
28	association to approve any activity and contracts that
29	are a conflict of interest; providing that a conflict
30	of interest in a contract which has been previously
31	disclosed must to be noticed and voted on upon its
32	renewal, but not during the term of the contract;
33	authorizing certain contracts to be canceled, subject
34	to certain requirements; specifying liability and
35	nonliability of the association upon cancellation of
36	such a contract; authorizing an association to cancel
37	a contract if certain conflicts were not disclosed;
38	specifying liability and nonliability of the
39	association upon cancellation of a contract; defining
40	the term "relative"; reenacting and amending s.
41	468.436, F.S.; revising the list of grounds for which
42	the Department of Business and Professional Regulation
43	may take disciplinary actions against community
44	association managers or community association firms;
45	amending s. 553.899, F.S.; exempting certain four-
46	family dwellings from requiring a milestone inspection
47	and milestone inspection report; amending s. 718.103,
48	F.S.; revising and providing definitions; amending s.
49	718.104, F.S.; providing requirements for the
50	declaration of specified condominiums; requiring

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51	declarations to specify the entity responsible for the
52	installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of
53	hurricane protection; amending s. 718.111, F.S.;
54	providing criminal penalties for any officer,
55	director, or manager of an association who unlawfully
56	solicits, offers to accept, or accepts a kickback;
57	requiring such officers, directors, or managers to be
58	removed from office and a vacancy declared; requiring
59	the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and
60	Mobile Homes to monitor an association's compliance
61	with certain provisions, and issue fines and penalties
62	if necessary, upon receipt of a complaint; revising
63	the list of records that constitute the official
64	records of an association; providing requirements
65	relating to e-mail addresses and facsimile numbers of
66	unit owners; requiring an association to redact
67	certain personal information in certain documents;
68	providing an exception to liability for the release of
69	certain information; revising maintenance requirements
70	for official records; revising requirements regarding
71	requests to inspect or copy association records;
72	requiring an association to provide a checklist in
73	response to certain records requests; providing a
74	rebuttable presumption and criminal penalties;
75	requiring certain persons to be removed from office

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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76 and a vacancy declared under certain circumstances; 77 defining the term "repeatedly"; requiring copies of 78 certain building permits be posted on an association's 79 website or application; modifying the method of delivery of certain financial reports to unit owners; 80 81 revising circumstances under which an association may 82 prepare certain reports; revising criminal penalties 83 for persons who unlawfully use a debit card issued in 84 the name of an association; requiring certain persons to be removed from office and a vacancy declared under 85 86 certain circumstances; defining the term "lawful obligation of the association"; revising the threshold 87 88 for associations that must post certain documents on 89 its website or through an application; amending s. 718.112, F.S.; requiring the boards of certain 90 91 associations to meet at least once every quarter; 92 requiring the meeting agenda to include an opportunity 93 for members to ask questions of the board a certain 94 number of times a year; providing that the right to 95 attend meetings includes the right to ask questions 96 relating to certain topics; revising requirements 97 regarding notice of such meetings; requiring a 98 director to complete an educational requirement within 99 a specified time period before or after election or appointment to the board; providing requirements for 100

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101	the educational curriculum; providing transitional
102	provisions; requiring a director to complete a certain
103	amount of continuing education each year relating to
104	changes in the law; requiring the secretary of the
105	association to maintain certain information for
106	inspection for a specified number of years;
107	authorizing members of an association to pause the
108	contribution to reserves or reduce reserves under
109	certain circumstances and for a limited time;
110	authorizing the board to expend reserve account funds
111	to make the condominium building and structures
112	habitable; requiring an association to distribute or
113	deliver copies of a structural integrity reserve study
114	to unit owners within a specified timeframe;
115	specifying the manner of distribution or delivery;
116	requiring an association to provide a specified
117	statement to the division within a specified
118	timeframe; revising the circumstances under which a
119	director or an officer must be removed from office
120	after being charged by information or indictment of
121	certain crimes; prohibiting such officers and
122	directors with pending criminal charges from accessing
123	the official records of any association; providing an
124	exception; providing criminal penalties for certain
125	fraudulent voting activities relating to association

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126	elections; amending s. 718.113, F.S.; providing
127	applicability; specifying that certain actions are not
128	material alterations or substantial additions;
129	authorizing the boards of residential and mixed-use
130	condominiums to install or require unit owners to
131	install hurricane protection; requiring a vote of the
132	unit owners for the installation of hurricane
133	protection; requiring that such vote be attested to in
134	a certificate and recorded in certain public records;
135	requiring the board to provide, in various manners, to
136	the unit owners a copy of the recorded certificate;
137	providing that the validity or enforceability of a
138	vote is not affected if the board fails to take
139	certain actions; providing that a vote of the unit
140	owners is not required under certain circumstances;
141	prohibiting installation of the same type of hurricane
142	protection previously installed; providing exceptions;
143	prohibiting the boards of residential and mixed-use
144	condominiums from refusing to approve certain
145	hurricane protections; authorizing the board to
146	require owners to adhere to certain guidelines
147	regarding the external appearance of a condominium;
148	revising responsibility for the cost of the removal or
149	reinstallation of hurricane protection, including
150	exterior windows, doors, or apertures; prohibiting the

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151	association from charging certain expenses to unit
152	owners; requiring reimbursement or a credit toward
153	future assessments to the unit owner in certain
154	circumstances; authorizing the association to collect
155	certain charges and specifying that such charges are
156	enforceable as assessments under certain
157	circumstances; amending s. 718.115, F.S.; specifying
158	when the cost of installation of hurricane protection
159	is not a common expense; authorizing certain expenses
160	to be enforceable as assessments; requiring certain
161	unit owners to be excused from certain assessments or
162	to receive a credit for hurricane protection that has
163	been installed; providing credit applicability under
164	certain circumstances; providing for the amount of
165	credit that a unit owner must receive; specifying that
166	certain expenses are common expenses; amending s.
167	718.121, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending
168	s. 718.124, F.S.; providing the statute of limitations
169	and repose for certain actions; amending s. 718.1224,
170	F.S.; revising legislative findings and intent;
171	revising the definition of the term "governmental
172	entity"; prohibiting an association from filing
173	strategic lawsuits, taking certain actions against
174	unit owners, and expending funds to support certain
175	actions; amending s. 718.128, F.S.; providing that a

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176	unit owner may consent to electronic voting
177	electronically; providing that a board must honor a
178	unit owner's request to vote electronically until the
179	owner opts out; amending s. 718.202, F.S.; providing
180	sales and reservation deposit requirements for
181	nonresidential condominiums; amending s. 718.301,
182	F.S.; requiring developers to deliver a structural
183	integrity reserve report to an association upon
184	relinquishing control of the association; amending s.
185	718.3027, F.S.; revising requirements regarding
186	attendance at a board meeting in the event of a
187	conflict of interest; modifying circumstances under
188	which a contract may be voided; revising a cross-
189	reference; amending s. 718.303, F.S.; requiring an
190	association to provide certain notice to a unit owner
191	by a specified time before an election; creating s.
192	718.407, F.S.; authorizing a condominium to be created
193	within a portion of a building or within a multiple
194	parcel building; specifying that the common elements
195	are only those portions of the building submitted to
196	the condominium form of ownership; providing
197	requirements for the declaration of such condominiums
198	and other certain recorded instruments; providing for
199	the apportionment of expenses for such condominiums;
200	authorizing the association to inspect and copy

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201	certain books and records; requiring a specified
202	
	disclosure summary for contracts of sale for a unit in
203	certain condominiums; providing that the creation of a
204	multiple parcel building is not a subdivision of the
205	land; amending s. 718.501, F.S.; revising
206	circumstances under which the division has
207	jurisdiction to investigate and enforce complaints
208	relating to certain matters; requiring that the
209	division provide official records, without charge, to
210	a unit owner denied access; authorizing the division
211	to issue certain citations; requiring the division to
212	provide a division-approved training provider with the
213	template for the certificate issued to certain
214	directors of a board of administration; requiring that
215	the division refer suspected criminal acts to the
216	appropriate law enforcement authority; authorizing
217	certain division officials to attend association
218	meetings; authorizing the division to request access
219	to an association's website or application to
220	investigate complaints under certain circumstances;
221	requiring the division to include certain information
222	in its annual report to the Governor and Legislature
223	after a specified date; specifying requirements for
224	the annual certification; authorizing the division to
225	adopt rules; providing applicability; amending s.

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226 718.5011, F.S.; providing that the secretary of the 227 Department of Business and Professional Regulation, 228 rather than the Governor, appoints the condominium 229 ombudsman; amending s. 718.503, F.S.; requiring 230 nondeveloper unit owners to include an annual 231 financial statement and annual budget in information 232 provided to a prospective purchaser; revising 233 information that must be included in contracts for the 234 resale of a residential unit; requiring certain 235 disclosures be made if a unit is located in a 236 specified type of condominium; amending s. 718.504, 237 F.S.; requiring certain information provided to 238 prospective purchasers to state whether the 239 condominium is created within a portion of a building 240 or within a multiple parcel building; amending s. 241 719.106, F.S.; requiring an association to distribute 242 or deliver copies of a structural integrity reserve 243 study to unit owners within a specified timeframe; 244 specifying the manner of distribution or delivery; 245 requiring an association to provide a specified 246 statement to the division within a specified 247 timeframe; amending s. 719.129, F.S.; providing that a 248 unit owner may consent electronically to electronic 249 voting; amending s. 719.301, F.S.; requiring developers to deliver a structural integrity reserve 250

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275	association official records within its possession to the
274	association management firm shall return all community
273	(3) A community association manager or a community
272	468.4334 Professional practice standards; liability
271	Florida Statutes, to read:
270	Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 468.4334,
269	
268	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
267	
266	dates.
265	Legislature by a date certain; providing effective
264	a report of its recommendations to the Governor and
263	specified purposes; requiring the commission to submit
262	the Florida Building Commission to perform a study for
261	construction and retroactive application; requiring
260	a date certain; providing appropriations; providing
259	a database on its website with certain information by
258	by a specified date; requiring the division to create
257	recommendations, to the Governor and the Legislature
256	division to submit its findings, including any
255	association's website or application; requiring the
254	regarding posting of official records on a condominium
253	division to conduct a review of statutory requirements
252	control of association property; requiring the
251	study to a cooperative association upon relinquishing

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276	community association within 20 business days after termination
277	of a contractual agreement to provide community association
278	management services to the community association or receipt of a
279	written request for return of the official records, whichever
280	occurs first. A notice of termination of a contractual agreement
281	to provide community association management services must be
282	sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in the
283	manner required under such contractual agreement. The community
284	association manager or community association management firm may
285	retain, for up to 20 business days, those records necessary to
286	complete an ending financial statement or report. If an
287	association fails to provide access to or retention of the
288	accounting records to prepare an ending financial statement or
289	report, the community association manager or community
290	association management firm is relieved from any further
291	responsibility or liability relating to the preparation of such
292	ending financial statement or report. Failure of a community
293	association manager or a community association management firm
294	to timely return all of the official records within its
295	possession to the community association creates a rebuttable
296	presumption that the community association manager or community
297	association management firm willfully failed to comply with this
298	subsection. A community association manager or a community
299	association management firm that fails to timely return
300	community association records is subject to suspension of its
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301	license under s. 468.436, and a civil penalty of \$1,000 per day
302	for up to 10 business days, assessed beginning on the 21st
303	business day after termination of a contractual agreement to
304	provide community association management services to the
305	community association or receipt of a written request from the
306	association for return of the records, whichever occurs first.
307	However, for a timeshare plan created under chapter 721, the
308	time periods provided in s. 721.14(4)(b) apply.
309	Section 2. Section 468.4335, Florida Statutes, is created
310	to read:
311	468.4335 Conflicts of interest
312	(1) A community association manager or a community
313	association management firm, including directors, officers, and
314	persons with a financial interest in a community association
315	management firm, or a relative of such persons, must disclose to
316	the board of a community association any activity that may
317	reasonably be construed to be a conflict of interest. A
318	rebuttable presumption of a conflict of interest exists if any
319	of the following occurs without prior notice:
320	(a) A community association manager or a community
321	association management firm, including directors, officers, and
322	persons with a financial interest in a community association
323	management firm, or a relative of such persons, enters into a
324	contract for goods or services with the association.
325	(b) A community association manager or a community

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326	association management firm, including directors, officers, and
327	persons with a financial interest in a community association
328	management firm, or a relative of such persons, holds an
329	interest in or receives compensation or any thing of value from
330	a corporation, limited liability corporation, partnership,
331	limited liability partnership, or other business entity that
332	conducts business with the association or proposes to enter into
333	a contract or other transaction with the association.
334	(2) If the association receives and considers a bid that
335	exceeds \$2,500 to provide a good or service, other than
336	community association management services, from a community
337	association manager or a community association management firm,
338	including directors, officers, and persons with a financial
339	interest in a community association management firm, or a
340	relative of such persons, the association must solicit multiple
341	bids from other third-party providers of such goods or services.
342	(3) If a community association manager or a community
343	association management firm, including directors, officers, and
344	persons with a financial interest in a community association
345	management firm, or a relative of such persons, proposes to
346	engage in an activity that is a conflict of interest as
347	described in subsection (1), the proposed activity must be
348	listed on, and all contracts and transactional documents related
349	to the proposed activity must be attached to, the meeting agenda
350	of the next board of administration meeting. The disclosures of
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351	a possible conflict of interest must be entered into the written
352	minutes of the meeting. Approval of the contract, including a
353	management contract between the community association and the
354	community association manager or community association
355	management firm, or other transaction requires an affirmative
356	vote of two-thirds of all directors present. At the next regular
357	or special meeting of the members, the existence of the conflict
358	of interest and the contract or other transaction must be
359	disclosed to the members. If a community association manager or
360	community association management firm has previously disclosed a
361	conflict of interest in an existing management contract entered
362	into between the board of directors and the community
363	association manager or community association management firm,
364	the conflict of interest does not need to be additionally
365	noticed and voted on during the term of such management
366	contract, but, upon renewal, must be noticed and voted on in
367	accordance with this subsection.
368	(4) If the board finds that a community association
369	manager or a community association management firm, including
370	directors, officers, and persons with a financial interest in a
371	community association management firm, or a relative of such
372	persons, has violated this section, the association may cancel
373	its community association management contract with the community
374	association manager or the community association management
375	firm. If the contract is canceled, the association is liable
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376	only for the reasonable value of the management services
377	provided up to the time of cancellation and is not liable for
378	any termination fees, liquidated damages, or other form of
379	penalty for such cancellation.
380	(5) If an association enters into a contract with a
381	community association manager or a community association
382	management firm, including directors, officers, and persons with
383	a financial interest in a community association management firm,
384	or a relative of such persons, which is a party to or has an
385	interest in an activity that is a possible conflict of interest
386	as described in subsection (1) and such activity has not been
387	properly disclosed as a conflict of interest or potential
388	conflict of interest as required by this section, the contract
389	is voidable and terminates upon the association filing a written
390	notice terminating the contract with its board of directors
391	which contains the consent of at least 20 percent of the voting
392	interests of the association.
393	(6) As used in this section, the term "relative" means a
394	relative within the third degree of consanguinity by blood or
395	marriage.
396	Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
397	468.436, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) of
398	that section is reenacted, to read:
399	468.436 Disciplinary proceedings
400	(2) The following acts constitute grounds for which the
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401	disciplinary actions in subsection (4) may be taken:
402	(b)1. Violation of any provision of this part.
403	2. Violation of any lawful order or rule rendered or
404	adopted by the department or the council.
405	3. Being convicted of or pleading nolo contendere to a
406	felony in any court in the United States.
407	4. Obtaining a license or certification or any other
408	order, ruling, or authorization by means of fraud,
409	misrepresentation, or concealment of material facts.
410	5. Committing acts of gross misconduct or gross negligence
411	in connection with the profession.
412	6. Contracting, on behalf of an association, with any
413	entity in which the licensee has a financial interest that is
414	not disclosed.
415	7. Failing to disclose any conflict of interest as
416	required by s. 468.4335.
417	<u>8.</u> 7. Violating any provision of chapter 718, chapter 719,
418	or chapter 720 during the course of performing community
419	association management services pursuant to a contract with a
420	community association as defined in s. 468.431(1).
421	(4) When the department finds any community association
422	manager or firm guilty of any of the grounds set forth in
423	subsection (2), it may enter an order imposing one or more of
424	the following penalties:
425	(a) Denial of an application for licensure.
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426 Revocation or suspension of a license. (b) 427 Imposition of an administrative fine not to exceed (C) 428 \$5,000 for each count or separate offense. 429 (d) Issuance of a reprimand. 430 Placement of the community association manager on (e) probation for a period of time and subject to such conditions as 431 432 the department specifies. 433 Restriction of the authorized scope of practice by the (f) 434 community association manager. 435 Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 553.899, Florida 436 Statutes, is amended to read: 437 553.899 Mandatory structural inspections for condominium 438 and cooperative buildings.-439 (4) The milestone inspection report must be arranged by a 440 condominium or cooperative association and any owner of any 441 portion of the building which is not subject to the condominium 442 or cooperative form of ownership. The condominium association or 443 cooperative association and any owner of any portion of the 444 building which is not subject to the condominium or cooperative 445 form of ownership are each responsible for ensuring compliance 446 with the requirements of this section. The condominium 447 association or cooperative association is responsible for all 448 costs associated with the milestone inspection attributable to 449 the portions of a building which the association is responsible to maintain under the governing documents of the association. 450

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451	This section does not apply to a single-family, two-family, or
452	three-family, or four-family dwelling with three or fewer
453	habitable stories above ground.
454	Section 5. Subsections (19) through (32) of section
455	718.103, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (21)
456	through (34), respectively, subsection (14) is amended, and new
457	subsections (19) and (20) are added to that section, to read:
458	718.103 DefinitionsAs used in this chapter, the term:
459	(14) "Condominium property" means the lands, leaseholds,
460	and improvements, any and personal property, and all easements
461	and rights appurtenant thereto, regardless of whether
462	<code>contiguous, which</code> <code>that</code> are subjected to condominium ownership_
463	whether or not contiguous, and all improvements thereon and all
464	easements and rights appurtenant thereto intended for use in
465	connection with the condominium.
466	(19) "Hurricane protection" means hurricane shutters,
467	impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, and other code-
468	compliant hurricane protection products used to preserve and
469	protect the condominium property or association property.
470	(20) "Kickback" means any thing or service of value, for
471	which consideration has not been provided, for an officer's, a
472	director's, or a manager's own benefit or that of his or her
473	immediate family, from any person providing or proposing to
474	provide goods or services to the association.
475	Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section
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476	718.104, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (p) is
477	added to that subsection, to read:
478	718.104 Creation of condominiums; contents of
479	declaration.—Every condominium created in this state shall be
480	created pursuant to this chapter.
481	(4) The declaration must contain or provide for the
482	following matters:
483	(b) The name by which the condominium property is to be
484	identified, which shall include the word "condominium" or be
485	followed by the words "a condominium." <u>Condominiums created</u>
486	within a portion of a building or within a multiple parcel
487	building must include the name by which the condominium is to be
488	identified and be followed by "a condominium within a portion of
489	a building or within a multiple parcel building."
489 490	<u>a building or within a multiple parcel building."</u> (p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use
490	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use
490 491	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner
490 491 492	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation,
490 491 492 493	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that
490 491 492 493 494	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that is for the preservation and protection of the condominium
490 491 492 493 494 495	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that is for the preservation and protection of the condominium property and association property.
490 491 492 493 494 495 496	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that is for the preservation and protection of the condominium property and association property. Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (h)
490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that is for the preservation and protection of the condominium property and association property. Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (h) of subsection (11), and subsections (12), (13), and (15) of
490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498	(p) For both residential condominiums and mixed-use condominiums, a statement that specifies whether the unit owner or the association is responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of hurricane protection that is for the preservation and protection of the condominium property and association property. Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), paragraph (h) of subsection (11), and subsections (12), (13), and (15) of section 718.111, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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501 The operation of the condominium shall be by the (a) 502 association, which must be a Florida corporation for profit or a 503 Florida corporation not for profit. However, any association 504 which was in existence on January 1, 1977, need not be 505 incorporated. The owners of units shall be shareholders or members of the association. The officers and directors of the 506 507 association have a fiduciary relationship to the unit owners. It 508 is the intent of the Legislature that nothing in this paragraph 509 shall be construed as providing for or removing a requirement of 510 a fiduciary relationship between any manager employed by the 511 association and the unit owners. An officer, a director, or a 512 manager may not solicit, offer to accept, or accept a any thing 513 or service of value or kickback for which consideration has not 514 been provided for his or her own benefit or that of his or her 515 immediate family, from any person providing or proposing to 516 provide goods or services to the association. Any such officer, 517 director, or manager who knowingly so solicits, offers to 518 accept, or accepts a any thing or service of value or kickback 519 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, is subject to a civil 520 penalty pursuant to s. 718.501(1)(e), and must be removed from 521 522 office and a vacancy declared s. 718.501(1)(d) and, if 523 applicable, a criminal penalty as provided in paragraph (d). 524 However, this paragraph does not prohibit an officer, a 525 director, or a manager from accepting services or items received

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526 in connection with trade fairs or education programs. An 527 association may operate more than one condominium.

528 INSURANCE.-In order to protect the safety, health, (11)529 and welfare of the people of the State of Florida and to ensure 530 consistency in the provision of insurance coverage to 531 condominiums and their unit owners, this subsection applies to 532 every residential condominium in the state, regardless of the 533 date of its declaration of condominium. It is the intent of the 534 Legislature to encourage lower or stable insurance premiums for 535 associations described in this subsection.

536 (h) The association shall maintain insurance or fidelity 537 bonding of all persons who control or disburse funds of the 538 association. The insurance policy or fidelity bond must cover 539 the maximum funds that will be in the custody of the association 540 or its management agent at any one time. Upon receipt of a complaint, the division shall monitor an association for 541 542 compliance with this paragraph and may issue fines and penalties 543 established by the division for failure of an association to 544 maintain the required insurance policy or fidelity bond. As used 545 in this paragraph, the term "persons who control or disburse 546 funds of the association" includes, but is not limited to, those 547 individuals authorized to sign checks on behalf of the 548 association, and the president, secretary, and treasurer of the 549 association. The association shall bear the cost of any such bonding. 550

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551	(12) OFFICIAL RECORDS
552	(a) From the inception of the association, the association
553	shall maintain each of the following items, if applicable, which
554	constitutes the official records of the association:
555	1. A copy of the plans, permits, warranties, and other
556	items provided by the developer under s. 718.301(4).
557	2. A photocopy of the recorded declaration of condominium
558	of each condominium operated by the association and each
559	amendment to each declaration.
560	3. A photocopy of the recorded bylaws of the association
561	and each amendment to the bylaws.
562	4. A certified copy of the articles of incorporation of
563	the association, or other documents creating the association,
564	and each amendment thereto.
565	5. A copy of the current rules of the association.
566	6. A book or books that contain the minutes of all
567	meetings of the association, the board of administration, and
568	the unit owners.
569	7. A current roster of all unit owners and their mailing
570	addresses, unit identifications, voting certifications, and, if
571	known, telephone numbers. The association shall also maintain
572	the e-mail addresses and facsimile numbers of unit owners
573	consenting to receive notice by electronic transmission. The $ extsf{e}$ -
574	mail addresses and facsimile numbers are not accessible to unit
575	owners if consent to receive notice by electronic transmission
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576	is not provided In accordance with sub-subparagraph (c)5.e., the
577	e-mail addresses and facsimile numbers are only accessible to
578	unit owners if consent to receive notice by electronic
579	transmission is provided, or if the unit owner has expressly
580	indicated that such personal information can be shared with
581	other unit owners and the unit owner has not provided the
582	association with a request to opt out of such dissemination with
583	other unit owners. An association must ensure that the e-mail
584	addresses and facsimile numbers are only used for the business
585	operation of the association and may not be sold or shared with
586	outside third parties. If such personal information is included
587	in documents that are released to third parties, other than unit
588	owners, the association must redact such personal information
589	before the document is disseminated (c)3.e. However, the
590	association is not liable for an inadvertent disclosure of the
591	e-mail address or facsimile number for receiving electronic
592	transmission of notices unless such disclosure was made with a
593	knowing or intentional disregard of the protected nature of such
594	information.
595	8. All current insurance policies of the association and
596	condominiums operated by the association.
597	9. A current copy of any management agreement, lease, or
598	other contract to which the association is a party or under
599	which the association or the unit owners have an obligation or
600	responsibility.
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601 10. Bills of sale or transfer for all property owned by 602 the association. 11. Accounting records for the association and separate 603 accounting records for each condominium that the association 604 605 operates. Any person who knowingly or intentionally defaces or 606 destroys such records, or who knowingly or intentionally fails 607 to create or maintain such records, with the intent of causing harm to the association or one or more of its members, is 608 609 personally subject to a civil penalty pursuant to s. 718.501(1)(e) s. 718.501(1)(d). The accounting records must 610 611 include, but are not limited to: 612 a. Accurate, itemized, and detailed records of all 613 receipts and expenditures. 614 b. All invoices, transaction receipts, or deposit slips 615 that substantiate any receipt or expenditure of funds by the 616 association. 617 c.b. A current account and a monthly, bimonthly, or 618 quarterly statement of the account for each unit designating the 619 name of the unit owner, the due date and amount of each 620 assessment, the amount paid on the account, and the balance due. d.c. All audits, reviews, accounting statements, 621 structural integrity reserve studies, and financial reports of 622

623 the association or condominium. Structural integrity reserve 624 studies must be maintained for at least 15 years after the study 625 is completed.

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626 e.d. All contracts for work to be performed. Bids for work to be performed are also considered official records and must be 627 628 maintained by the association for at least 1 year after receipt 629 of the bid. 630 12. Ballots, sign-in sheets, voting proxies, and all other 631 papers and electronic records relating to voting by unit owners, 632 which must be maintained for 1 year from the date of the 633 election, vote, or meeting to which the document relates, 634 notwithstanding paragraph (b). 635 All rental records if the association is acting as 13. 636 agent for the rental of condominium units. 637 A copy of the current question and answer sheet as 14. 638 described in s. 718.504. 639 15. A copy of the inspection reports described in ss. 640 553.899 and 718.301(4)(p) and any other inspection report 641 relating to a structural or life safety inspection of 642 condominium property. Such record must be maintained by the 643 association for 15 years after receipt of the report. 644 16. Bids for materials, equipment, or services. 645 17. All affirmative acknowledgments made pursuant to s. 646 718.121(4)(c). 18. A copy of all building permits. 647 648 19. A copy of all satisfactorily completed board member educational certificates. 649 650 20.18. All other written records of the association not Page 26 of 154

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651 specifically included in the foregoing which are related to the 652 operation of the association.

653 (b) The official records specified in subparagraphs (a)1.-654 6. must be permanently maintained from the inception of the 655 association. Bids for work to be performed or for materials, 656 equipment, or services must be maintained for at least 1 year 657 after receipt of the bid. All other official records must be 658 maintained within the state for at least 7 years, unless 659 otherwise provided by general law. The official records must be 660 maintained in an organized manner that facilitates inspection of the records by a unit owner. In the event that the official 661 662 records are lost, destroyed, or otherwise unavailable, the 663 obligation to maintain the official records includes a good 664 faith obligation to obtain and recover those records as is 665 reasonably possible. The records of the association shall be 666 made available to a unit owner within 45 miles of the 667 condominium property or within the county in which the 668 condominium property is located within 10 working days after 669 receipt of a written request by the board or its designee. 670 However, such distance requirement does not apply to an 671 association governing a timeshare condominium. This paragraph and paragraph (c) may be complied with by having a copy of the 672 673 official records of the association available for inspection or 674 copying on the condominium property or association property, or 675 the association may offer the option of making the records

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676 available to a unit owner electronically via the Internet as 677 provided under paragraph (g) or by allowing the records to be 678 viewed in electronic format on a computer screen and printed 679 upon request. The association is not responsible for the use or 680 misuse of the information provided to an association member or 681 his or her authorized representative in compliance with this 682 chapter unless the association has an affirmative duty not to 683 disclose such information under this chapter.

684 (c)1.a. $\frac{(c)1.}{(c)1.}$ The official records of the association are 685 open to inspection by any association member and any person 686 authorized by an association member as a representative of such 687 member at all reasonable times. The right to inspect the records 688 includes the right to make or obtain copies, at the reasonable 689 expense, if any, of the member and of the person authorized by 690 the association member as a representative of such member. A 691 renter of a unit has a right to inspect and copy only the 692 declaration of condominium, the association's bylaws and rules, 693 and the inspection reports described in ss. 553.899 and 694 718.301(4)(p). The association may adopt reasonable rules 695 regarding the frequency, time, location, notice, and manner of 696 record inspections and copying but may not require a member to 697 demonstrate any purpose or state any reason for the inspection. 698 The failure of an association to provide the records within 10 699 working days after receipt of a written request creates a rebuttable presumption that the association willfully failed to 700

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701 comply with this paragraph. A unit owner who is denied access to 702 official records is entitled to the actual damages or minimum 703 damages for the association's willful failure to comply. Minimum 704 damages are \$50 per calendar day for up to 10 days, beginning on 705 the 11th working day after receipt of the written request. The 706 failure to permit inspection entitles any person prevailing in 707 an enforcement action to recover reasonable attorney fees from 708 the person in control of the records who, directly or 709 indirectly, knowingly denied access to the records. If the 710 requested records are posted on an association's website, or are available for download through an application on a mobile 711 712 device, the association may fulfill its obligations under this 713 paragraph by directing to the website or the application all 714 persons authorized to request access. 715 b. In response to a written request to inspect records, 716 the association must simultaneously provide to the requestor a 717 checklist of all records made available for inspection and 718 copying. The checklist must also identify any of the 719 association's official records that were not made available to 720 the requestor. An association must maintain a checklist provided under this sub-subparagraph for 7 years. An association 721 722 delivering a checklist pursuant to this sub-subparagraph creates 723 a rebuttable presumption that the association has complied with 724 this paragraph. 725 2. A director or member of the board or association or a

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726	community association manager who knowingly, willfully, and
727	repeatedly violates subparagraph 1. commits a misdemeanor of the
728	second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
729	775.083, and must be removed from office and a vacancy declared.
730	For purposes of this subparagraph, the term "repeatedly" means
731	two or more violations within a 12-month period.
732	<u>3.</u> 2. Any person who knowingly or intentionally defaces or
733	destroys accounting records that are required by this chapter to
734	be maintained during the period for which such records are
735	required to be maintained, or who knowingly or intentionally
736	fails to create or maintain accounting records that are required
737	to be created or maintained, with the intent of causing harm to
738	the association or one or more of its members, <u>commits a</u>
739	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
740	775.082 or s. 775.083, is personally subject to a civil penalty
741	pursuant to s. 718.501(1)(d), and must be removed from office
742	and a vacancy declared.
743	4. A person who willfully and knowingly refuses to release
744	or otherwise produce association records with the intent to
745	avoid or escape detection, arrest, trial, or punishment for the
746	commission of a crime, or to assist another person with such
747	avoidance or escape, commits a felony of the third degree,
748	punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084,
749	and must be removed from office and a vacancy declared.
750	5.3. The association shall maintain an adequate number of
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751 copies of the declaration, articles of incorporation, bylaws, 752 and rules, and all amendments to each of the foregoing, as well 753 as the question and answer sheet as described in s. 718.504 and 754 year-end financial information required under this section, on 755 the condominium property to ensure their availability to unit 756 owners and prospective purchasers, and may charge its actual 757 costs for preparing and furnishing these documents to those 758 requesting the documents. An association shall allow a member or 759 his or her authorized representative to use a portable device, 760 including a smartphone, tablet, portable scanner, or any other 761 technology capable of scanning or taking photographs, to make an 762 electronic copy of the official records in lieu of the 763 association's providing the member or his or her authorized 764 representative with a copy of such records. The association may 765 not charge a member or his or her authorized representative for 766 the use of a portable device. Notwithstanding this paragraph, 767 the following records are not accessible to unit owners:

768 Any record protected by the lawyer-client privilege as a. 769 described in s. 90.502 and any record protected by the work-770 product privilege, including a record prepared by an association 771 attorney or prepared at the attorney's express direction, which reflects a mental impression, conclusion, litigation strategy, 772 773 or legal theory of the attorney or the association, and which 774 was prepared exclusively for civil or criminal litigation or for 775 adversarial administrative proceedings, or which was prepared in

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776 anticipation of such litigation or proceedings until the 777 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.

788

d. Medical records of unit owners.

789 Social security numbers, driver license numbers, credit е. 790 card numbers, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile 791 numbers, emergency contact information, addresses of a unit 792 owner other than as provided to fulfill the association's notice 793 requirements, and other personal identifying information of any 794 person, excluding the person's name, unit designation, mailing 795 address, property address, and any address, e-mail address, or 796 facsimile number provided to the association to fulfill the 797 association's notice requirements. Notwithstanding the 798 restrictions in this sub-subparagraph, an association may print 799 and distribute to unit owners a directory containing the name, unit address, and all telephone numbers of each unit owner. 800

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801 However, an owner may exclude his or her telephone numbers from 802 the directory by so requesting in writing to the association. An 803 owner may consent in writing to the disclosure of other contact 804 information described in this sub-subparagraph. The association 805 is not liable for the inadvertent disclosure of information that 806 is protected under this sub-subparagraph if the information is 807 included in an official record of the association and is 808 voluntarily provided by an owner and not requested by the 809 association.

810 f. Electronic security measures that are used by the811 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.

h. All affirmative acknowledgments made pursuant to s.718.121(4)(c).

818 (d) The association shall prepare a question and answer819 sheet as described in s. 718.504, and shall update it annually.

(e)1. The association or its authorized agent is not required to provide a prospective purchaser or lienholder with information about the condominium or the association other than information or documents required by this chapter to be made available or disclosed. The association or its authorized agent may charge a reasonable fee to the prospective purchaser,

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826 lienholder, or the current unit owner for providing good faith 827 responses to requests for information by or on behalf of a 828 prospective purchaser or lienholder, other than that required by 829 law, if the fee does not exceed \$150 plus the reasonable cost of 830 photocopying and any attorney's fees incurred by the association 831 in connection with the response.

2. An association and its authorized agent are not liable for providing such information in good faith pursuant to a written request if the person providing the information includes a written statement in substantially the following form: "The responses herein are made in good faith and to the best of my ability as to their accuracy."

(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 s. 718.501(1)(d)6. against an outgoing board or committee member 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.

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851 The association's website or application must be: а. 852 An independent website, application, or web portal (I) 853 wholly owned and operated by the association; or 854 (II)A website, application, or web portal operated by a 855 third-party provider with whom the association owns, leases, 856 rents, or otherwise obtains the right to operate a web page, 857 subpage, web portal, collection of subpages or web portals, or 858 an application which is dedicated to the association's 859 activities and on which required notices, records, and documents 860 may be posted or made available by the association. 861 b. The association's website or application must be 862 accessible through the Internet and must contain a subpage, web 863 portal, or other protected electronic location that is 864 inaccessible to the general public and accessible only to unit 865 owners and employees of the association. 866 с. Upon a unit owner's written request, the association 867 must provide the unit owner with a username and password and 868 access to the protected sections of the association's website or 869 application which contain any notices, records, or documents 870 that must be electronically provided. 871 2. A current copy of the following documents must be 872 posted in digital format on the association's website or 873 application: 874 The recorded declaration of condominium of each a.

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condominium operated by the association and each amendment to

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876 each declaration.

b. The recorded bylaws of the association and eachamendment 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. The copy posted pursuant to this sub-subparagraph must be a copy of the articles of incorporation filed with the Department of State.

884

d. The rules of the association.

885 A list of all executory contracts or documents to which e. 886 the association is a party or under which the association or the 887 unit owners have an obligation or responsibility and, after 888 bidding for the related materials, equipment, or services has 889 closed, a list of bids received by the association within the 890 past year. Summaries of bids for materials, equipment, or 891 services which exceed \$500 must be maintained on the website or 892 application for 1 year. In lieu of summaries, complete copies of 893 the bids may be posted.

f. The annual budget required by s. 718.112(2)(f) and anyproposed 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.

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901 i. All contracts or transactions between the association
902 and any director, officer, corporation, firm, or association
903 that is not an affiliated condominium association or any other
904 entity in which an association director is also a director or
905 officer and financially interested.

906 j. Any contract or document regarding a conflict of 907 interest or possible conflict of interest as provided in ss. 908 <u>468.4335</u>, 468.436(2)(b)6., and 718.3027(3).

909 k. The notice of any unit owner meeting and the agenda for 910 the meeting, as required by s. 718.112(2)(d)3., no later than 14 911 days before the meeting. The notice must be posted in plain view 912 on the front page of the website or application, or on a 913 separate subpage of the website or application labeled "Notices" 914 which is conspicuously visible and linked from the front page. 915 The association must also post on its website or application any 916 document to be considered and voted on by the owners during the 917 meeting or any document listed on the agenda at least 7 days 918 before the meeting at which the document or the information 919 within the document will be considered.

920 1. Notice of any board meeting, the agenda, and any other 921 document required for the meeting as required by s. 922 718.112(2)(c), which must be posted no later than the date 923 required for notice under s. 718.112(2)(c).

924 m. The inspection reports described in ss. 553.899 and 925 718.301(4)(p) and any other inspection report relating to a

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926 structural or life safety inspection of condominium property. 927 The association's most recent structural integrity n. 928 reserve study, if applicable. 929 ο. Copies of all building permits issued for ongoing or 930 planned construction. 931 3. The association shall ensure that the information and 932 records described in paragraph (c), which are not allowed to be 933 accessible to unit owners, are not posted on the association's 934 website or application. If protected information or information 935 restricted from being accessible to unit owners is included in 936 documents that are required to be posted on the association's 937 website or application, the association shall ensure the 938 information is redacted before posting the documents. 939 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the association or its agent is 940 not liable for disclosing information that is protected or 941 restricted under this paragraph unless such disclosure was made 942 with a knowing or intentional disregard of the protected or 943 restricted nature of such information. 944 The failure of the association to post information 4. 945 required under subparagraph 2. is not in and of itself 946 sufficient to invalidate any action or decision of the

947 association's board or its committees.

948 (13) FINANCIAL REPORTING.—Within 90 days after the end of
949 the fiscal year, or annually on a date provided in the bylaws,
950 the association shall prepare and complete, or contract for the

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951 preparation and completion of, a financial report for the 952 preceding fiscal year. Within 21 days after the final financial 953 report is completed by the association or received from the third party, but not later than 120 days after the end of the 954 955 fiscal year or other date as provided in the bylaws, the 956 association shall deliver mail to each unit owner by United 957 States mail or personal delivery at the mailing address, 958 property address, e-mail address, or facsimile number provided 959 to fulfill the association's notice requirements at the address 960 last furnished to the association by the unit owner, or hand 961 deliver to each unit owner, a copy of the most recent financial 962 report, and or a notice that a copy of the most recent financial 963 report will be mailed or hand delivered to the unit owner, 964 without charge, within 5 business days after receipt of a 965 written request from the unit owner. The division shall adopt 966 rules setting forth uniform accounting principles and standards 967 to be used by all associations and addressing the financial 968 reporting requirements for multicondominium associations. The 969 rules must include, but not be limited to, standards for 970 presenting a summary of association reserves, including a good 971 faith estimate disclosing the annual amount of reserve funds 972 that would be necessary for the association to fully fund 973 reserves for each reserve item based on the straight-line accounting method. This disclosure is not applicable to reserves 974 975 funded via the pooling method. In adopting such rules, the

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976 division shall consider the number of members and annual 977 revenues of an association. Financial reports shall be prepared 978 as follows:

979 (a) An association that meets the criteria of this 980 paragraph shall prepare a complete set of financial statements 981 in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The 982 financial statements must be based upon the association's total 983 annual revenues, as follows:

1. An association with total annual revenues of \$150,000
or more, but less than \$300,000, shall prepare compiled
financial statements.

987 2. An association with total annual revenues of at least
988 \$300,000, but less than \$500,000, shall prepare reviewed
989 financial statements.

3. An association with total annual revenues of \$500,000or more shall prepare audited financial statements.

992 (b)1. An association with total annual revenues of less 993 than \$150,000 shall prepare a report of cash receipts and 994 expenditures.

995 2. A report of cash receipts and disbursements must 996 disclose the amount of receipts by accounts and receipt 997 classifications and the amount of expenses by accounts and 998 expense classifications, including, but not limited to, the 999 following, as applicable: costs for security, professional and 1000 management fees and expenses, taxes, costs for recreation

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1001 facilities, expenses for refuse collection and utility services, 1002 expenses for lawn care, costs for building maintenance and 1003 repair, insurance costs, administration and salary expenses, and 1004 reserves accumulated and expended for capital expenditures, 1005 deferred maintenance, and any other category for which the 1006 association maintains reserves. 1007 (c) An association may prepare, without a meeting of or 1008 approval by the unit owners: 1009 Compiled, reviewed, or audited financial statements, if 1. the association is required to prepare a report of cash receipts 1010 1011 and expenditures; 2. Reviewed or audited financial statements, if the 1012 1013 association is required to prepare compiled financial 1014 statements; or 3. Audited financial statements if the association is 1015 1016 required to prepare reviewed financial statements. 1017 If approved by a majority of the voting interests (d) 1018 present at a properly called meeting of the association, an

1019 association may prepare:

1020 1. A report of cash receipts and expenditures in lieu of a 1021 compiled, reviewed, or audited financial statement;

1022 2. A report of cash receipts and expenditures or a 1023 compiled financial statement in lieu of a reviewed or audited 1024 financial statement; or

1025

3. A report of cash receipts and expenditures, a compiled

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1026 financial statement, or a reviewed financial statement in lieu of an audited financial statement. 1027 1028 1029 Such meeting and approval must occur before the end of the 1030 fiscal year and is effective only for the fiscal year in which 1031 the vote is taken. An association may not prepare a financial 1032 report pursuant to this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years τ 1033 except that the approval may also be effective for the following 1034 fiscal year. If the developer has not turned over control of the 1035 association, all unit owners, including the developer, may vote 1036 on issues related to the preparation of the association's 1037 financial reports, from the date of incorporation of the 1038 association through the end of the second fiscal year after the 1039 fiscal year in which the certificate of a surveyor and mapper is 1040 recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or an instrument that 1041 transfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not 1042 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 1043 favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded, whichever occurs 1044 first. Thereafter, all unit owners except the developer may vote 1045 on such issues until control is turned over to the association 1046 by the developer. Any audit or review prepared under this 1047 section shall be paid for by the developer if done before 1048 turnover of control of the association. 1049 A unit owner may provide written notice to the (e) division of the association's failure to mail or hand deliver 1050

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1051 him or her a copy of the most recent financial report within 5 1052 business days after he or she submitted a written request to the 1053 association for a copy of such report. If the division 1054 determines that the association failed to mail or hand deliver a 1055 copy of the most recent financial report to the unit owner, the 1056 division shall provide written notice to the association that 1057 the association must mail or hand deliver a copy of the most 1058 recent financial report to the unit owner and the division 1059 within 5 business days after it receives such notice from the 1060 division. An association that fails to comply with the 1061 division's request may not waive the financial reporting 1062 requirement provided in paragraph (d) for the fiscal year in 1063 which the unit owner's request was made and the following fiscal 1064 year. A financial report received by the division pursuant to 1065 this paragraph shall be maintained, and the division shall 1066 provide a copy of such report to an association member upon his 1067 or her request.

1068 (15) DEBIT CARDS.-

(a) An association and its officers, directors, employees,
and agents may not use a debit card issued in the name of the
association, or billed directly to the association, for the
payment of any association expense.

(b) <u>A person who uses</u> Use of a debit card issued in the name of the association, or billed directly to the association, for any expense that is not a lawful obligation of the

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1076 association commits theft under s. 812.014 and must be removed 1077 from office and a vacancy declared. For the purposes of this 1078 paragraph, the term "lawful obligation of the association" means 1079 an obligation that has been properly preapproved by the board 1080 and is reflected in the meeting minutes or the written budget may be prosecuted as credit card fraud pursuant to s. 817.61. 1081 1082 Section 8. Effective January 1, 2026, paragraph (g) of subsection (12) of section 718.111, Florida Statutes, as amended 1083 1084 by this act, is amended to read: 1085 The association.-718.111 1086 (12) OFFICIAL RECORDS.-1087 (g)1. By January 1, 2019, An association managing a 1088 condominium with 25 150 or more units which does not contain 1089 timeshare units shall post digital copies of the documents 1090 specified in subparagraph 2. on its website or make such 1091 documents available through an application that can be 1092 downloaded on a mobile device. 1093 The association's website or application must be: a. 1094 An independent website, application, or web portal (I)1095 wholly owned and operated by the association; or 1096 (II)A website, application, or web portal operated by a 1097 third-party provider with whom the association owns, leases, 1098 rents, or otherwise obtains the right to operate a web page, 1099 subpage, web portal, collection of subpages or web portals, or an application which is dedicated to the association's 1100

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1101 activities and on which required notices, records, and documents 1102 may be posted or made available by the association.

b. The association's website or application 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.

1108 c. Upon a unit owner's written request, the association 1109 must provide the unit owner with a username and password and 1110 access to the protected sections of the association's website or 1111 application which contain any notices, records, or documents 1112 that must be electronically provided.

1113 2. A current copy of the following documents must be 1114 posted in digital format on the association's website or 1115 application:

1116 a. The recorded declaration of condominium of each 1117 condominium operated by the association and each amendment to 1118 each declaration.

1119 b. The recorded bylaws of the association and each 1120 amendment to the bylaws.

1121 c. The articles of incorporation of the association, or 1122 other documents creating the association, and each amendment to 1123 the articles of incorporation or other documents. The copy 1124 posted pursuant to this sub-subparagraph must be a copy of the 1125 articles of incorporation filed with the Department of State.

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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 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 anyproposed budget to be considered at the annual meeting.

38 g. The financial report required by subsection (13) and 39 any monthly income or expense statement to be considered at a 40 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.

1148 j. Any contract or document regarding a conflict of 1149 interest or possible conflict of interest as provided in ss. 1150 468.4335, 468.436(2)(b)6., and 718.3027(3).

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1151 The notice of any unit owner meeting and the agenda for k. 1152 the meeting, as required by s. 718.112(2)(d)3., no later than 14 1153 days before the meeting. The notice must be posted in plain view 1154 on the front page of the website or application, or on a separate subpage of the website or application labeled "Notices" 1155 which is conspicuously visible and linked from the front page. 1156 1157 The association must also post on its website or application any 1158 document to be considered and voted on by the owners during the 1159 meeting or any document listed on the agenda at least 7 days before the meeting at which the document or the information 1160 1161 within the document will be considered. 1. Notice of any board meeting, the agenda, and any other 1162 1163 document required for the meeting as required by s. 1164 718.112(2)(c), which must be posted no later than the date required for notice under s. 718.112(2)(c). 1165 1166 The inspection reports described in ss. 553.899 and m. 718.301(4)(p) and any other inspection report relating to a 1167 1168 structural or life safety inspection of condominium property. 1169 The association's most recent structural integrity n. 1170 reserve study, if applicable.

1171 o. Copies of all building permits issued for ongoing or 1172 planned construction.

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

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1176 website or application. If protected information or information 1177 restricted from being accessible to unit owners is included in 1178 documents that are required to be posted on the association's 1179 website or application, the association shall ensure the information is redacted before posting the documents. 1180 1181 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the association or its agent is 1182 not liable for disclosing information that is protected or 1183 restricted under this paragraph unless such disclosure was made 1184 with a knowing or intentional disregard of the protected or 1185 restricted nature of such information.

1186 4. The failure of the association to post information 1187 required under subparagraph 2. is not in and of itself 1188 sufficient to invalidate any action or decision of the 1189 association's board or its committees.

1190 Section 9. Paragraphs (c), (d), (f), (g), and (q) of 1191 subsection (2) of section 718.112, Florida Statutes, are 1192 amended, and paragraph (r) is added to that subsection, to read: 1193 718.112 Bylaws.-

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

(c) Board of administration meetings.-In a residential condominium association of more than 10 units, the board of administration shall meet at least once each quarter. At least four times each year, the meeting agenda must include an

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1201 opportunity for members to ask questions of the board. Meetings 1202 of the board of administration at which a quorum of the members 1203 is present are open to all unit owners. Members of the board of 1204 administration may use e-mail as a means of communication but 1205 may not cast a vote on an association matter via e-mail. A unit 1206 owner may tape record or videotape the meetings. The right to 1207 attend such meetings includes the right to speak at such 1208 meetings with reference to all designated agenda items and the 1209 right to ask questions relating to reports on the status of 1210 construction or repair projects, the status of revenues and expenditures during the current fiscal year, and other issues 1211 1212 affecting the condominium. The division shall adopt reasonable rules governing the tape recording and videotaping of the 1213 1214 meeting. The association may adopt written reasonable rules 1215 governing the frequency, duration, and manner of unit owner 1216 statements.

1217 Adequate notice of all board meetings, which must 1. 1218 specifically identify all agenda items, must be posted 1219 conspicuously on the condominium property at least 48 continuous 1220 hours before the meeting except in an emergency. If 20 percent 1221 of the voting interests petition the board to address an item of business, the board, within 60 days after receipt of the 1222 1223 petition, shall place the item on the agenda at its next regular 1224 board meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose. 1225 An item not included on the notice may be taken up on an

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1226 emergency basis by a vote of at least a majority plus one of the 1227 board members. Such emergency action must be noticed and 1228 ratified at the next regular board meeting. Written notice of a 1229 meeting at which a nonemergency special assessment or an amendment to rules regarding unit use will be considered must be 1230 mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted to the unit 1231 1232 owners and posted conspicuously on the condominium property at 1233 least 14 days before the meeting. Evidence of compliance with 1234 this 14-day notice requirement must be made by an affidavit 1235 executed by the person providing the notice and filed with the 1236 official records of the association. Notice of any meeting in 1237 which regular or special assessments against unit owners are to 1238 be considered must specifically state that assessments will be 1239 considered and provide the estimated cost and description of the 1240 purposes for such assessments.

1241 2. Upon notice to the unit owners, the board shall, by duly adopted rule, designate a specific location on the 1242 1243 condominium property at which where all notices of board 1244 meetings must be posted. If there is no condominium property at 1245 which where notices can be posted, notices shall be mailed, 1246 delivered, or electronically transmitted to each unit owner at least 14 days before the meeting. In lieu of or in addition to 1247 1248 the physical posting of the notice on the condominium property, 1249 the association may, by reasonable rule, adopt a procedure for conspicuously posting and repeatedly broadcasting the notice and 1250

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1251 the agenda on a closed-circuit cable television system serving 1252 the condominium association. However, if broadcast notice is 1253 used in lieu of a notice physically posted on condominium 1254 property, the notice and agenda must be broadcast at least four 1255 times every broadcast hour of each day that a posted notice is 1256 otherwise required under this section. If broadcast notice is 1257 provided, the notice and agenda must be broadcast in a manner 1258 and for a sufficient continuous length of time so as to allow an 1259 average reader to observe the notice and read and comprehend the 1260 entire content of the notice and the agenda. In addition to any 1261 of the authorized means of providing notice of a meeting of the 1262 board, the association may, by rule, adopt a procedure for 1263 conspicuously posting the meeting notice and the agenda on a 1264 website serving the condominium association for at least the 1265 minimum period of time for which a notice of a meeting is also 1266 required to be physically posted on the condominium property. 1267 Any rule adopted shall, in addition to other matters, include a 1268 requirement that the association send an electronic notice in 1269 the same manner as a notice for a meeting of the members, which 1270 must include a hyperlink to the website at which where the 1271 notice is posted, to unit owners whose e-mail addresses are 1272 included in the association's official records.

12733. Notice of any meeting in which regular or special1274assessments against unit owners are to be considered must1275specifically state that assessments will be considered and

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1276	provide the estimated cost and description of the purposes for
1277	such assessments. If an agenda item relates to the approval of a
1278	contract for goods or services, a copy of the contract must be
1279	provided with the notice and be made available for inspection
1280	and copying upon a written request from a unit owner or made
1281	available on the association's website or through an application
1282	that can be downloaded on a mobile device.
1283	4.2. Meetings of a committee to take final action on
1284	behalf of the board or make recommendations to the board
1285	regarding the association budget are subject to this paragraph.
1286	Meetings of a committee that does not take final action on
1287	behalf of the board or make recommendations to the board
1288	regarding the association budget are subject to this section,
1289	unless those meetings are exempted from this section by the
1290	bylaws of the association.
1291	5.3. Notwithstanding any other law, the requirement that
1292	board meetings and committee meetings be open to the unit owners
1293	does not apply to:
1294	a. Meetings between the board or a committee and the
1295	association's attorney, with respect to proposed or pending
1296	litigation, if the meeting is held for the purpose of seeking or
1297	rendering legal advice; or
1298	b. Board meetings held for the purpose of discussing
1299	personnel matters.
1300	(d) Unit owner meetings
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1325

1301 An annual meeting of the unit owners must be held at 1. 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 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

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1326 eligible candidates to fill the vacancies on the board at the 1327 time of the vacancy. Only board service that occurs on or after 1328 July 1, 2018, may be used when calculating a board member's term 1329 limit. If the number of board members whose terms expire at the 1330 annual meeting equals or exceeds the number of candidates, the 1331 candidates become members of the board effective upon the 1332 adjournment of the annual meeting. Unless the bylaws provide 1333 otherwise, any remaining vacancies shall be filled by the 1334 affirmative vote of the majority of the directors making up the 1335 newly constituted board even if the directors constitute less 1336 than a quorum or there is only one director. In a residential 1337 condominium association of more than 10 units or in a residential condominium association that does not include 1338 1339 timeshare units or timeshare interests, co-owners of a unit may 1340 not serve as members of the board of directors at the same time 1341 unless they own more than one unit or unless there are not enough eligible candidates to fill the vacancies on the board at 1342 1343 the time of the vacancy. A unit owner in a residential 1344 condominium desiring to be a candidate for board membership must 1345 comply with sub-subparagraph 4.a. and must be eligible to be a 1346 candidate to serve on the board of directors at the time of the 1347 deadline for submitting a notice of intent to run in order to 1348 have his or her name listed as a proper candidate on the ballot 1349 or to serve on the board. A person who has been suspended or removed by the division under this chapter, or who is delinquent 1350

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1351 in the payment of any assessment due to the association, is not 1352 eligible to be a candidate for board membership and may not be 1353 listed on the ballot. For purposes of this paragraph, a person 1354 is delinquent if a payment is not made by the due date as 1355 specifically identified in the declaration of condominium, 1356 bylaws, or articles of incorporation. If a due date is not 1357 specifically identified in the declaration of condominium, 1358 bylaws, or articles of incorporation, the due date is the first 1359 day of the assessment period. A person who has been convicted of 1360 any felony in this state or in a United States District or 1361 Territorial Court, or who has been convicted of any offense in 1362 another jurisdiction which would be considered a felony if committed in this state, is not eligible for board membership 1363 1364 unless such felon's civil rights have been restored for at least 1365 5 years as of the date such person seeks election to the board. 1366 The validity of an action by the board is not affected if it is 1367 later determined that a board member is ineligible for board 1368 membership due to having been convicted of a felony. This 1369 subparagraph does not limit the term of a member of the board of 1370 a nonresidential or timeshare condominium.

3. 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; be mailed, hand delivered, or electronically transmitted to each unit owner at least 14 days before the annual meeting; and be posted in a

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1376 conspicuous place on the condominium property or association 1377 property at least 14 continuous days before the annual meeting. 1378 Written notice of a meeting other than an annual meeting must include an agenda; be mailed, hand delivered, or electronically 1379 1380 transmitted to each unit owner; and be posted in a conspicuous 1381 place on the condominium property or association property within 1382 the timeframe specified in the bylaws. If the bylaws do not 1383 specify a timeframe for written notice of a meeting other than 1384 an annual meeting, notice must be provided at least 14 1385 continuous days before the meeting. Upon notice to the unit 1386 owners, the board shall, by duly adopted rule, designate a 1387 specific location on the condominium property or association 1388 property at which where all notices of unit owner meetings must 1389 be posted. This requirement does not apply if there is no 1390 condominium property for posting notices. In lieu of, or in 1391 addition to, the physical posting of meeting notices, the 1392 association may, by reasonable rule, adopt a procedure for 1393 conspicuously posting and repeatedly broadcasting the notice and 1394 the agenda on a closed-circuit cable television system serving 1395 the condominium association. However, if broadcast notice is 1396 used in lieu of a notice posted physically on the condominium 1397 property, the notice and agenda must be broadcast at least four 1398 times every broadcast hour of each day that a posted notice is 1399 otherwise required under this section. If broadcast notice is provided, the notice and agenda must be broadcast in a manner 1400

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1401 and for a sufficient continuous length of time so as to allow an 1402 average reader to observe the notice and read and comprehend the 1403 entire content of the notice and the agenda. In addition to any 1404 of the authorized means of providing notice of a meeting of the 1405 board, the association may, by rule, adopt a procedure for 1406 conspicuously posting the meeting notice and the agenda on a 1407 website serving the condominium association for at least the 1408 minimum period of time for which a notice of a meeting is also 1409 required to be physically posted on the condominium property. Any rule adopted shall, in addition to other matters, include a 1410 1411 requirement that the association send an electronic notice in the same manner as a notice for a meeting of the members, which 1412 1413 must include a hyperlink to the website at which where the 1414 notice is posted, to unit owners whose e-mail addresses are included in the association's official records. Unless a unit 1415 1416 owner waives in writing the right to receive notice of the 1417 annual meeting, such notice must be hand delivered, mailed, or 1418 electronically transmitted to each unit owner. Notice for 1419 meetings and notice for all other purposes must be mailed to 1420 each unit owner at the address last furnished to the association 1421 by the unit owner, or hand delivered to each unit owner. 1422 However, if a unit is owned by more than one person, the 1423 association must provide notice to the address that the 1424 developer identifies for that purpose and thereafter as one or more of the owners of the unit advise the association in 1425

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1426 writing, or if no address is given or the owners of the unit do 1427 not agree, to the address provided on the deed of record. An 1428 officer of the association, or the manager or other person 1429 providing notice of the association meeting, must provide an affidavit or United States Postal Service certificate of 1430 1431 mailing, to be included in the official records of the 1432 association affirming that the notice was mailed or hand 1433 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.

1441 a. At least 60 days before a scheduled election, the 1442 association shall mail, deliver, or electronically transmit, by 1443 separate association mailing or included in another association 1444 mailing, delivery, or transmission, including regularly 1445 published newsletters, to each unit owner entitled to a vote, a 1446 first notice of the date of the election. A unit owner or other 1447 eligible person desiring to be a candidate for the board must 1448 give written notice of his or her intent to be a candidate to 1449 the association at least 40 days before a scheduled election. Together with the written notice and agenda as set forth in 1450

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1451 subparagraph 3., the association shall mail, deliver, or 1452 electronically transmit a second notice of the election to all 1453 unit owners entitled to vote, together with a ballot that lists 1454 all candidates not less than 14 days or more than 34 days before 1455 the date of the election. Upon request of a candidate, an 1456 information sheet, no larger than $8 \ 1/2$ inches by 11 inches, 1457 which must be furnished by the candidate at least 35 days before 1458 the election, must be included with the mailing, delivery, or 1459 transmission of the ballot, with the costs of mailing, delivery, 1460 or electronic transmission and copying to be borne by the association. The association is not liable for the contents of 1461 1462 the information sheets prepared by the candidates. In order to 1463 reduce costs, the association may print or duplicate the 1464 information sheets on both sides of the paper. The division 1465 shall by rule establish voting procedures consistent with this 1466 sub-subparagraph, including rules establishing procedures for giving notice by electronic transmission and rules providing for 1467 1468 the secrecy of ballots. Elections shall be decided by a 1469 plurality of ballots cast. There is no quorum requirement; 1470 however, at least 20 percent of the eligible voters must cast a 1471 ballot in order to have a valid election. A unit owner may not 1472 authorize any other person to vote his or her ballot, and any ballots improperly cast are invalid. A unit owner who violates 1473 1474 this provision may be fined by the association in accordance with s. 718.303. A unit owner who needs assistance in casting 1475

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1476 the ballot for the reasons stated in s. 101.051 may obtain such 1477 assistance. The regular election must occur on the date of the 1478 annual meeting. Notwithstanding this sub-subparagraph, an 1479 election is not required unless more candidates file notices of 1480 intent to run or are nominated than board vacancies exist.

1481b. A director of a Within 90 days after being elected or1482appointed to the board of an association of a residential1483condominium, each newly elected or appointed director shall:

(I) 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.

1491 (II) Submit to the secretary of the association In lieu of 1492 this written certification, within 90 days after being elected 1493 or appointed to the board, the newly elected or appointed 1494 director may submit a certificate of having satisfactorily 1495 completed the educational curriculum administered by the 1496 division or a division-approved condominium education provider. 1497 The educational curriculum must be at least 4 hours long and 1498 include instruction on milestone inspections, structural 1499 integrity reserve studies, elections, recordkeeping, financial literacy and transparency, levying of fines, and notice and 1500

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1501 meeting requirements within 1 year before or 90 days after the 1502 date of election or appointment. 1503 1504 Each newly elected or appointed director must submit to the 1505 secretary of the association the written certification and 1506 educational certificate within 1 year before being elected or 1507 appointed or 90 days after the date of election or appointment. 1508 A director of an association of a residential condominium who was elected or appointed before July 1, 2024, must comply with 1509 1510 the written certification and educational certificate 1511 requirements in this sub-subparagraph by June 30, 2025. The 1512 written certification and or educational certificate is valid for 7 years after the date of issuance and does not have to be 1513 1514 resubmitted as long as the director serves on the board without 1515 interruption during the 7-year period. A director who is 1516 appointed by the developer may satisfy the educational 1517 certificate requirement in sub-sub-subparagraph (II) for any 1518 subsequent appointment to a board by a developer within 7 years 1519 after the date of issuance of the most recent educational 1520 certificate, including any interruption of service on a board or appointment to a board in another association within that 7-year 1521 period. One year after submission of the most recent written 1522 1523 certification and educational certificate, and annually 1524 thereafter, a director of an association of a residential condominium must submit to the secretary of the association a 1525

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1526 certificate of having satisfactorily completed at least 1 hour 1527 of continuing education administered by the division, or a 1528 division-approved condominium education provider, relating to 1529 any recent changes to this chapter and the related 1530 administrative rules during the past year. A director of an 1531 association of a residential condominium who fails to timely 1532 file the written certification and or educational certificate is 1533 suspended from service on the board until he or she complies 1534 with this sub-subparagraph. The board may temporarily fill the 1535 vacancy during the period of suspension. The secretary shall 1536 cause the association to retain a director's written 1537 certification and or educational certificate for inspection by 1538 the members for 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ years after a director's election or the 1539 duration of the director's uninterrupted tenure, whichever is 1540 longer. Failure to have such written certification and or 1541 educational certificate on file does not affect the validity of 1542 any board action. 1543 Any challenge to the election process must be commenced

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 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

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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.

1555 Unit owners may waive notice of specific meetings if 6. 1556 allowed by the applicable bylaws or declaration or any law. 1557 Notice of meetings of the board of administration; unit owner 1558 meetings, except unit owner meetings called to recall board 1559 members under paragraph (1); and committee meetings may be given 1560 by electronic transmission to unit owners who consent to receive 1561 notice by electronic transmission. A unit owner who consents to 1562 receiving notices by electronic transmission is solely 1563 responsible for removing or bypassing filters that block receipt 1564 of mass e-mails sent to members on behalf of the association in the course of giving electronic notices. 1565

1566 7. Unit owners have the right to participate in meetings 1567 of unit owners with reference to all designated agenda items. 1568 However, the association may adopt reasonable rules governing 1569 the frequency, duration, and manner of unit owner participation.

1570 8. A unit owner may tape record or videotape a meeting of 1571 the unit owners subject to reasonable rules adopted by the 1572 division.

9. 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

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1576 directors, even if the remaining directors constitute less than 1577 a quorum, or by the sole remaining director. In the alternative, 1578 a board may hold an election to fill the vacancy, in which case 1579 the election procedures must conform to sub-subparagraph 4.a. 1580 unless the association governs 10 units or fewer and has opted 1581 out of the statutory election process, in which case the bylaws 1582 of the association control. Unless otherwise provided in the 1583 bylaws, a board member appointed or elected under this section 1584 shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the seat being 1585 filled. Filling vacancies created by recall is governed by paragraph (1) and rules adopted by the division. 1586

1587 10. This chapter does not limit the use of general or 1588 limited proxies, require the use of general or limited proxies, 1589 or require the use of a written ballot or voting machine for any 1590 agenda item or election at any meeting of a timeshare 1591 condominium association or nonresidential condominium 1592 association.

Notwithstanding subparagraph (b)2. and sub-subparagraph 4.a., an association of 10 or fewer units may, by affirmative vote of a majority of the total voting interests, provide for different voting and election procedures in its bylaws, which may be by a 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

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1601 proxy.

1602

(f) Annual budget.-

1603 The proposed annual budget of estimated revenues and 1. 1604 expenses must be detailed and must show the amounts budgeted by 1605 accounts and expense classifications, including, at a minimum, 1606 any applicable expenses listed in s. 718.504(21). The board 1607 shall adopt the annual budget at least 14 days before the start 1608 of the association's fiscal year. In the event that the board 1609 fails to timely adopt the annual budget a second time, it is 1610 deemed a minor violation and the prior year's budget shall 1611 continue in effect until a new budget is adopted. A 1612 multicondominium association must adopt a separate budget of 1613 common expenses for each condominium the association operates 1614 and must adopt a separate budget of common expenses for the association. In addition, if the association maintains limited 1615 1616 common elements with the cost to be shared only by those 1617 entitled to use the limited common elements as provided for in 1618 s. 718.113(1), the budget or a schedule attached to it must show 1619 the amount budgeted for this maintenance. If, after turnover of 1620 control of the association to the unit owners, any of the 1621 expenses listed in s. 718.504(21) are not applicable, they do 1622 not need to be listed.

1623 2.a. In addition to annual operating expenses, the budget 1624 must include reserve accounts for capital expenditures and 1625 deferred maintenance. These accounts must include, but are not

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1626 limited to, roof replacement, building painting, and pavement 1627 resurfacing, regardless of the amount of deferred maintenance 1628 expense or replacement cost, and any other item that has a 1629 deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost that exceeds 1630 \$10,000. The amount to be reserved must be computed using a 1631 formula based upon estimated remaining useful life and estimated 1632 replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of the reserve 1633 item. In a budget adopted by an association that is required to 1634 obtain a structural integrity reserve study, reserves must be 1635 maintained for the items identified in paragraph (g) for which 1636 the association is responsible pursuant to the declaration of 1637 condominium, and the reserve amount for such items must be based 1638 on the findings and recommendations of the association's most recent structural integrity reserve study. With respect to items 1639 for which an estimate of useful life is not readily 1640 1641 ascertainable or with an estimated remaining useful life of 1642 greater than 25 years, an association is not required to reserve 1643 replacement costs for such items, but an association must 1644 reserve the amount of deferred maintenance expense, if any, 1645 which is recommended by the structural integrity reserve study 1646 for such items. The association may adjust replacement reserve 1647 assessments annually to take into account an inflation 1648 adjustment and any changes in estimates or extension of the 1649 useful life of a reserve item caused by deferred maintenance. The members of a unit-owner-controlled association may 1650

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1651 determine, by a majority vote of the total voting interests of 1652 the association, to provide no reserves or less reserves than 1653 required by this subsection. For a budget adopted on or after 1654 December 31, 2024, the members of a unit-owner-controlled 1655 association that must obtain a structural integrity reserve 1656 study may not determine to provide no reserves or less reserves 1657 than required by this subsection for items listed in paragraph 1658 (g), except that members of an association operating a 1659 multicondominium may determine to provide no reserves or less 1660 reserves than required by this subsection if an alternative 1661 funding method has been approved by the division. If the local 1662 building official, as defined in s. 468.603, determines that the 1663 entire condominium building is uninhabitable due to a natural 1664 emergency, as defined in s. 252.34, the board, upon the approval of a majority of its members, may pause the contribution to its 1665 1666 reserves or reduce reserve funding until the local building 1667 official determines that the condominium building is habitable. 1668 Any reserve account funds held by the association may be 1669 expended, pursuant to the board's determination, to make the 1670 condominium building and its structures habitable. Upon the determination by the local building official that the 1671 1672 condominium building is habitable, the association must 1673 immediately resume contributing funds to its reserves. 1674 b. Before turnover of control of an association by a 1675 developer to unit owners other than a developer under s.

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1676 718.301, the developer-controlled association may not vote to 1677 waive the reserves or reduce funding of the reserves. If a 1678 meeting of the unit owners has been called to determine whether 1679 to waive or reduce the funding of reserves and no such result is 1680 achieved or a quorum is not attained, the reserves included in 1681 the budget shall go into effect. After the turnover, the 1682 developer may vote its voting interest to waive or reduce the 1683 funding of reserves.

1684 3. Reserve funds and any interest accruing thereon shall 1685 remain in the reserve account or accounts, and may be used only 1686 for authorized reserve expenditures unless their use for other 1687 purposes is approved in advance by a majority vote of all the 1688 total voting interests of the association. Before turnover of 1689 control of an association by a developer to unit owners other 1690 than the developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer-1691 controlled association may not vote to use reserves for purposes 1692 other than those for which they were intended. For a budget 1693 adopted on or after December 31, 2024, members of a unit-owner-1694 controlled association that must obtain a structural integrity 1695 reserve study may not vote to use reserve funds, or any interest 1696 accruing thereon, for any other purpose other than the 1697 replacement or deferred maintenance costs of the components 1698 listed in paragraph (g).

1699 4. The only voting interests that are eligible to vote on 1700 questions that involve waiving or reducing the funding of

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1701 reserves, or using existing reserve funds for purposes other 1702 than purposes for which the reserves were intended, are the 1703 voting interests of the units subject to assessment to fund the 1704 reserves in question. Proxy questions relating to waiving or 1705 reducing the funding of reserves or using existing reserve funds 1706 for purposes other than purposes for which the reserves were 1707 intended must contain the following statement in capitalized, 1708 bold letters in a font size larger than any other used on the 1709 face of the proxy ballot: WAIVING OF RESERVES, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, OR ALLOWING ALTERNATIVE USES OF EXISTING RESERVES MAY 1710 1711 RESULT IN UNIT OWNER LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF UNANTICIPATED 1712 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS REGARDING THOSE ITEMS.

1713

(g) Structural integrity reserve study.-

1714 1. A residential condominium association must have a 1715 structural integrity reserve study completed at least every 10 1716 years after the condominium's creation for each building on the 1717 condominium property that is three stories or higher in height, 1718 as determined by the Florida Building Code, which includes, at a 1719 minimum, a study of the following items as related to the 1720 structural integrity and safety of the building:

1721 a. Roof.

b. Structure, including load-bearing walls and other primary structural members and primary structural systems as those terms are defined in s. 627.706.

1725

c. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.

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- d. Plumbing.
- e. Electrical systems.
- 1728 f. Waterproofing and exterior painting.
- 1729
- g. Windows and exterior doors.

h. Any other item that has a deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000 and the failure to replace or maintain such item negatively affects the items listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-g., as determined by the visual inspection portion of the structural integrity reserve study.

1735 A structural integrity reserve study is based on a 2. 1736 visual inspection of the condominium property. A structural integrity reserve study may be performed by any person qualified 1737 1738 to perform such study. However, the visual inspection portion of 1739 the structural integrity reserve study must be performed or 1740 verified by an engineer licensed under chapter 471, an architect 1741 licensed under chapter 481, or a person certified as a reserve specialist or professional reserve analyst by the Community 1742 1743 Associations Institute or the Association of Professional 1744 Reserve Analysts.

3. At a minimum, a structural integrity reserve study must identify each item of the condominium property being visually inspected, state the estimated remaining useful life and the estimated replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of each item of the condominium property being visually inspected, and provide a reserve funding schedule with a recommended annual

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1751 reserve amount that achieves the estimated replacement cost or 1752 deferred maintenance expense of each item of condominium 1753 property being visually inspected by the end of the estimated 1754 remaining useful life of the item. The structural integrity 1755 reserve study may recommend that reserves do not need to be 1756 maintained for any item for which an estimate of useful life and 1757 an estimate of replacement cost cannot be determined, or the 1758 study may recommend a deferred maintenance expense amount for 1759 such item. The structural integrity reserve study may recommend 1760 that reserves for replacement costs do not need to be maintained 1761 for any item with an estimated remaining useful life of greater 1762 than 25 years, but the study may recommend a deferred 1763 maintenance expense amount for such item.

4. This paragraph does not apply to buildings less than three stories in height; single-family, two-family, or threefamily dwellings with three or fewer habitable stories above ground; any portion or component of a building that has not been submitted to the condominium form of ownership; or any portion or component of a building that is maintained by a party other than the association.

5. Before a developer turns over control of an association to unit owners other than the developer, the developer must have a turnover inspection report in compliance with s. 718.301(4)(p) and (q) for each building on the condominium property that is three stories or higher in height.

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1776 Associations existing on or before July 1, 2022, which 6. 1777 are controlled by unit owners other than the developer, must 1778 have a structural integrity reserve study completed by December 31, 2024, for each building on the condominium property that is 1779 1780 three stories or higher in height. An association that is 1781 required to complete a milestone inspection in accordance with 1782 s. 553.899 on or before December 31, 2026, may complete the 1783 structural integrity reserve study simultaneously with the 1784 milestone inspection. In no event may the structural integrity 1785 reserve study be completed after December 31, 2026. 1786 7. If the milestone inspection required by s. 553.899, or an inspection completed for a similar local requirement, was 1787 1788 performed within the past 5 years and meets the requirements of 1789 this paragraph, such inspection may be used in place of the visual inspection portion of the structural integrity reserve 1790 1791 study. If the officers or directors of an association 1792 8. 1793 willfully and knowingly fail to complete a structural integrity 1794 reserve study pursuant to this paragraph, such failure is a 1795 breach of an officer's and director's fiduciary relationship to

1797 <u>9. Within 45 days after receiving the structural integrity</u>
1798 reserve study, the association must distribute a copy of the
1799 study to each unit owner or deliver to each unit owner a notice
1800 that the completed study is available for inspection and copying

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the unit owners under s. 718.111(1).

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1801	upon a written request. Distribution of a copy of the study or
1802	notice must be made by United States mail or personal delivery
1803	to the mailing address, property address, or any other address
1804	of the owner provided to fulfill the association's notice
1805	requirements under this chapter, or by electronic transmission
1806	to the e-mail address or facsimile number provided to fulfill
1807	the association's notice requirements to unit owners who
1808	previously consented to receive notice by electronic
1809	transmission.
1810	10. Within 45 days after receiving the structural
1811	integrity reserve study, the association must provide the
1812	division with a statement indicating that the study was
1813	completed and that the association provided or made available
1814	such study to each unit owner in accordance with this section.
1815	The statement must be provided to the division in the manner
1816	established by the division using a form posted on the
1817	division's website.
1818	(q) Director or officer offenses
1819	1. A director or an officer charged by information or
1820	indictment with any of the following crimes must be removed from
1821	office:
1822	a. Forgery, as provided in s. 831.01, of a ballot envelope
1823	or voting certificate used in a condominium association
1824	election.
1825	b. Theft, as provided in s. 812.014, or embezzlement
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1850	elections; penalties
1849	(r) Fraudulent voting activities relating to association
1848	any.
1847	reinstated for the remainder of his or her term of office, if
1846	without a finding of guilt, the director or officer shall be
1845	pursuant to a court order. However, if the charges are resolved
1844	access to the official records of any association, except
1843	as a director or officer of any association and may not have
1842	pending, he or she may not be appointed or elected to a position
1841	first. While such director or officer has such criminal charge
1840	or the end of the director's term of office, whichever occurs
1839	according to law until the end of the period of the suspension
1838	from office, creating a vacancy in the office to be filled
1837	involving the association's funds or property must be removed
1836	paragraph (2)(d) a felony theft or embezzlement offense
1835	2. The board shall fill the vacancy in accordance with
1834	e. Any criminal violation under this chapter.
1833	d. Obstruction of justice under chapter 843.
1832	<u>918.13.</u>
1831	constitutes tampering with physical evidence as provided in s.
1830	required by general law, in furtherance of any crime. Such act
1829	which is accessible to unit owners within the time periods
1828	copying of, an official record of a condominium association
1827	c. Destruction of, or the refusal to allow inspection or
1826	involving the association's funds or property.

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1851	1. A person who engages in the following acts of
1852	fraudulent voting activity relating to association elections
1853	commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as
1854	provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083:
1855	a. Willfully and falsely swearing to or affirming an oath
1856	or affirmation, or willfully procuring another person to falsely
1857	swear to or affirm an oath or affirmation, in connection with or
1858	arising out of voting activities.
1859	b. Perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate, or aiding in
1860	the perpetration of, fraud in connection with a vote cast, to be
1861	cast, or attempted to be cast.
1862	c. Preventing a member from voting or preventing a member
1863	from voting as he or she intended by fraudulently changing or
1864	attempting to change a ballot, ballot envelope, vote, or voting
1865	certificate of the member.
1866	d. Menacing, threatening, or using bribery or any other
1867	corruption to attempt, directly or indirectly, to influence,
1868	deceive, or deter a member when the member is voting.
1869	e. Giving or promising, directly or indirectly, anything
1870	of value to another member with the intent to buy the vote of
1871	that member or another member or to corruptly influence that
1872	member or another member in casting his or her vote. This sub-
1873	subparagraph does not apply to any food served which is to be
1874	consumed at an election rally or a meeting or to any item of
1875	nominal value which is used as an election advertisement,
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1876	including a campaign message designed to be worn by a member.
1877	
	f. Using or threatening to use, directly or indirectly,
1878	force, violence, or intimidation or any tactic of coercion or
1879	intimidation to induce or compel a member to vote or refrain
1880	from voting in an election or on a particular ballot measure.
1881	2. Each of the following acts constitutes a misdemeanor of
1882	the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
1883	<u>775.083:</u>
1884	a. Knowingly aiding, abetting, or advising a person in the
1885	commission of a fraudulent voting activity related to
1886	association elections.
1887	b. Agreeing, conspiring, combining, or confederating with
1888	at least one other person to commit a fraudulent voting activity
1889	related to association elections.
1890	c. Having knowledge of a fraudulent voting activity
1891	related to association elections and giving any aid to the
1892	offender with intent that the offender avoid or escape
1893	detection, arrest, trial, or punishment. This sub-subparagraph
1894	does not apply to a licensed attorney giving legal advice to a
1895	<u>client.</u>
1896	Section 10. Subsection (5) of section 718.113, Florida
1897	Statutes, is amended to read:
1898	718.113 Maintenance; limitation upon improvement; display
1899	of flag; hurricane shutters and protection; display of religious
1900	decorations
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1901	(5) To protect the health, safety, and welfare of the
1902	people of the state and to ensure uniformity and consistency in
1903	the hurricane protections installed by condominium associations
1904	and unit owners, this subsection applies to all residential and
1905	mixed-use condominiums in the state, regardless of when the
1906	condominium is created pursuant to the declaration of
1907	condominium. Each board of administration of a residential
1908	condominium <u>or mixed-use condominium must</u> shall adopt hurricane
1909	protection shutter specifications for each building within each
1910	condominium operated by the association which <u>may</u> shall include
1911	color, style, and other factors deemed relevant by the board.
1912	All specifications adopted by the board must comply with the
1913	applicable building code. The installation, maintenance, repair,
1914	replacement, and operation of hurricane protection in accordance
1915	with this subsection is not considered a material alteration or
1916	substantial addition to the common elements or association
1917	property within the meaning of this section.
1918	(a) The board may, subject to s. 718.3026 and the approval
1919	of a majority of voting interests of the residential condominium
1920	or mixed-use condominium, install or require that unit owners
1921	<u>install</u> hurricane shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows
1922	or doors, or other types of code-compliant hurricane protection
1923	that <u>complies</u> comply with or <u>exceeds</u> exceed the applicable
1924	building code. <u>A vote of the unit owners to require the</u>
1925	installation of hurricane protection must be set forth in a
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1926	contificate attesting to such wate and include the date that the
	certificate attesting to such vote and include the date that the
1927	hurricane protection must be installed. The board must record
1928	the certificate in the public records of the county in which the
1929	condominium is located. Once the certificate is recorded, the
1930	board must mail or hand deliver a copy of the recorded
1931	certificate to the unit owners at the owners' addresses, as
1932	reflected in the records of the association. The board may
1933	provide to unit owners who previously consented to receive
1934	notice by electronic transmission a copy of the recorded
1935	certificate by electronic transmission. The failure to record
1936	the certificate or send a copy of the recorded certificate to
1937	the unit owners does not affect the validity or enforceability
1938	of the vote of the unit owners. However, A vote of the unit
1939	owners <u>under this paragraph</u> is not required if the <u>installation,</u>
1940	maintenance, repair, and replacement of <u>the</u> hurricane shutters,
1941	impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of
1942	code-compliant hurricane protection, or any exterior windows,
1943	doors, or other apertures protected by the hurricane protection,
1944	$\underline{ ext{is}}$ are the responsibility of the association pursuant to the
1945	declaration of condominium as originally recorded or as amended,
1946	or if the unit owners are required to install hurricane
1947	protection pursuant to the declaration of condominium as
1948	<u>originally recorded or as amended</u> . If hurricane protection or
1949	laminated glass or window film architecturally designed to
1950	function as hurricane protection that complies with or exceeds
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1951 the current applicable building code has been previously 1952 installed, the board may not install the same type of hurricane 1953 shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or 1954 other types of code-compliant hurricane protection or require 1955 that unit owners install the same type of hurricane protection 1956 unless the installed hurricane protection has reached the end of 1957 its useful life or unless it is necessary to prevent damage to 1958 the common elements or to a unit except upon approval by a 1959 majority vote of the voting interests. 1960 (b) The association is responsible for the maintenance, 1961 repair, and replacement of the hurricane shutters, impact glass, 1962 code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-1963 compliant hurricane protection authorized by this subsection if 1964 such property is the responsibility of the association pursuant 1965 to the declaration of condominium. If the hurricane shutters, 1966 impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of 1967 code-compliant hurricane protection are the responsibility of 1968 the unit owners pursuant to the declaration of condominium, the 1969 maintenance, repair, and replacement of such items 1970 responsibility of the unit owner. 1971 (b) (c) The board may operate shutters, impact glass, code-1972 compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant 1973 hurricane protection installed pursuant to this subsection

1974 without permission of the unit owners only if such operation is 1975 necessary to preserve and protect the condominium property or

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1976 and association property. The installation, replacement, operation, repair, and maintenance of such shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of codecompliant hurricane protection in accordance with the procedures set forth in this paragraph are not a material alteration to the common elements or association property within the meaning of this section.

1983 (c) (d) Notwithstanding any other provision in the 1984 residential condominium or mixed-use condominium documents, if 1985 approval is required by the documents, a board may not refuse to 1986 approve the installation or replacement of hurricane shutters, 1987 impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of 1988 code-compliant hurricane protection by a unit owner which 1989 conforms conforming to the specifications adopted by the board. 1990 However, a board may require the unit owner to adhere to an 1991 existing unified building scheme regarding the external 1992 appearance of the condominium.

1993 (d) A unit owner is not responsible for the cost of any 1994 removal or reinstallation of hurricane protection, including 1995 exterior windows, doors, or other apertures, if its removal is necessary for the maintenance, repair, or replacement of other 1996 1997 condominium property or association property for which the 1998 association is responsible. The board shall determine if the 1999 removal or reinstallation of hurricane protection must be completed by the unit owner or the association. If such removal 2000

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2001	or reinstallation is completed by the association, the costs
2002	incurred by the association may not be charged to the unit
2003	owner. If such removal or reinstallation is completed by the
2004	unit owner, the association must reimburse the unit owner for
2005	the cost of the removal or reinstallation or the association
2006	must apply a credit toward future assessments in the amount of
2007	the unit owner's cost to remove or reinstall the hurricane
2008	protection.
2009	(e) If the removal or reinstallation of hurricane
2010	protection, including exterior windows, doors, or other
2011	apertures, is the responsibility of the unit owner and the
2012	association completes such removal or reinstallation and then
2013	charges the unit owner for such removal or reinstallation, such
2014	charges are enforceable as an assessment and may be collected in
2015	the manner provided under s. 718.116.
2016	Section 11. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section
2017	718.115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2018	718.115 Common expenses and common surplus
2019	(1)
2020	(e) <u>1. Except as provided in s. 718.113(5)(d), The expense</u>
2021	of installation, replacement, operation, repair, and maintenance
2022	of hurricane shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows or
2023	doors, or other types of code-compliant hurricane protection by
2024	the board pursuant to s. 718.113(5) constitutes a common expense
2025	and shall be collected as provided in this section if the
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2026	association is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and
2027	replacement of the hurricane shutters, impact glass, code-
2028	compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant
2029	hurricane protection pursuant to the declaration of condominium.
2030	However, if the installation of maintenance, repair, and
2031	replacement of the hurricane shutters, impact glass, code-
2032	compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant
2033	hurricane protection <u>is</u> are the responsibility of the unit
2034	owners pursuant to the declaration of condominium <u>or a vote of</u>
2035	the unit owners under s. 718.113(5), the cost of the
2036	installation of the hurricane shutters, impact glass, code-
2037	compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant
2038	hurricane protection by the association is not a common expense
2039	and <u>must</u> shall be charged individually to the unit owners based
2040	on the cost of installation of the hurricane shutters, impact
2041	glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-
2042	$rac{compliant}{}$ hurricane protection appurtenant to the unit. <u>The</u>
2043	costs of installation of hurricane protection are enforceable as
2044	an assessment and may be collected in the manner provided under
2045	<u>s. 718.116.</u>
2046	2. Notwithstanding s. 718.116(9), and regardless of
2047	whether or not the declaration requires the association or unit
2048	owners to <u>install,</u> maintain, repair, or replace hurricane
2049	shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or
2050	other types of code-compliant hurricane protection, <u>the</u> a unit

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2051 owner of a unit in which who has previously installed hurricane shutters in accordance with s. 718.113(5) that comply with the 2052 2053 current applicable building code shall receive a credit when the 2054 shutters are installed; a unit owner who has previously 2055 installed impact glass or code-compliant windows or doors that 2056 comply with the current applicable building code shall receive a 2057 credit when the impact glass or code-compliant windows or doors 2058 are installed; and a unit owner who has installed other types of 2059 code-compliant hurricane protection that complies comply with 2060 the current applicable building code has been installed is 2061 excused from any assessment levied by the association or shall 2062 receive a credit if when the same type of other code-compliant 2063 hurricane protection is installed by the association. A credit 2064 is applicable if the installation of hurricane protection is for 2065 all other units that do not have hurricane protection and the 2066 cost of such installation is funded by the association's budget, 2067 including the use of reserve funds. The credit must be equal to 2068 the amount that the unit owner would have been assessed to 2069 install the hurricane protection, and the credit shall equal 2070 to the pro rata portion of the assessed installation cost 2071 assigned to each unit. However, such unit owner remains 2072 responsible for the pro rata share of expenses for hurricane 2073 shutters, impact glass, code-compliant windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant hurricane protection installed on 2074 common elements and association property by the board pursuant 2075

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2076	to s. 718.113(5) and remains responsible for a pro rata share of
2077	the expense of the replacement, operation, repair, and
2078	maintenance of such shutters, impact glass, code-compliant
2079	windows or doors, or other types of code-compliant hurricane
2080	protection. Expenses for the installation, replacement,
2081	operation, repair, or maintenance of hurricane protection on
2082	common elements and association property are common expenses.
2083	Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
2084	718.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
2085	718.121 Liens
2086	(4)(a) If an association sends out an invoice for
2087	assessments or a unit's statement of the account described in $\underline{s.}$
2088	<u>718.111(12)(a)11.c.</u> s. 718.111(12)(a)11.b. , the invoice for
2089	assessments or the unit's statement of account must be delivered
2090	to the unit owner by first-class United States mail or by
2091	electronic transmission to the unit owner's e-mail address
2092	maintained in the association's official records.
2093	Section 13. Section 718.124, Florida Statutes, is amended
2094	to read:
2095	718.124 Limitation on actions by associationThe statute
2096	of limitations <u>and statute of repose</u> for any actions in law or
2097	equity which a condominium association or a cooperative
2098	association may have shall not begin to run until the unit
2099	owners have elected a majority of the members of the board of
2100	administration.

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2101 Section 14. Section 718.1224, Florida Statutes, is amended 2102 to read: 2103 718.1224 Prohibition against SLAPP suits; other prohibited 2104 actions.-2105 It is the intent of the Legislature to protect the (1)2106 right of condominium unit owners to exercise their rights to 2107 instruct their representatives and petition for redress of 2108 grievances before their condominium associations and the various 2109 governmental entities of this state as protected by the First 2110 Amendment to the United States Constitution and s. 5, Art. I of 2111 the State Constitution. The Legislature recognizes that strategic lawsuits against public participation, or "SLAPP 2112 suits," as they are typically referred to, have occurred when 2113 2114 association members are sued by condominium associations, individuals, business entities, or governmental entities arising 2115 2116 out of a condominium unit owner's appearance and presentation 2117 before the board of the condominium association or a 2118 governmental entity on matters related to the condominium 2119 association. However, it is the public policy of this state that 2120 condominium associations, governmental entities, business 2121 organizations, and individuals not engage in SLAPP suits, 2122 because such actions are inconsistent with the right of 2123 condominium unit owners to participate in their condominium 2124 association and in the state's institutions of government. Therefore, the Legislature finds and declares that prohibiting 2125

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2126 such lawsuits by condominium associations, governmental 2127 entities, business entities, and individuals against condominium 2128 unit owners who address matters concerning their condominium 2129 association will preserve this fundamental state policy, 2130 preserve the constitutional rights of condominium unit owners, 2131 and ensure the continuation of representative government in this 2132 state, and ensure unit owner participation in condominium 2133 associations. It is the intent of the Legislature that such 2134 lawsuits be expeditiously disposed of by the courts. As used in 2135 this subsection, the term "governmental entity" means the state, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of 2136 government; law enforcement agencies; the independent 2137 establishments of the state, counties, municipalities, 2138 2139 districts, authorities, boards, or commissions; or any agencies of these branches that are subject to chapter 286. 2140 2141 A condominium association, governmental entity, (2)business organization, or individual in this state may not file 2142 2143 or cause to be filed through its employees or agents any 2144 lawsuit, cause of action, claim, cross-claim, or counterclaim 2145 against a condominium unit owner without merit and solely 2146 because such condominium unit owner has exercised the right to 2147 instruct his or her representatives or the right to petition for 2148 redress of grievances before the condominium association or the

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various governmental entities of this state, as protected by the

First Amendment to the United States Constitution and s. 5, Art.

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2151	I of the State Constitution.
2152	(3) It is unlawful for a condominium association to fine,
2153	discriminatorily increase a unit owner's assessments,
2154	discriminatorily decrease services to a unit owner, or bring or
2155	threaten to bring an action for possession or other civil
2156	action, including a defamation, libel, slander, or tortious
2157	interference action, based on conduct described in this
2158	subsection. In order for the unit owner to raise the defense of
2159	retaliatory conduct, the unit owner must have acted in good
2160	faith and not for any improper purposes, such as to harass or to
2161	cause unnecessary delay or for frivolous purpose or needless
2162	increase in the cost of litigation. Examples of conduct for
2163	which a condominium association, an officer, a director, or an
2164	agent of an association may not retaliate include, but are not
2165	limited to, situations in which:
2166	(a) The unit owner has in good faith complained to a
2167	governmental agency charged with responsibility for enforcement
2168	of a building, housing, or health code of a suspected violation
2169	applicable to the condominium;
2170	(b) The unit owner has organized, encouraged, or
2171	participated in a unit owners' organization;
2172	(c) The unit owner submitted information or filed a
2173	complaint alleging criminal violations or violations of this
2174	chapter or the rules of the division with the division, the
2175	Office of the Condominium Ombudsman, a law enforcement agency, a

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2176 state attorney, the Attorney General, or any other governmental 2177 agency; 2178 (d) The unit owner has exercised his or her rights under 2179 this chapter; 2180 The unit owner has complained to the association or (e) 2181 any of the association's representatives for the failure to 2182 comply with this chapter or chapter 617; or 2183 (f) The unit owner has made public statements critical of 2184 the operation or management of the association. (4) Evidence of retaliatory conduct may be raised by the 2185 2186 unit owner as a defense in any action brought against him or her 2187 for possession. 2188 (5) (3) A condominium unit owner sued by a condominium 2189 association, governmental entity, business organization, or 2190 individual in violation of this section has a right to an 2191 expeditious resolution of a claim that the suit is in violation 2192 of this section. A condominium unit owner may petition the court 2193 for an order dismissing the action or granting final judgment in 2194 favor of that condominium unit owner. The petitioner may file a 2195 motion for summary judgment, together with supplemental 2196 affidavits, seeking a determination that the condominium association's, governmental entity's, business organization's, 2197 2198 or individual's lawsuit has been brought in violation of this 2199 section. The condominium association, governmental entity, business organization, or individual shall thereafter file its 2200

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2201 response and any supplemental affidavits. As soon as 2202 practicable, the court shall set a hearing on the petitioner's 2203 motion, which shall be held at the earliest possible time after 2204 the filing of the condominium association's, governmental 2205 entity's, business organization's, or individual's response. The 2206 court may award the condominium unit owner sued by the 2207 condominium association, governmental entity, business 2208 organization, or individual actual damages arising from the 2209 condominium association's, governmental entity's, individual's, 2210 or business organization's violation of this section. A court 2211 may treble the damages awarded to a prevailing condominium unit 2212 owner and shall state the basis for the treble damages award in 2213 its judgment. The court shall award the prevailing party 2214 reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred in connection with 2215 a claim that an action was filed in violation of this section. 2216 (6) (4) Condominium associations may not expend association 2217 funds in prosecuting a SLAPP suit against a condominium unit 2218 owner. 2219 (7) Condominium associations may not expend association funds in support of a defamation, libel, slander, or tortious 2220 2221 interference action against a unit owner or any other claim 2222 against a unit owner based on conduct described in subsection 2223 (3). 2224 Section 15. Section 718.128, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 2225

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718.128 Electronic voting.—The association may conduct elections and other unit owner votes through an Internet-based online voting system if a unit owner consents, <u>electronically or</u> in writing, to online voting and if the following requirements are met:

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(1) The association provides each unit owner with:

(a) A method to authenticate the unit owner's identity tothe online voting system.

(b) For elections of the board, a method to transmit an electronic ballot to the online voting system that ensures the secrecy and integrity of each ballot.

(c) A method to confirm, at least 14 days before the voting deadline, that the unit owner's electronic device can successfully communicate with the online voting system.

(2) The association uses an online voting system that is:

(a) Able to authenticate the unit owner's identity.

(b) Able to authenticate the validity of each electronicvote to ensure that the vote is not altered in transit.

(c) Able to transmit a receipt from the online votingsystem to each unit owner who casts an electronic vote.

(d) For elections of the board of administration, able to permanently separate any authentication or identifying information from the electronic election ballot, rendering it impossible to tie an election ballot to a specific unit owner.
(e) Able to store and keep electronic votes accessible to

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2251 election officials for recount, inspection, and review purposes. 2252 A unit owner voting electronically pursuant to this (3) 2253 section shall be counted as being in attendance at the meeting 2254 for purposes of determining a quorum. A substantive vote of the 2255 unit owners may not be taken on any issue other than the issues 2256 specifically identified in the electronic vote, when a quorum is 2257 established based on unit owners voting electronically pursuant 2258 to this section. 2259 (4)This section applies to an association that provides 2260 for and authorizes an online voting system pursuant to this 2261 section by a board resolution. If the board authorizes online 2262 voting, the board must honor a unit owner's request to vote electronically at all subsequent elections, unless such unit 2263 2264 owner opts out of online voting. The board resolution must 2265 provide that unit owners receive notice of the opportunity to 2266 vote through an online voting system, must establish reasonable 2267 procedures and deadlines for unit owners to consent, 2268 electronically or in writing, to online voting, and must 2269 establish reasonable procedures and deadlines for unit owners to 2270 opt out of online voting after giving consent. Written notice of 2271 a meeting at which the resolution will be considered must be 2272 mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted to the unit 2273 owners and posted conspicuously on the condominium property or 2274 association property at least 14 days before the meeting. 2275 Evidence of compliance with the 14-day notice requirement must

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2276 be made by an affidavit executed by the person providing the 2277 notice and filed with the official records of the association.

(5) A unit owner's consent to online voting is valid until the unit owner opts out of online voting according to the procedures established by the board of administration pursuant to subsection (4).

(6) This section may apply to any matter that requires a
vote of the unit owners who are not members of a timeshare
condominium association.

2285 Section 16. Effective October 1, 2024, subsections (1) and 2286 (3) of section 718.202, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

2287

718.202 Sales or reservation deposits prior to closing.-

2288 If a developer contracts to sell a condominium parcel (1)2289 and the construction, furnishing, and landscaping of the 2290 property submitted or proposed to be submitted to condominium 2291 ownership has not been substantially completed in accordance 2292 with the plans and specifications and representations made by 2293 the developer in the disclosures required by this chapter, the 2294 developer shall pay into an escrow account all payments up to 10 2295 percent of the sale price received by the developer from the 2296 buyer towards the sale price. The escrow agent shall give to the 2297 purchaser a receipt for the deposit, upon request. In lieu of 2298 the foregoing concerning residential condominiums, the division 2299 director has the discretion to accept other assurances, including, but not limited to, a surety bond or an irrevocable 2300

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2301 letter of credit in an amount equal to the escrow requirements 2302 of this section. With respect to nonresidential condominiums, 2303 the developer may deliver to the escrow agent a surety bond or 2304 an irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equivalent to the 2305 aggregate of some or all of all payments, up to 10 percent of 2306 the sale price, received by the developer from all buyers toward 2307 the sale price. In all cases, the aggregate of the initial 10 2308 percent deposits being released must be secured by a surety bond 2309 or irrevocable letter of credit in an equivalent amount. Default 2310 determinations and refund of deposits shall be governed by the 2311 escrow release provision of this subsection. Funds shall be 2312 released from escrow as follows:

(a) If a buyer properly terminates the contract pursuant
to its terms or pursuant to this chapter, the funds shall be
paid to the buyer together with any interest earned.

(b) If the buyer defaults in the performance of his or her obligations under the contract of purchase and sale, the funds shall be paid to the developer together with any interest earned.

(c) If the contract does not provide for the payment of any interest earned on the escrowed funds, interest shall be paid to the developer at the closing of the transaction.

(d) If the funds of a buyer have not been previously
disbursed in accordance with the provisions of this subsection,
they may be disbursed to the developer by the escrow agent at

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the closing of the transaction, unless prior to the disbursement the escrow agent receives from the buyer written notice of a dispute between the buyer and developer.

2329 (3) If the contract for sale of the condominium unit so 2330 provides, the developer may withdraw escrow funds in excess of 2331 10 percent of the purchase price from the special account 2332 required by subsection (2) when the construction of improvements 2333 has begun. He or she may use the funds for the actual costs 2334 incurred by the developer in the construction and development of 2335 the condominium property, or the easements and rights appurtenant thereto, in which the unit to be sold is located. 2336 2337 For purposes of this subsection, the term "actual costs" includes, but is not limited to, expenditures for demolition, 2338 2339 site clearing, permit fees, impact fees, and utility reservation 2340 fees, as well as architectural, engineering, and surveying fees 2341 that directly relate to construction and development of the 2342 condominium property or the easements and rights appurtenant 2343 thereto. However, no part of these funds may be used for 2344 salaries, commissions, or expenses of salespersons; for 2345 advertising, marketing, or promotional purposes; or for loan 2346 fees and costs, principal and interest on loans, attorney fees, 2347 accounting fees, or insurance costs. A contract that which 2348 permits use of the advance payments for these purposes must 2349 shall include the following legend conspicuously printed or stamped in boldfaced type on the first page of the contract and 2350

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immediately above the place for the signature of the buyer: <u>"ANY</u> 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."

2355 Section 17. Paragraph (p) of subsection (4) of section 2356 718.301, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

2357 718.301 Transfer of association control; claims of defect 2358 by association.-

2359 (4) At the time that unit owners other than the developer 2360 elect a majority of the members of the board of administration 2361 of an association, the developer shall relinquish control of the 2362 association, and the unit owners shall accept control. 2363 Simultaneously, or for the purposes of paragraph (c) not more 2364 than 90 days thereafter, the developer shall deliver to the 2365 association, at the developer's expense, all property of the 2366 unit owners and of the association which is held or controlled 2367 by the developer, including, but not limited to, the following 2368 items, if applicable, as to each condominium operated by the 2369 association:

(p) Notwithstanding when the certificate of occupancy was issued or the height of the building, a turnover inspection report included in the official records, under seal of an architect or engineer authorized to practice in this state or a person certified as a reserve specialist or professional reserve analyst by the Community Associations Institute or the

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2376	Association of Professional Reserve Analysts, and consisting of
2377	a structural integrity reserve study attesting to required
2378	maintenance, condition, useful life, and replacement costs of
2379	the following applicable condominium property:
2380	1. Roof.
2381	2. Structure, including load-bearing walls and primary
2382	structural members and primary structural systems as those terms
2383	are defined in s. 627.706.
2384	3. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.
2385	4. Plumbing.
2386	5. Electrical systems.
2387	6. Waterproofing and exterior painting.
2388	7. Windows and exterior doors.
2389	Section 18. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 718.3027,
2390	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
2391	718.3027 Conflicts of interest
2392	(4) A director or an officer, or a relative of a director
2393	or an officer, who is a party to, or has an interest in, an
2394	activity that is a possible conflict of interest, as described
2395	in subsection (1), may attend the meeting at which the activity
2396	is considered by the board and is authorized to make a
2397	presentation to the board regarding the activity. After the
2398	presentation, the director or officer, <u>and any</u> or the relative
2399	of the director or officer, must leave the meeting during the
2400	discussion of, and the vote on, the activity. A director or an
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officer who is a party to, or has an interest in, the activity must recuse himself or herself from the vote. <u>The attendance of</u> a director or an officer with a possible conflict of interest at the meeting of the board is sufficient to constitute a quorum for the meeting and the vote in his or her absence on the proposed activity.

2407 (5) A contract entered into between a director or an 2408 officer, or a relative of a director or an officer, and the 2409 association, which is not a timeshare condominium association, 2410 that has not been properly disclosed as a conflict of interest 2411 or potential conflict of interest as required by this section or s. 617.0832 s. 718.111(12)(q) is voidable and terminates upon 2412 the filing of a written notice terminating the contract with the 2413 2414 board of directors which contains the consent of at least 20 2415 percent of the voting interests of the association.

2416 Section 19. Subsection (5) of section 718.303, Florida 2417 Statutes, is amended to read:

2418 718.303 Obligations of owners and occupants; remedies.-2419 An association may suspend the voting rights of a unit (5) 2420 owner or member due to nonpayment of any fee, fine, or other 2421 monetary obligation due to the association which is more than 2422 \$1,000 and more than 90 days delinquent. Proof of such 2423 obligation must be provided to the unit owner or member 30 days 2424 before such suspension takes effect. At least 90 days before an election, an association must notify a unit owner or member that 2425

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2426 his or her voting rights may be suspended due to a nonpayment of 2427 a fee or other monetary obligation. A voting interest or consent 2428 right allocated to a unit owner or member which has been 2429 suspended by the association shall be subtracted from the total 2430 number of voting interests in the association, which shall be 2431 reduced by the number of suspended voting interests when 2432 calculating the total percentage or number of all voting 2433 interests available to take or approve any action, and the 2434 suspended voting interests shall not be considered for any 2435 purpose, including, but not limited to, the percentage or number 2436 of voting interests necessary to constitute a quorum, the 2437 percentage or number of voting interests required to conduct an 2438 election, or the percentage or number of voting interests 2439 required to approve an action under this chapter or pursuant to 2440 the declaration, articles of incorporation, or bylaws. The 2441 suspension ends upon full payment of all obligations currently 2442 due or overdue the association. The notice and hearing 2443 requirements under subsection (3) do not apply to a suspension 2444 imposed under this subsection. 2445 Section 20. Effective October 1, 2024, section 718.407, 2446 Florida Statutes, is created to read: 2447 718.407 Condominiums created within a portion of a 2448 building or within a multiple parcel building.-2449 (1) A condominium may be created in accordance with this section within a portion of a building or within a multiple 2450

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2451	parcel building, as defined in s. 193.0237(1).
2452	(2) The common elements of a condominium created within a
2453	portion of a building or within a multiple parcel building are
2454	only those portions of the building submitted to the condominium
2455	form of ownership, excluding the units of such condominium.
2456	(3) The declaration of condominium that creates a
2457	condominium within a portion of a building or within a multiple
2458	parcel building, the recorded instrument that creates the
2459	multiple parcel building, and any other recorded instrument
2460	applicable under this section must specify all of the following:
2461	(a) The portions of the building which are included in the
2462	condominium and the portions of the building which are excluded.
2463	(b) The party responsible for maintaining and operating
2464	those portions of the building which are shared facilities,
2465	including, but not limited to, the roof, the exterior of the
2466	building, the windows, the balconies, the elevators, the
2467	building lobby, the corridors, the recreational amenities, and
2468	the utilities.
2469	(c)1. The manner in which the expenses for the maintenance
2470	and operation of the shared facilities will be apportioned. An
2471	owner of a portion of a building which is not submitted to the
2472	condominium form of ownership or the condominium association, as
2473	applicable to the portion of the building submitted to the
2474	condominium form of ownership, must approve any increase to the
2475	apportionment of expenses to such portion of the building. The
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2476	apportionment of the expenses for the maintenance and operation
2477	of the shared facilities may be based on any of the following
2478	criteria or any combination thereof:
2479	a. The area or volume of each portion of the building in
2480	relation to the total area or volume of the entire building,
2481	exclusive of the shared facilities.
2482	b. The initial estimated market value of each portion of
2483	the building in comparison to the total initial estimated market
2484	value of the entire building.
2485	c. The extent to which the unit owners are permitted to
2486	use various shared facilities.
2487	2. This paragraph does not preclude an alternative
2488	apportionment of expenses as long as such apportionment is
2489	stated in the declaration of condominium that creates a
2490	condominium within a portion of a building or within a multiple
2491	parcel building, the recorded instrument that creates the
2492	multiple parcel building, or any other recorded instrument
2493	applicable under this section.
2494	(d) The party responsible for collecting the shared
2495	expenses.
2496	(e) The rights and remedies that are available to enforce
2497	payment of the shared expenses.
2498	(4) The association of a condominium subject to this
2499	section may inspect and copy the books and records upon which
2500	the costs for maintaining and operating the shared facilities

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2501	are based and to receive an annual budget with respect to such
2502	costs.
2503	(5) Each contract for the sale of a unit in a condominium
2504	subject to this section must contain in conspicuous type a
2505	clause that substantially states:
2506	
2507	DISCLOSURE SUMMARY
2508	THE CONDOMINIUM IN WHICH YOUR UNIT IS LOCATED IS CREATED
2509	WITHIN A PORTION OF A BUILDING OR WITHIN A MULTIPLE PARCEL
2510	BUILDING. THE COMMON ELEMENTS OF THE CONDOMINIUM CONSIST
2511	ONLY OF THE PORTIONS OF THE BUILDING SUBMITTED TO THE
2512	CONDOMINIUM FORM OF OWNERSHIP.
2513	
2514	BUYER ACKNOWLEDGES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:
2515	
2516	(1) THE CONDOMINIUM MAY HAVE MINIMAL COMMON ELEMENTS.
2517	(2) PORTIONS OF THE BUILDING WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE
2518	CONDOMINIUM ARE OR WILL BE GOVERNED BY A SEPARATE RECORDED
2519	INSTRUMENT. SUCH INSTRUMENT CONTAINS IMPORTANT PROVISIONS
2520	AND RIGHTS AND IS OR WILL BE AVAILABLE IN PUBLIC RECORDS.
2521	(3) THE PARTY THAT CONTROLS THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION
2522	OF THE PORTIONS OF THE BUILDING WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN
2523	THE CONDOMINIUM DETERMINES THE BUDGET FOR THE OPERATION AND
2524	MAINTENANCE OF SUCH PORTIONS. HOWEVER, THE ASSOCIATION AND
2525	UNIT OWNERS ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR SHARE OF SUCH

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2526	EXPENSES.
2527	(4) THE ALLOCATION BETWEEN THE UNIT OWNERS AND THE OWNERS
2528	OF THE PORTIONS OF THE BUILDING WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN
2529	THE CONDOMINIUM OF THE COSTS TO MAINTAIN AND OPERATE THE
2530	BUILDING CAN BE FOUND IN THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM OR
2531	OTHER RECORDED INSTRUMENT.
2532	
2533	(6) The creation of a multiple parcel building is not a
2534	subdivision of the land upon which such building is situated
2535	provided the land itself is not subdivided.
2536	Section 21. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 718.501,
2537	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
2538	718.501 Authority, responsibility, and duties of Division
2539	of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes
2540	(1) The division may enforce and ensure compliance with
2541	this chapter and rules relating to the development,
2542	construction, sale, lease, ownership, operation, and management
2543	of residential condominium units and complaints related to the
2544	procedural completion of milestone inspections under s. 553.899.
2545	In performing its duties, the division has complete jurisdiction
2546	to investigate complaints and enforce compliance with respect to
2547	associations that are still under developer control or the
2548	control of a bulk assignee or bulk buyer pursuant to part VII of
2549	this chapter and complaints against developers, bulk assignees,
2550	or bulk buyers involving improper turnover or failure to

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2551	turnover, pursuant to s. 718.301. However, after turnover has
2552	occurred, the division has jurisdiction to investigate
2553	complaints related only to <u>:</u>
2554	(a)1. Procedural aspects and records relating to financial
2555	issues, including annual financial reporting under s.
2556	718.111(13); assessments for common expenses, fines, and
2557	commingling of reserve and operating funds under s. 718.111(14);
2558	use of debit cards for unintended purposes under s. 718.111(15);
2559	the annual operating budget and the allocation of reserve funds
2560	under s. 718.112(2)(f); financial records under s.
2561	718.111(12)(a)11.; and any other record necessary to determine
2562	the revenues and expenses of the association.
2563	2. Elections, including election and voting requirements
2564	under s. 718.112(2)(b) and (d), recall of board members under s.
2565	718.112(2)(1), electronic voting under s. 718.128, and elections
2566	that occur during an emergency under s. 718.1265(1)(a).
2567	financial issues, elections, and
2568	3. The maintenance of and unit owner access to association
2569	records under s. 718.111(12) <u>.</u>
2570	4. The procedural aspects of meetings, including unit
2571	owner meetings, quorums, voting requirements, proxies, board of
2572	administration meetings, and budget meetings under s.
2573	718.112(2).
2574	5. The disclosure of conflicts of interest under ss.
2575	718.111(1)(a) and 718.3027, including limitations contained in

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2576	s. 718.111(3)(f).
2577	6. The removal of a board director or officer under ss.
2578	718.111(1)(a) and (15) and 718.112(2)(p) and (q)., and
2579	7. The procedural completion of structural integrity
2580	reserve studies under s. 718.112(2)(g) <u>.</u>
2581	8. Any written inquiries by unit owners to the association
2582	relating to such matters, including written inquiries under s.
2583	<u>718.112(2)(a)2</u> .
2584	(b)1.(a)1. The division may make necessary public or
2585	private investigations within or outside this state to determine
2586	whether any person has violated this chapter or any rule or
2587	order hereunder, to aid in the enforcement of this chapter, or
2588	to aid in the adoption of rules or forms.
2589	2. The division may submit any official written report,
2590	worksheet, or other related paper, or a duly certified copy
2591	thereof, compiled, prepared, drafted, or otherwise made by and
2592	duly authenticated by a financial examiner or analyst to be
2593	admitted as competent evidence in any hearing in which the
2594	financial examiner or analyst is available for cross-examination
2595	and attests under oath that such documents were prepared as a
2596	result of an examination or inspection conducted pursuant to
2597	this chapter.
2598	<u>(c)</u> The division may require or permit any person to
2599	file a statement in writing, under oath or otherwise, as the
2600	division determines, as to the facts and circumstances
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2601 concerning a matter to be investigated.

2602 (d) (c) For the purpose of any investigation under this 2603 chapter, the division director or any officer or employee 2604 designated by the division director may administer oaths or 2605 affirmations, subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance, 2606 take evidence, and require the production of any matter which is 2607 relevant to the investigation, including the existence, 2608 description, nature, custody, condition, and location of any 2609 books, documents, or other tangible things and the identity and 2610 location of persons having knowledge of relevant facts or any 2611 other matter reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of 2612 material evidence. Upon the failure by a person to obey a 2613 subpoena or to answer questions propounded by the investigating 2614 officer and upon reasonable notice to all affected persons, the 2615 division may apply to the circuit court for an order compelling 2616 compliance.

2617 (e) (d) Notwithstanding any remedies available to unit owners and associations, if the division has reasonable cause to 2618 2619 believe that a violation of any provision of this chapter or 2620 related rule has occurred, the division may institute 2621 enforcement proceedings in its own name against any developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, officer, or member of 2622 2623 the board of administration, or its assignees or agents, as 2624 follows:

2625

1. The division may permit a person whose conduct or

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actions may be under investigation to waive formal proceedings 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.

2630 2. The division may issue an order requiring the 2631 developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, developer-2632 designated officer, or developer-designated member of the board 2633 of administration, developer-designated assignees or agents, 2634 bulk assignee-designated assignees or agents, bulk buyer-2635 designated assignees or agents, community association manager, 2636 or community association management firm to cease and desist from the unlawful practice and take such affirmative action as 2637 2638 in the judgment of the division carry out the purposes of this 2639 chapter. If the division finds that a developer, bulk assignee, bulk buyer, association, officer, or member of the board of 2640 2641 administration, or its assignees or agents, is violating or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, any rule adopted 2642 2643 or order issued by the division, or any written agreement 2644 entered into with the division, and presents an immediate danger 2645 to the public requiring an immediate final order, it may issue 2646 an emergency cease and desist order reciting with particularity 2647 the facts underlying such findings. The emergency cease and 2648 desist order is effective for 90 days. If the division begins 2649 nonemergency cease and desist proceedings, the emergency cease and desist order remains effective until the conclusion of the 2650

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2651 proceedings under ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

2652 If a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer fails to 3. 2653 pay any restitution determined by the division to be owed, plus 2654 any accrued interest at the highest rate permitted by law, 2655 within 30 days after expiration of any appellate time period of 2656 a final order requiring payment of restitution or the conclusion 2657 of any appeal thereof, whichever is later, the division must 2658 bring an action in circuit or county court on behalf of any 2659 association, class of unit owners, lessees, or purchasers for 2660 restitution, declaratory relief, injunctive relief, or any other 2661 available remedy. The division may also temporarily revoke its 2662 acceptance of the filing for the developer to which the 2663 restitution relates until payment of restitution is made.

2664 The division may petition the court for appointment of 4. 2665 a receiver or conservator. If appointed, the receiver or 2666 conservator may take action to implement the court order to 2667 ensure the performance of the order and to remedy any breach 2668 thereof. In addition to all other means provided by law for the 2669 enforcement of an injunction or temporary restraining order, the 2670 circuit court may impound or sequester the property of a party defendant, including books, papers, documents, and related 2671 2672 records, and allow the examination and use of the property by 2673 the division and a court-appointed receiver or conservator.

26745. The division may apply to the circuit court for an2675order of restitution whereby the defendant in an action brought

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2676 under subparagraph 4. is ordered to make restitution of those 2677 sums shown by the division to have been obtained by the 2678 defendant in violation of this chapter. At the option of the 2679 court, such restitution is payable to the conservator or 2680 receiver appointed under subparagraph 4. or directly to the 2681 persons whose funds or assets were obtained in violation of this 2682 chapter.

2683 The division may impose a civil penalty against a 6. 2684 developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer, or association, or its 2685 assignee or agent, for any violation of this chapter or related 2686 rule. The division may impose a civil penalty individually 2687 against an officer or board member who willfully and knowingly 2688 violates this chapter, an adopted rule, or a final order of the 2689 division; may order the removal of such individual as an officer 2690 or from the board of administration or as an officer of the 2691 association; and may prohibit such individual from serving as an 2692 officer or on the board of a community association for a period 2693 of time. The term "willfully and knowingly" means that the 2694 division informed the officer or board member that his or her 2695 action or intended action violates this chapter, a rule adopted 2696 under this chapter, or a final order of the division and that 2697 the officer or board member refused to comply with the 2698 requirements of this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division. The division, before 2699 initiating formal agency action under chapter 120, must afford 2700

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2701 the officer or board member an opportunity to voluntarily 2702 comply, and an officer or board member who complies within 10 2703 days is not subject to a civil penalty. A penalty may be imposed on the basis of each day of continuing violation, but the 2704 2705 penalty for any offense may not exceed \$5,000. The division 2706 shall adopt, by rule, penalty guidelines applicable to possible 2707 violations or to categories of violations of this chapter or 2708 rules adopted by the division. The guidelines must specify a 2709 meaningful range of civil penalties for each such violation of 2710 the statute and rules and must be based upon the harm caused by 2711 the violation, upon the repetition of the violation, and upon 2712 such other factors deemed relevant by the division. For example, 2713 the division may consider whether the violations were committed 2714 by a developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer, or ownercontrolled association, the size of the association, and other 2715 2716 factors. The guidelines must designate the possible mitigating or aggravating circumstances that justify a departure from the 2717 2718 range of penalties provided by the rules. It is the legislative 2719 intent that minor violations be distinguished from those which 2720 endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the condominium 2721 residents or other persons and that such guidelines provide 2722 reasonable and meaningful notice to the public of likely 2723 penalties that may be imposed for proscribed conduct. This 2724 subsection does not limit the ability of the division to informally dispose of administrative actions or complaints by 2725

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2726 stipulation, agreed settlement, or consent order. All amounts 2727 collected shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to 2728 the credit of the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, 2729 and Mobile Homes Trust Fund. If a developer, bulk assignee, or 2730 bulk buyer fails to pay the civil penalty and the amount deemed 2731 to be owed to the association, the division shall issue an order 2732 directing that such developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer 2733 cease and desist from further operation until such time as the 2734 civil penalty is paid or may pursue enforcement of the penalty 2735 in a court of competent jurisdiction. If an association fails to 2736 pay the civil penalty, the division shall pursue enforcement in 2737 a court of competent jurisdiction, and the order imposing the 2738 civil penalty or the cease and desist order is not effective 2739 until 20 days after the date of such order. Any action commenced 2740 by the division shall be brought in the county in which the 2741 division has its executive offices or in the county in which where the violation occurred. 2742

2743 7. If a unit owner presents the division with proof that 2744 the unit owner has requested access to official records in 2745 writing by certified mail, and that after 10 days the unit owner 2746 again made the same request for access to official records in 2747 writing by certified mail, and that more than 10 days has 2748 elapsed since the second request and the association has still 2749 failed or refused to provide access to official records as required by this chapter, the division shall issue a subpoena 2750

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2751 requiring production of the requested records at the location in 2752 which where the records are kept pursuant to s. 718.112. Upon 2753 receipt of the records, the division must provide to the unit owner who was denied access to such records the produced 2754 2755 official records without charge. 2756 In addition to subparagraph 6., the division may seek 8. 2757 the imposition of a civil penalty through the circuit court for 2758 any violation for which the division may issue a notice to show 2759 cause under paragraph (t) $\frac{(r)}{r}$. The civil penalty shall be at 2760 least \$500 but no more than \$5,000 for each violation. The court 2761 may also award to the prevailing party court costs and reasonable attorney fees and, if the division prevails, may also 2762 award reasonable costs of investigation. 2763 2764 9. The division may issue citations and promulgate rules to provide for citation bases and citation procedures in 2765 2766 accordance with this paragraph. 2767 (f) (c) The division may prepare and disseminate a 2768 prospectus and other information to assist prospective owners, 2769 purchasers, lessees, and developers of residential condominiums 2770 in assessing the rights, privileges, and duties pertaining 2771 thereto. 2772 (g) (f) The division may adopt rules to administer and 2773 enforce this chapter. 2774 (h) (g) The division shall establish procedures for 2775 providing notice to an association and the developer, bulk

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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.

2781 <u>(i) (h)</u> The division shall furnish each association that 2782 pays the fees required by paragraph (2)(a) a copy of this 2783 chapter, as amended, and the rules adopted thereto on an annual 2784 basis.

2785 <u>(j)(i)</u> The division shall annually provide each 2786 association with a summary of declaratory statements and formal 2787 legal opinions relating to the operations of condominiums which 2788 were rendered by the division during the previous year.

2789 (k) (j) The division shall provide training and educational 2790 programs for condominium association board members and unit 2791 owners. The training may, in the division's discretion, include 2792 web-based electronic media and live training and seminars in 2793 various locations throughout the state. The division may review 2794 and approve education and training programs for board members 2795 and unit owners offered by providers and shall maintain a 2796 current list of approved programs and providers and make such 2797 list available to board members and unit owners in a reasonable 2798 and cost-effective manner. The division shall provide the 2799 division-approved provider with the template certificate for 2800 issuance directly to the association's board of directors who

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2801 have satisfactorily completed the requirements under s. 2802 718.112(2)(d). The division shall adopt rules to implement this 2803 section. 2804 (1) (k) The division shall maintain a toll-free telephone 2805 number accessible to condominium unit owners. 2806 (m) (1) The division shall develop a program to certify 2807 both volunteer and paid mediators to provide mediation of 2808 condominium disputes. The division shall provide, upon request, 2809 a list of such mediators to any association, unit owner, or 2810 other participant in alternative dispute resolution proceedings 2811 under s. 718.1255 requesting a copy of the list. The division 2812 shall include on the list of volunteer mediators only the names 2813 of persons who have received at least 20 hours of training in 2814 mediation techniques or who have mediated at least 20 disputes. 2815 In order to become initially certified by the division, paid 2816 mediators must be certified by the Supreme Court to mediate 2817 court cases in county or circuit courts. However, the division 2818 may adopt, by rule, additional factors for the certification of 2819 paid mediators, which must be related to experience, education, 2820 or background. Any person initially certified as a paid mediator 2821 by the division must, in order to continue to be certified, 2822 comply with the factors or requirements adopted by rule. 2823 (n) (m) If a complaint is made, the division must conduct 2824 its inquiry with due regard for the interests of the affected parties. Within 30 days after receipt of a complaint, the 2825

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2826 division shall acknowledge the complaint in writing and notify 2827 the complainant whether the complaint is within the jurisdiction 2828 of the division and whether additional information is needed by 2829 the division from the complainant. The division shall conduct 2830 its investigation and, within 90 days after receipt of the 2831 original complaint or of timely requested additional 2832 information, take action upon the complaint. However, the 2833 failure to complete the investigation within 90 days does not 2834 prevent the division from continuing the investigation, 2835 accepting or considering evidence obtained or received after 90 2836 days, or taking administrative action if reasonable cause exists 2837 to believe that a violation of this chapter or a rule has 2838 occurred. If an investigation is not completed within the time 2839 limits established in this paragraph, the division shall, on a 2840 monthly basis, notify the complainant in writing of the status 2841 of the investigation. When reporting its action to the complainant, the division shall inform the complainant of any 2842 2843 right to a hearing under ss. 120.569 and 120.57. The division 2844 may adopt rules regarding the submission of a complaint against 2845 an association.

2846 (o) (n) Condominium association directors, officers, and 2847 employees; condominium developers; bulk assignees, bulk buyers, 2848 and community association managers; and community association 2849 management firms have an ongoing duty to reasonably cooperate 2850 with the division in any investigation under this section. The

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2851 division shall refer to local law enforcement authorities any 2852 person whom the division believes has altered, destroyed, 2853 concealed, or removed any record, document, or thing required to 2854 be kept or maintained by this chapter with the purpose to impair 2855 its verity or availability in the department's investigation. 2856 The division shall refer to local law enforcement authorities 2857 any person whom the division believes has engaged in fraud, 2858 theft, embezzlement, or other criminal activity or when the 2859 division has cause to believe that fraud, theft, embezzlement, 2860 or other criminal activity has occurred. 2861 (p) The division director or any officer or employee of the division and the condominium ombudsman or any employee of 2862 2863 the Office of the Condominium Ombudsman may attend and observe 2864 any meeting of the board of administration or any unit owner 2865 meeting, including any meeting of a subcommittee or special 2866 committee, which is open to members of the association for the 2867 purpose of performing the duties of the division or the Office 2868 of the Condominium Ombudsman under this chapter. 2869 (q) (o) The division may: 2870 Contract with agencies in this state or other 1. 2871 jurisdictions to perform investigative functions; or 2872 Accept grants-in-aid from any source. 2. 2873 (r) (p) The division shall cooperate with similar agencies 2874 in other jurisdictions to establish uniform filing procedures and forms, public offering statements, advertising standards, 2875

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2876 and rules and common administrative practices.

2877 <u>(s)</u> (q) The division shall consider notice to a developer, 2878 bulk assignee, or bulk buyer to be complete when it is delivered 2879 to the address of the developer, bulk assignee, or bulk buyer 2880 currently on file with the division.

2881 <u>(t) (r)</u> In addition to its enforcement authority, the 2882 division may issue a notice to show cause, which must provide 2883 for a hearing, upon written request, in accordance with chapter 2884 120.

2885 <u>(u) If the division receives a complaint regarding access</u> 2886 <u>to official records on the association's website or through an</u> 2887 <u>application that can be downloaded on a mobile device under s.</u> 2888 <u>718.111(12)(g), the division may request access to the</u> 2889 <u>association's website or application and investigate. The</u> 2890 <u>division may adopt rules to carry out this paragraph.</u>

2891 (v) (s) The division shall submit to the Governor, the 2892 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of 2893 Representatives, and the chairs of the legislative 2894 appropriations committees an annual report that includes, but 2895 need not be limited to, the number of training programs provided 2896 for condominium association board members and unit owners, the 2897 number of complaints received by type, the number and percent of complaints acknowledged in writing within 30 days and the number 2898 2899 and percent of investigations acted upon within 90 days in accordance with paragraph (n) (m), and the number of 2900

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2901	investigations exceeding the 90-day requirement. The annual
2902	report must also include an evaluation of the division's core
2903	business processes and make recommendations for improvements,
2904	including statutory changes. After December 31, 2024, the
2905	division must include a list of the associations that have
2906	completed the structural integrity reserve study required under
2907	s. 718.112(2)(g). The report shall be submitted by September 30
2908	following the end of the fiscal year.
2909	(2)(a) Each condominium association <u>that</u> which operates
2910	more than two units shall pay to the division an annual fee in
2911	the amount of \$4 for each residential unit in condominiums
2912	operated by the association. If the fee is not paid by March 1,
2913	the association shall be assessed a penalty of 10 percent of the
2914	amount due, and the association will not have standing to
2915	maintain or defend any action in the courts of this state until
2916	the amount due, plus any penalty, is paid.
2917	(b) All fees shall be deposited in the Division of Florida
2918	Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund as
2919	provided by law.
2920	(c) On the certification form provided by the division,
2921	the directors of the association shall certify that each
2922	director of the association has completed the written
2923	certification and educational certificate requirements in s.
2924	718.112(2)(d)4.b. This certification requirement does not apply
2925	to the directors of an association governing a timeshare

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2927 Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 718.5011, Florida 2928 Statutes, is amended to read:

2929

718.5011 Ombudsman; appointment; administration.-

2930 The secretary of the Department of Business and (2)2931 Professional Regulation Governor shall appoint the ombudsman. 2932 The ombudsman must be an attorney admitted to practice before 2933 the Florida Supreme Court and shall serve at the pleasure of the 2934 Governor. A vacancy in the office shall be filled in the same 2935 manner as the original appointment. An officer or full-time 2936 employee of the ombudsman's office may not actively engage in 2937 any other business or profession that directly or indirectly 2938 relates to or conflicts with his or her work in the ombudsman's 2939 office; serve as the representative of any political party, 2940 executive committee, or other governing body of a political 2941 party; serve as an executive, officer, or employee of a 2942 political party; receive remuneration for activities on behalf 2943 of any candidate for public office; or engage in soliciting 2944 votes or other activities on behalf of a candidate for public 2945 office. The ombudsman or any employee of his or her office may 2946 not become a candidate for election to public office unless he 2947 or she first resigns from his or her office or employment.

2948 Section 23. Effective October 1, 2024, paragraphs (a) and 2949 (d) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 718.503, 2950 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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2951	718.503 Developer disclosure prior to sale; nondeveloper													
2952	unit owner disclosure prior to sale; voidability													
2953	(2) NONDEVELOPER DISCLOSURE													
2954	(a) Each unit owner who is not a developer as defined by													
2955	this chapter must comply with this subsection before the sale of													
2956	his or her unit. Each prospective purchaser who has entered into													
2957														
2958	at the seller's expense, to a current copy of all of the													
2959	following:													
2960	1. The declaration of condominium.													
2961	2. Articles of incorporation of the association.													
2962	3. Bylaws and rules of the association.													
2963	4. An annual financial statement and annual budget of the													
2964	condominium association Financial information required by s.													
2965	718.111 .													
2966	5. A copy of the inspector-prepared summary of the													
2967	milestone inspection report as described in s. 553.899, if													
2968	applicable.													
2969	6. The association's most recent structural integrity													
2970	reserve study or a statement that the association has not													
2971	completed a structural integrity reserve study.													
2972	7. A copy of the inspection report described in s.													
2973	718.301(4)(p) and (q) for a turnover inspection performed on or													
2974	after July 1, 2023.													
2975	8. The document entitled "Frequently Asked Questions and													
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2976 Answers" required by s. 718.504.

(d) Each contract entered into after July 1, 1992, for the resale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type either:

2980 1. A clause which states: THE BUYER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT BUYER HAS BEEN PROVIDED A CURRENT COPY OF THE DECLARATION 2981 2982 OF CONDOMINIUM, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE ASSOCIATION, 2983 BYLAWS AND RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION, AND A COPY OF THE MOST 2984 RECENT ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL BUDGET, YEAR-END 2985 FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS 2986 DOCUMENT MORE THAN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND 2987 LEGAL HOLIDAYS, PRIOR TO EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT; or

2988 2. A clause which states: THIS AGREEMENT IS VOIDABLE BY 2989 BUYER BY DELIVERING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE BUYER'S INTENTION TO 2990 CANCEL WITHIN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL 2991 HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE DATE OF EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE 2992 BUYER AND RECEIPT BY BUYER OF A CURRENT COPY OF THE DECLARATION 2993 OF CONDOMINIUM, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, BYLAWS AND RULES OF 2994 THE ASSOCIATION, A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND ANNUAL BUDGET, AND A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT YEAR-2995 2996 END FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND 2997 ANSWERS DOCUMENT IF SO REQUESTED IN WRITING. ANY PURPORTED 2998 WAIVER OF THESE VOIDABILITY RIGHTS SHALL BE OF NO EFFECT. BUYER 2999 MAY EXTEND THE TIME FOR CLOSING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER 3000

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3001 THE BUYER RECEIVES THE DECLARATION, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, 3002 BYLAWS AND RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION, AND A COPY OF THE MOST 3003 RECENT YEAR-END FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED 3004 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DOCUMENT IF REQUESTED IN WRITING. BUYER'S 3005 RIGHT TO VOID THIS AGREEMENT SHALL TERMINATE AT CLOSING.

3007 A contract that does not conform to the requirements of this 3008 paragraph is voidable at the option of the purchaser prior to 3009 closing.

3010

3006

(3) OTHER DISCLOSURES DISCLOSURE.-

If residential condominium parcels are offered for 3011 (a) 3012 sale or lease prior to completion of construction of the units 3013 and of improvements to the common elements, or prior to 3014 completion of remodeling of previously occupied buildings, the 3015 developer must shall make available to each prospective 3016 purchaser or lessee, for his or her inspection at a place 3017 convenient to the site, a copy of the complete plans and 3018 specifications for the construction or remodeling of the unit 3019 offered to him or her and of the improvements to the common 3020 elements appurtenant to the unit.

(b) Sales brochures, if any, <u>must shall</u> be provided to
each purchaser, and the following caveat in conspicuous type
<u>must shall</u> be placed on the inside front cover or on the first
page containing text material of the sales brochure, or
otherwise conspicuously displayed: <u>"ORAL REPRESENTATIONS CANNOT</u>

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3026 BE RELIED UPON AS CORRECTLY STATING REPRESENTATIONS OF THE 3027 DEVELOPER. FOR CORRECT REPRESENTATIONS, MAKE REFERENCE TO THIS 3028 BROCHURE AND TO THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY SECTION 718.503, 3029 FLORIDA STATUTES, TO BE FURNISHED BY A DEVELOPER TO A BUYER OR 3030 LESSEE." If timeshare estates have been or may be created with 3031 respect to any unit in the condominium, the sales brochure must 3032 shall contain the following statement in conspicuous type: 3033 "UNITS IN THIS CONDOMINIUM ARE SUBJECT TO TIMESHARE ESTATES." 3034 (c) If a unit is located within a condominium that is 3035 created within a portion of a building or within a multiple parcel building, the developer or nondeveloper unit owner must 3036 3037 provide the disclosures required by s. 718.407(5). Section 24. Effective October 1, 2024, section 718.504, 3038 3039 Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 3040 718.504 Prospectus or offering circular.-Every developer 3041 of a residential condominium which contains more than 20 residential units, or which is part of a group of residential 3042 3043 condominiums which will be served by property to be used in 3044 common by unit owners of more than 20 residential units, shall 3045 prepare a prospectus or offering circular and file it with the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes 3046 3047 prior to entering into an enforceable contract of purchase and 3048 sale of any unit or lease of a unit for more than 5 years and 3049 shall furnish a copy of the prospectus or offering circular to

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each buyer. In addition to the prospectus or offering circular,

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3051 each buyer shall be furnished a separate page entitled 3052 "Frequently Asked Questions and Answers," which shall be in 3053 accordance with a format approved by the division and a copy of the financial information required by s. 718.111. This page 3054 3055 shall, in readable language, inform prospective purchasers 3056 regarding their voting rights and unit use restrictions, 3057 including restrictions on the leasing of a unit; shall indicate whether and in what amount the unit owners or the association is 3058 3059 obligated to pay rent or land use fees for recreational or other 3060 commonly used facilities; shall contain a statement identifying 3061 that amount of assessment which, pursuant to the budget, would 3062 be levied upon each unit type, exclusive of any special 3063 assessments, and which shall further identify the basis upon 3064 which assessments are levied, whether monthly, quarterly, or 3065 otherwise; shall state and identify any court cases in which the 3066 association is currently a party of record in which the 3067 association may face liability in excess of \$100,000; shall 3068 state whether the condominium is created within a portion of a 3069 building or within a multiple parcel building; and which shall 3070 further state whether membership in a recreational facilities 3071 association is mandatory, and if so, shall identify the fees 3072 currently charged per unit type. The division shall by rule 3073 require such other disclosure as in its judgment will assist 3074 prospective purchasers. The prospectus or offering circular may 3075 include more than one condominium, although not all such units

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3076	are being offered for sale as of the date of the prospectus or
3077	offering circular. The prospectus or offering circular must
3078	contain the following information:
3079	(1) The front cover or the first page must contain only:
3080	(a) The name of the condominium.
3081	(b) The following statements in conspicuous type:
3082	1. THIS PROSPECTUS (OFFERING CIRCULAR) CONTAINS IMPORTANT
3083	MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED IN ACQUIRING A CONDOMINIUM UNIT.
3084	2. THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE ONLY SUMMARY IN
3085	NATURE. A PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER SHOULD REFER TO ALL REFERENCES,
3086	ALL EXHIBITS HERETO, THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, AND SALES
3087	MATERIALS.
3088	3. ORAL REPRESENTATIONS CANNOT BE RELIED UPON AS CORRECTLY
3089	STATING THE REPRESENTATIONS OF THE DEVELOPER. REFER TO THIS
3090	PROSPECTUS (OFFERING CIRCULAR) AND ITS EXHIBITS FOR CORRECT
3091	REPRESENTATIONS.
3092	(2) Summary: The next page must contain all statements
3093	required to be in conspicuous type in the prospectus or offering
3094	circular.
3095	(3) A separate index of the contents and exhibits of the
3096	prospectus.
3097	(4) Beginning on the first page of the text (not including
3098	the summary and index), a description of the condominium,
3099	including, but not limited to, the following information:
3100	(a) Its name and location.

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3101 A description of the condominium property, including, (b) 3102 without limitation: 3103 1. The number of buildings, the number of units in each 3104 building, the number of bathrooms and bedrooms in each unit, and 3105 the total number of units, if the condominium is not a phase 3106 condominium, or the maximum number of buildings that may be 3107 contained within the condominium, the minimum and maximum 3108 numbers of units in each building, the minimum and maximum 3109 numbers of bathrooms and bedrooms that may be contained in each unit, and the maximum number of units that may be contained 3110 3111 within the condominium, if the condominium is a phase 3112 condominium. 2. 3113 The page in the condominium documents where a copy of

3114 the plot plan and survey of the condominium is located.
3115 3. The estimated latest date of completion of

3116 constructing, finishing, and equipping. In lieu of a date, the 3117 description shall include a statement that the estimated date of 3118 completion of the condominium is in the purchase agreement and a 3119 reference to the article or paragraph containing that 3120 information.

3121 (c) The maximum number of units that will use facilities 3122 in common with the condominium. If the maximum number of units 3123 will vary, a description of the basis for variation and the 3124 minimum amount of dollars per unit to be spent for additional 3125 recreational facilities or enlargement of such facilities. If

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3126 the addition or enlargement of facilities will result in a 3127 material increase of a unit owner's maintenance expense or 3128 rental expense, if any, the maximum increase and limitations 3129 thereon shall be stated.

(5) (a) A statement in conspicuous type describing whether the condominium is created and being sold as fee simple interests or as leasehold interests. If the condominium is created or being sold on a leasehold, the location of the lease in the disclosure materials shall be stated.

(b) If timeshare estates are or may be created with respect to any unit in the condominium, a statement in conspicuous type stating that timeshare estates are created and being sold in units in the condominium.

(6) A description of the recreational and other commonly used facilities that will be used only by unit owners of the condominium, including, but not limited to, the following:

3142 (a) Each room and its intended purposes, location,3143 approximate floor area, and capacity in numbers of people.

(b) Each swimming pool, as to its general location, approximate size and depths, approximate deck size and capacity, and whether heated.

(c) Additional facilities, as to the number of each facility, its approximate location, approximate size, and approximate capacity.

3150

(d) A general description of the items of personal

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3151 property and the approximate number of each item of personal 3152 property that the developer is committing to furnish for each 3153 room or other facility or, in the alternative, a representation 3154 as to the minimum amount of expenditure that will be made to 3155 purchase the personal property for the facility.

3156 (e) The estimated date when each room or other facility3157 will be available for use by the unit owners.

3158 (f)1. An identification of each room or other facility to 3159 be used by unit owners that will not be owned by the unit owners 3160 or the association;

3161 2. A reference to the location in the disclosure materials 3162 of the lease or other agreements providing for the use of those 3163 facilities; and

3164 3. A description of the terms of the lease or other agreements, including the length of the term; the rent payable, 3165 3166 directly or indirectly, by each unit owner, and the total rent payable to the lessor, stated in monthly and annual amounts for 3167 3168 the entire term of the lease; and a description of any option to 3169 purchase the property leased under any such lease, including the 3170 time the option may be exercised, the purchase price or how it 3171 is to be determined, the manner of payment, and whether the 3172 option may be exercised for a unit owner's share or only as to 3173 the entire leased property.

3174 (g) A statement as to whether the developer may provide 3175 additional facilities not described above; their general

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3176 locations and types; improvements or changes that may be made; 3177 the approximate dollar amount to be expended; and the maximum 3178 additional common expense or cost to the individual unit owners 3179 that may be charged during the first annual period of operation 3180 of the modified or added facilities.

3182 Descriptions as to locations, areas, capacities, numbers, 3183 volumes, or sizes may be stated as approximations or minimums.

(7) A description of the recreational and other facilities that will be used in common with other condominiums, community associations, or planned developments which require the payment of the maintenance and expenses of such facilities, directly or indirectly, by the unit owners. The description shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Each building and facility committed to be built and a
summary description of the structural integrity of each building
for which reserves are required pursuant to s. 718.112(2)(g).

(b) Facilities not committed to be built except under certain conditions, and a statement of those conditions or contingencies.

3196 (c) As to each facility committed to be built, or which 3197 will be committed to be built upon the happening of one of the 3198 conditions in paragraph (b), a statement of whether it will be 3199 owned by the unit owners having the use thereof or by an 3200 association or other entity which will be controlled by them, or

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3201 others, and the location in the exhibits of the lease or other 3202 document providing for use of those facilities.

(d) The year in which each facility will be available for use by the unit owners or, in the alternative, the maximum number of unit owners in the project at the time each of all of the facilities is committed to be completed.

(e) A general description of the items of personal property, and the approximate number of each item of personal property, that the developer is committing to furnish for each room or other facility or, in the alternative, a representation as to the minimum amount of expenditure that will be made to purchase the personal property for the facility.

3213 (f) If there are leases, a description thereof, including 3214 the length of the term, the rent payable, and a description of 3215 any option to purchase.

3217 Descriptions shall include location, areas, capacities, numbers, 3218 volumes, or sizes and may be stated as approximations or 3219 minimums.

3220

3216

(8) Recreation lease or associated club membership:

(a) If any recreational facilities or other facilities
offered by the developer and available to, or to be used by,
unit owners are to be leased or have club membership associated,
the following statement in conspicuous type shall be included:
"THERE IS A RECREATIONAL FACILITIES LEASE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS

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3226 CONDOMINIUM; or, THERE IS A CLUB MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATED WITH THIS 3227 CONDOMINIUM." There shall be a reference to the location in the 3228 disclosure materials where the recreation lease or club 3229 membership is described in detail.

3230 (b) If it is mandatory that unit owners pay a fee, rent, 3231 dues, or other charges under a recreational facilities lease or 3232 club membership for the use of facilities, there shall be in 3233 conspicuous type the applicable statement:

3234 1. MEMBERSHIP IN THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES CLUB IS 3235 MANDATORY FOR UNIT OWNERS; or

3236 2. UNIT OWNERS ARE REQUIRED, AS A CONDITION OF OWNERSHIP,
3237 TO BE LESSEES UNDER THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES LEASE; or

3238 3. UNIT OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY THEIR SHARE OF THE 3239 COSTS AND EXPENSES OF MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT, UPKEEP, 3240 REPLACEMENT, RENT, AND FEES UNDER THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES 3241 LEASE (OR THE OTHER INSTRUMENTS PROVIDING THE FACILITIES); or

3242 4. A similar statement of the nature of the organization
3243 or the manner in which the use rights are created, and that unit
3244 owners are required to pay.

3246 Immediately following the applicable statement, the location in 3247 the disclosure materials where the development is described in 3248 detail shall be stated.

3249 (c) If the developer, or any other person other than the 3250 unit owners and other persons having use rights in the

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3251 facilities, reserves, or is entitled to receive, any rent, fee, 3252 or other payment for the use of the facilities, then there shall 3253 be the following statement in conspicuous type: "THE UNIT OWNERS 3254 OR THE ASSOCIATION (S) MUST PAY RENT OR LAND USE FEES FOR 3255 RECREATIONAL OR OTHER COMMONLY USED FACILITIES." Immediately 3256 following this statement, the location in the disclosure 3257 materials where the rent or land use fees are described in 3258 detail shall be stated.

(d) If, in any recreation format, whether leasehold, club, or other, any person other than the association has the right to a lien on the units to secure the payment of assessments, rent, or other exactions, there shall appear a statement in conspicuous type in substantially the following form:

1. THERE IS A LIEN OR LIEN RIGHT AGAINST EACH
UNIT TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF RENT AND OTHER EXACTIONS
UNDER THE RECREATION LEASE. THE UNIT OWNER'S FAILURE
TO MAKE THESE PAYMENTS MAY RESULT IN FORECLOSURE OF
THE LIEN; or

3269
2. THERE IS A LIEN OR LIEN RIGHT AGAINST EACH
3270
3271 UNIT TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS OR OTHER
3271 EXACTIONS COMING DUE FOR THE USE, MAINTENANCE, UPKEEP,
3272 OR REPAIR OF THE RECREATIONAL OR COMMONLY USED
3273 FACILITIES. THE UNIT OWNER'S FAILURE TO MAKE THESE
3274 PAYMENTS MAY RESULT IN FORECLOSURE OF THE LIEN.

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3276 Immediately following the applicable statement, the location in 3277 the disclosure materials where the lien or lien right is 3278 described in detail shall be stated.

3279 (9) If the developer or any other person has the right to 3280 increase or add to the recreational facilities at any time after 3281 the establishment of the condominium whose unit owners have use 3282 rights therein, without the consent of the unit owners or 3283 associations being required, there shall appear a statement in 3284 conspicuous type in substantially the following form: 3285 "RECREATIONAL FACILITIES MAY BE EXPANDED OR ADDED WITHOUT 3286 CONSENT OF UNIT OWNERS OR THE ASSOCIATION(S)." Immediately 3287 following this statement, the location in the disclosure 3288 materials where such reserved rights are described shall be 3289 stated.

(10) A statement of whether the developer's plan includes a program of leasing units rather than selling them, or leasing units and selling them subject to such leases. If so, there shall be a description of the plan, including the number and identification of the units and the provisions and term of the proposed leases, and a statement in boldfaced type that: <u>"</u>THE UNITS MAY BE TRANSFERRED SUBJECT TO A LEASE.<u>"</u>

(11) The arrangements for management of the association and maintenance and operation of the condominium property and of other property that will serve the unit owners of the condominium property, and a description of the management

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3301	contract and all other contracts for these purposes having a													
3302	term in excess of 1 year, including the following:													
3303	(a) The names of contracting parties.													
3304	(b) The term of the contract.													
3305	(c) The nature of the services included.													
3306	(d) The compensation, stated on a monthly and annual													
3307														
3308	(e) A reference to the volumes and pages of the													
3309	condominium documents and of the exhibits containing copies of													
3310	such contracts.													
3311														
3312	Copies of all described contracts shall be attached as exhibits.													
3313	If there is a contract for the management of the condominium													
3314	property, then a statement in conspicuous type in substantially													
3315	the following form shall appear, identifying the proposed or													
3316	existing contract manager: <u>"</u> THERE IS (IS TO BE) A CONTRACT FOR													
3317	THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY WITH (NAME OF THE													
3318	CONTRACT MANAGER)." Immediately following this statement, the													
3319	location in the disclosure materials of the contract for													
3320	management of the condominium property shall be stated.													
3321	(12) If the developer or any other person or persons other													
3322	than the unit owners has the right to retain control of the													
3323	board of administration of the association for a period of time													
3324	which can exceed 1 year after the closing of the sale of a													
3325	majority of the units in that condominium to persons other than													
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3326 successors or alternate developers, then a statement in 3327 conspicuous type in substantially the following form shall be 3328 included: <u>"THE DEVELOPER (OR OTHER PERSON) HAS THE RIGHT TO</u> 3329 RETAIN CONTROL OF THE ASSOCIATION AFTER A MAJORITY OF THE UNITS 3330 HAVE BEEN SOLD.<u>"</u> Immediately following this statement, the 3331 location in the disclosure materials where this right to control 3322 is described in detail shall be stated.

3333 (13) If there are any restrictions upon the sale, 3334 transfer, conveyance, or leasing of a unit, then a statement in 3335 conspicuous type in substantially the following form shall be 3336 included: "THE SALE, LEASE, OR TRANSFER OF UNITS IS RESTRICTED 3337 OR CONTROLLED." Immediately following this statement, the 3338 location in the disclosure materials where the restriction, 3339 limitation, or control on the sale, lease, or transfer of units is described in detail shall be stated. 3340

3341 (14) If the condominium is part of a phase project, the 3342 following information shall be stated:

(a) A statement in conspicuous type in substantially the following form: <u>"THIS IS A PHASE CONDOMINIUM. ADDITIONAL LAND</u> AND UNITS MAY BE ADDED TO THIS CONDOMINIUM.<u>"</u> Immediately following this statement, the location in the disclosure materials where the phasing is described shall be stated.

3348 (b) A summary of the provisions of the declaration which 3349 provide for the phasing.

3350

(c) A statement as to whether or not residential buildings

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3351 and units which are added to the condominium may be 3352 substantially different from the residential buildings and units 3353 originally in the condominium. If the added residential 3354 buildings and units may be substantially different, there shall 3355 be a general description of the extent to which such added 3356 residential buildings and units may differ, and a statement in 3357 conspicuous type in substantially the following form shall be 3358 included: "BUILDINGS AND UNITS WHICH ARE ADDED TO THE 3359 CONDOMINIUM MAY BE SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER 3360 BUILDINGS AND UNITS IN THE CONDOMINIUM." Immediately following 3361 this statement, the location in the disclosure materials where 3362 the extent to which added residential buildings and units may 3363 substantially differ is described shall be stated.

(d) A statement of the maximum number of buildings containing units, the maximum and minimum numbers of units in each building, the maximum number of units, and the minimum and maximum square footage of the units that may be contained within each parcel of land which may be added to the condominium.

(15) If a condominium created on or after July 1, 2000, is or may become part of a multicondominium, the following information must be provided:

(a) A statement in conspicuous type in substantially the
following form: <u>"THIS CONDOMINIUM IS (MAY BE) PART OF A</u>
MULTICONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENT IN WHICH OTHER CONDOMINIUMS WILL
(MAY) BE OPERATED BY THE SAME ASSOCIATION. Immediately

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3376 following this statement, the location in the prospectus or 3377 offering circular and its exhibits where the multicondominium 3378 aspects of the offering are described must be stated.

3379 (b) A summary of the provisions in the declaration, 3380 articles of incorporation, and bylaws which establish and 3381 provide for the operation of the multicondominium, including a 3382 statement as to whether unit owners in the condominium will have 3383 the right to use recreational or other facilities located or 3384 planned to be located in other condominiums operated by the same 3385 association, and the manner of sharing the common expenses 3386 related to such facilities.

(c) A statement of the minimum and maximum number of condominiums, and the minimum and maximum number of units in each of those condominiums, which will or may be operated by the association, and the latest date by which the exact number will be finally determined.

(d) A statement as to whether any of the condominiums in the multicondominium may include units intended to be used for nonresidential purposes and the purpose or purposes permitted for such use.

3396 (e) A general description of the location and approximate
3397 acreage of any land on which any additional condominiums to be
3398 operated by the association may be located.

3399 (16) If the condominium is created by conversion of3400 existing improvements, the following information shall be

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3401 stated:

(a) The information required by s. 718.616.

3403 (b) A caveat that there are no express warranties unless3404 they are stated in writing by the developer.

3405 A summary of the restrictions, if any, to be imposed (17)3406 on units concerning the use of any of the condominium property, 3407 including statements as to whether there are restrictions upon 3408 children and pets, and reference to the volumes and pages of the 3409 condominium documents where such restrictions are found, or if such restrictions are contained elsewhere, then a copy of the 3410 3411 documents containing the restrictions shall be attached as an 3412 exhibit.

If there is any land that is offered by the developer 3413 (18)3414 for use by the unit owners and that is neither owned by them nor leased to them, the association, or any entity controlled by 3415 3416 unit owners and other persons having the use rights to such land, a statement shall be made as to how such land will serve 3417 3418 the condominium. If any part of such land will serve the 3419 condominium, the statement shall describe the land and the 3420 nature and term of service, and the declaration or other 3421 instrument creating such servitude shall be included as an 3422 exhibit.

(19) The manner in which utility and other services, including, but not limited to, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and storm drainage, will be provided and the person or

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3426 entity furnishing them.

3427 (20) An explanation of the manner in which the
3428 apportionment of common expenses and ownership of the common
3429 elements has been determined.

3430 (21) An estimated operating budget for the condominium and 3431 the association, and a schedule of the unit owner's expenses 3432 shall be attached as an exhibit and shall contain the following 3433 information:

3434 (a) The estimated monthly and annual expenses of the 3435 condominium and the association that are collected from unit 3436 owners by assessments.

3437 The estimated monthly and annual expenses of each unit (b) 3438 owner for a unit, other than common expenses paid by all unit 3439 owners, payable by the unit owner to persons or entities other 3440 than the association, as well as to the association, including 3441 fees assessed pursuant to s. 718.113(1) for maintenance of 3442 limited common elements where such costs are shared only by those entitled to use the limited common element, and the total 3443 3444 estimated monthly and annual expense. There may be excluded from 3445 this estimate expenses which are not provided for or 3446 contemplated by the condominium documents, including, but not 3447 limited to, the costs of private telephone; maintenance of the 3448 interior of condominium units, which is not the obligation of 3449 the association; maid or janitorial services privately contracted for by the unit owners; utility bills billed directly 3450

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3451	to each unit owner for utility services to his or her unit;												
3452	insurance premiums other than those incurred for policies												
3453	obtained by the condominium; and similar personal expenses of												
3454	the unit owner. A unit owner's estimated payments for												
3455	assessments shall also be stated in the estimated amounts for												
3456	the times when they will be due.												
3457	(c) The estimated items of expenses of the condominium and												
3458	the association, except as excluded under paragraph (b),												
3459	including, but not limited to, the following items, which shall												
3460	be stated as an association expense collectible by assessments												
3461	or as unit owners' expenses payable to persons other than the												
3462	association:												
3463	1. Expenses for the association and condominium:												
3464	a. Administration of the association.												
3465	b. Management fees.												
3466	c. Maintenance.												
3467	d. Rent for recreational and other commonly used												
3468	facilities.												
3469	e. Taxes upon association property.												
3470	f. Taxes upon leased areas.												
3471	g. Insurance.												
3472	h. Security provisions.												
3473	i. Other expenses.												
3474	j. Operating capital.												
3475	k. Reserves for all applicable items referenced in s.												
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3476 718.112(2)(g). 3477 Fees payable to the division. 1. 3478 2. Expenses for a unit owner: 3479 a. Rent for the unit, if subject to a lease. 3480 b. Rent payable by the unit owner directly to the lessor 3481 or agent under any recreational lease or lease for the use of 3482 commonly used facilities, which use and payment is a mandatory 3483 condition of ownership and is not included in the common expense 3484 or assessments for common maintenance paid by the unit owners to 3485 the association. The following statement in conspicuous type: 3486 (d) 3487 THE BUDGET CONTAINED IN THIS OFFERING CIRCULAR HAS 3488 3489 BEEN PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDOMINIUM ACT 3490 AND IS A GOOD FAITH ESTIMATE ONLY AND REPRESENTS AN 3491 APPROXIMATION OF FUTURE EXPENSES BASED ON FACTS AND 3492 CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING AT THE TIME OF ITS PREPARATION. 3493 ACTUAL COSTS OF SUCH ITEMS MAY EXCEED THE ESTIMATED 3494 COSTS. SUCH CHANGES IN COST DO NOT CONSTITUTE MATERIAL 3495 ADVERSE CHANGES IN THE OFFERING. 3496 3497 Each budget for an association prepared by a developer (e) 3498 consistent with this subsection shall be prepared in good faith 3499 and shall reflect accurate estimated amounts for the required items in paragraph (c) at the time of the filing of the offering 3500

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3501 circular with the division, and subsequent increased amounts of 3502 any item included in the association's estimated budget that are 3503 beyond the control of the developer shall not be considered an 3504 amendment that would give rise to rescission rights set forth in 3505 s. 718.503(1)(a) or (b), nor shall such increases modify, void, 3506 or otherwise affect any quarantee of the developer contained in 3507 the offering circular or any purchase contract. It is the intent 3508 of this paragraph to clarify existing law.

(f) The estimated amounts shall be stated for a period of at least 12 months and may distinguish between the period prior to the time unit owners other than the developer elect a majority of the board of administration and the period after that date.

3514 (22) A schedule of estimated closing expenses to be paid 3515 by a buyer or lessee of a unit and a statement of whether title 3516 opinion or title insurance policy is available to the buyer and, 3517 if so, at whose expense.

3518 (23) The identity of the developer and the chief operating 3519 officer or principal directing the creation and sale of the 3520 condominium and a statement of its and his or her experience in 3521 this field.

3522 (24) Copies of the following, to the extent they are 3523 applicable, shall be included as exhibits:

(a) The declaration of condominium, or the proposeddeclaration if the declaration has not been recorded.

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3526 The articles of incorporation creating the (b) 3527 association. 3528 The bylaws of the association. (C) The ground lease or other underlying lease of the 3529 (d) 3530 condominium. 3531 (e) The management agreement and all maintenance and other 3532 contracts for management of the association and operation of the 3533 condominium and facilities used by the unit owners having a 3534 service term in excess of 1 year. 3535 The estimated operating budget for the condominium, (f) 3536 the required schedule of unit owners' expenses, and the 3537 association's most recent structural integrity reserve study or 3538 a statement that the association has not completed a structural 3539 integrity reserve study. A copy of the floor plan of the unit and the plot plan 3540 (q) 3541 showing the location of the residential buildings and the 3542 recreation and other common areas. 3543 The lease of recreational and other facilities that (h) 3544 will be used only by unit owners of the subject condominium. 3545 The lease of facilities used by owners and others. (i) 3546 (j) The form of unit lease, if the offer is of a 3547 leasehold. 3548 (k) A declaration of servitude of properties serving the 3549 condominium but not owned by unit owners or leased to them or the association. 3550 Page 142 of 154

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(1) The statement of condition of the existing building or buildings, if the offering is of units in an operation being converted to condominium ownership.

(m) The statement of inspection for termite damage and treatment of the existing improvements, if the condominium is a conversion.

3557

(n) The form of agreement for sale or lease of units.

3558 (o) A copy of the agreement for escrow of payments made to3559 the developer prior to closing.

3560 (p) A copy of the documents containing any restrictions on 3561 use of the property required by subsection (17).

(q) A copy of the inspector-prepared summary of the milestone inspection report as described in ss. 553.899 and 718.301(4)(p), as applicable.

3565 (25) Any prospectus or offering circular complying, prior 3566 to the effective date of this act, with the provisions of former 3567 ss. 711.69 and 711.802 may continue to be used without amendment 3568 or may be amended to comply with this chapter.

3569 (26) A brief narrative description of the location and 3570 effect of all existing and intended easements located or to be 3571 located on the condominium property other than those described 3572 in the declaration.

3573 (27) If the developer is required by state or local 3574 authorities to obtain acceptance or approval of any dock or 3575 marina facilities intended to serve the condominium, a copy of

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3576 any such acceptance or approval acquired by the time of filing 3577 with the division under s. 718.502(1) or a statement that such 3578 acceptance or approval has not been acquired or received. 3579 (28)Evidence demonstrating that the developer has an 3580 ownership, leasehold, or contractual interest in the land upon 3581 which the condominium is to be developed. 3582 Section 25. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section 3583 719.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 3584 719.106 Bylaws; cooperative ownership.-3585 MANDATORY PROVISIONS. - The bylaws or other cooperative (1)3586 documents shall provide for the following, and if they do not, 3587 they shall be deemed to include the following: 3588 Structural integrity reserve study.-(k) 3589 A residential cooperative association must have a 1. 3590 structural integrity reserve study completed at least every 10 3591 years for each building on the cooperative property that is 3592 three stories or higher in height, as determined by the Florida 3593 Building Code, that includes, at a minimum, a study of the 3594 following items as related to the structural integrity and 3595 safety of the building: 3596 a. Roof. 3597 Structure, including load-bearing walls and other b. 3598 primary structural members and primary structural systems as 3599 those terms are defined in s. 627.706. 3600 c. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.

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- d. Plumbing.
- 3602 e. Electrical systems.
- 3603 f. Waterproofing and exterior painting.
- 3604
- g. Windows and exterior doors.

h. Any other item that has a deferred maintenance expense or replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000 and the failure to replace or maintain such item negatively affects the items listed in sub-subparagraphs a.-g., as determined by the visual inspection portion of the structural integrity reserve study.

3610 A structural integrity reserve study is based on a 2. 3611 visual inspection of the cooperative property. A structural 3612 integrity reserve study may be performed by any person qualified 3613 to perform such study. However, the visual inspection portion of 3614 the structural integrity reserve study must be performed or verified by an engineer licensed under chapter 471, an architect 3615 3616 licensed under chapter 481, or a person certified as a reserve 3617 specialist or professional reserve analyst by the Community 3618 Associations Institute or the Association of Professional 3619 Reserve Analysts.

3620 3. At a minimum, a structural integrity reserve study must 3621 identify each item of the cooperative property being visually 3622 inspected, state the estimated remaining useful life and the 3623 estimated replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of 3624 each item of the cooperative property being visually inspected, 3625 and provide a reserve funding schedule with a recommended annual

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3626 reserve amount that achieves the estimated replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of each item of cooperative 3627 3628 property being visually inspected by the end of the estimated 3629 remaining useful life of the item. The structural integrity 3630 reserve study may recommend that reserves do not need to be 3631 maintained for any item for which an estimate of useful life and 3632 an estimate of replacement cost cannot be determined, or the 3633 study may recommend a deferred maintenance expense amount for 3634 such item. The structural integrity reserve study may recommend 3635 that reserves for replacement costs do not need to be maintained 3636 for any item with an estimated remaining useful life of greater 3637 than 25 years, but the study may recommend a deferred 3638 maintenance expense amount for such item.

4. This paragraph does not apply to buildings less than three stories in height; single-family, two-family, or threefamily dwellings with three or fewer habitable stories above ground; any portion or component of a building that has not been submitted to the cooperative form of ownership; or any portion or component of a building that is maintained by a party other than the association.

5. Before a developer turns over control of an association to unit owners other than the developer, the developer must have a turnover inspection report in compliance with s. 719.301(4)(p) and (q) for each building on the cooperative property that is three stories or higher in height.

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3651 Associations existing on or before July 1, 2022, which 6. 3652 are controlled by unit owners other than the developer, must 3653 have a structural integrity reserve study completed by December 31, 2024, for each building on the cooperative property that is 3654 3655 three stories or higher in height. An association that is 3656 required to complete a milestone inspection on or before 3657 December 31, 2026, in accordance with s. 553.899 may complete 3658 the structural integrity reserve study simultaneously with the 3659 milestone inspection. In no event may the structural integrity 3660 reserve study be completed after December 31, 2026. 3661 7. If the milestone inspection required by s. 553.899, or 3662 an inspection completed for a similar local requirement, was 3663 performed within the past 5 years and meets the requirements of 3664 this paragraph, such inspection may be used in place of the visual inspection portion of the structural integrity reserve 3665 3666 study. 3667 If the officers or directors of an association 8. 3668 willfully and knowingly fail to complete a structural integrity 3669 reserve study pursuant to this paragraph, such failure is a 3670 breach of an officer's and director's fiduciary relationship to the unit owners under s. 719.104(9). 3671 3672 9. Within 45 days after receiving the structural integrity 3673 reserve study, the association must distribute a copy of the 3674 study to each unit owner or deliver to each unit owner a notice that the completed study is available for inspection and copying 3675

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3676	upon a written request. Distribution of a copy of the study or
3677	notice must be made by United States mail or personal delivery
3678	at the mailing address, property address, or any other address
3679	of the owner provided to fulfill the association's notice
3680	requirements under this chapter, or by electronic transmission
3681	to the e-mail address or facsimile number provided to fulfill
3682	the association's notice requirements to unit owners who
3683	previously consented to receive notice by electronic
3684	transmission.
3685	10. Within 45 days after receiving the structural
3686	integrity reserve study, the association must provide the
3687	division with a statement indicating that the study was
3688	completed and that the association provided or made available
3689	such study to each unit owner in accordance with this section.
3690	Such statement must be provided to the division in the manner
3691	established by the division using a form posted on the
3692	division's website.
3693	Section 26. Section 719.129, Florida Statutes, is amended
3694	to read:
3695	719.129 Electronic votingThe association may conduct
3696	elections and other unit owner votes through an Internet-based
3697	online voting system if a unit owner consents, <u>electronically or</u>
3698	in writing, to online voting and if the following requirements
3699	are met:
3700	(1) The association provides each unit owner with:
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3701 A method to authenticate the unit owner's identity to (a) 3702 the online voting system. 3703 For elections of the board, a method to transmit an (b) 3704 electronic ballot to the online voting system that ensures the 3705 secrecy and integrity of each ballot. 3706 (C) A method to confirm, at least 14 days before the 3707 voting deadline, that the unit owner's electronic device can 3708 successfully communicate with the online voting system. 3709 (2) The association uses an online voting system that is: 3710 Able to authenticate the unit owner's identity. (a) 3711 (b) Able to authenticate the validity of each electronic 3712 vote to ensure that the vote is not altered in transit. Able to transmit a receipt from the online voting 3713 (C) 3714 system to each unit owner who casts an electronic vote. 3715 For elections of the board of administration, able to (d) 3716 permanently separate any authentication or identifying 3717 information from the electronic election ballot, rendering it 3718 impossible to tie an election ballot to a specific unit owner. 3719 Able to store and keep electronic votes accessible to (e) 3720 election officials for recount, inspection, and review purposes. A unit owner voting electronically pursuant to this 3721 (3)section shall be counted as being in attendance at the meeting 3722 3723 for purposes of determining a quorum. A substantive vote of the 3724 unit owners may not be taken on any issue other than the issues specifically identified in the electronic vote, when a quorum is 3725 Page 149 of 154

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3726 established based on unit owners voting electronically pursuant 3727 to this section.

3728 (4) This section applies to an association that provides 3729 for and authorizes an online voting system pursuant to this 3730 section by a board resolution. If the board authorizes online 3731 voting, the board must honor a unit owner's request to vote 3732 electronically at all subsequent elections, unless such unit 3733 owner opts out of online voting. The board resolution must 3734 provide that unit owners receive notice of the opportunity to 3735 vote through an online voting system, must establish reasonable 3736 procedures and deadlines for unit owners to consent, 3737 electronically or in writing, to online voting, and must 3738 establish reasonable procedures and deadlines for unit owners to 3739 opt out of online voting after giving consent. Written notice of 3740 a meeting at which the resolution will be considered must be 3741 mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted to the unit owners and posted conspicuously on the condominium property or 3742 3743 association property at least 14 days before the meeting. 3744 Evidence of compliance with the 14-day notice requirement must 3745 be made by an affidavit executed by the person providing the 3746 notice and filed with the official records of the association.

(5) A unit owner's consent to online voting is valid until the unit owner opts out of online voting pursuant to the procedures established by the board of administration pursuant to subsection (4).

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3751	(6) This section may apply to any matter that requires a
3752	vote of the unit owners who are not members of a timeshare
3753	cooperative association.
3754	Section 27. Paragraph (p) of subsection (4) of section
3755	719.301, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
3756	719.301 Transfer of association control
3757	(4) When unit owners other than the developer elect a
3758	majority of the members of the board of administration of an
3759	association, the developer shall relinquish control of the
3760	association, and the unit owners shall accept control.
3761	Simultaneously, or for the purpose of paragraph (c) not more
3762	than 90 days thereafter, the developer shall deliver to the
3763	association, at the developer's expense, all property of the
3764	unit owners and of the association held or controlled by the
3765	developer, including, but not limited to, the following items,
3766	if applicable, as to each cooperative operated by the
3767	association:
3768	(p) Notwithstanding when the certificate of occupancy was
3769	issued or the height of the building, a turnover inspection
3770	report included in the official records, under seal of an
3771	architect or engineer authorized to practice in this state or a
3772	person certified as a reserve specialist or professional reserve
3773	analyst by the Community Associations Institute or the
3774	Association of Professional Reserve Analysts, <u>consisting of a</u>
3775	structural integrity reserve study attesting to required

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3776	maintenance, condition, useful life, and replacement costs of
3777	the following applicable cooperative property:
3778	1. Roof.
3779	2. Structure, including load-bearing walls and primary
3780	structural members and primary structural systems as those terms
3781	are defined in s. 627.706.
3782	3. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.
3783	4. Plumbing.
3784	5. Electrical systems.
3785	6. Waterproofing and exterior painting.
3786	7. Windows and exterior doors.
3787	Section 28. The Division of Florida Condominiums,
3788	Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Business and
3789	Professional Regulation shall complete a review of the website
3790	or application requirements for official records under s.
3791	718.111(12)(g), Florida Statutes, and make recommendations
3792	regarding any additional official records of a condominium
3793	association that should be included in the record maintenance
3794	requirements in the statute. The division shall submit to the
3795	Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
3796	House of Representatives the findings of its review by January
3797	<u>1, 2025.</u>
3798	Section 29. By January 1, 2025, the Division of Florida
3799	Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of
3800	Business and Professional Regulation shall create a database on

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3801	its website of the associations that have reported the
3802	completion of the structural integrity reserve study under ss.
3803	718.112(2)(g) and 719.106(1)(k), Florida Statutes.
3804	Section 30. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the sums of
3805	\$6,122,390 in recurring and \$1,293,879 in nonrecurring funds
3806	from the General Revenue Fund are appropriated to the Department
3807	of Business and Professional Regulation, and 65 full-time
3808	equivalent positions with associated salary rate of 3,180,319
3809	are authorized, for the purpose of implementing this act.
3810	Section 31. The amendments made to ss. 718.103(14) and
3811	718.202(3) and s. 718.407(1), (2), and (6), Florida Statutes, as
3812	created by this act, are intended to clarify existing law and
3813	shall apply retroactively. However, such amendments do not
3814	revive or reinstate any right or interest that has been fully
3815	and finally adjudicated as invalid before October 1, 2024.
3816	Section 32. The Florida Building Commission shall perform
3817	a study on standards to prevent water intrusion through the
3818	tracks of sliding glass doors, including the consideration of
3819	devices designed to further prevent such water intrusion. By
3820	December 1, 2024, the Florida Building Commission must provide a
3821	written report of its recommendations to the Governor, the
3822	President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
3823	Representatives, and the chairs of the legislative
3824	appropriations committees and appropriate substantive committees
3825	with jurisdiction over chapter 718, Florida Statutes.
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3826 Section 33. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this 3827 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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