1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to homeowners' associations; amending
3	s. 468.4334, F.S.; providing requirements for certain
4	community association managers and community
5	association management firms; amending s. 468.4337,
6	F.S.; requiring certain community association managers
7	to take a specific number of hours of continuing
8	education biennially; amending s. 720.303, F.S.;
9	requiring that official records of a homeowners'
10	association be maintained for a certain number of
11	years; requiring certain associations to post certain
12	documents on its website or make available such
13	documents through an application by a date certain;
14	providing requirements for an association's website or
15	application; requiring an association to provide
16	certain information to parcel owners upon request;
17	requiring an association to ensure certain information
18	and records are not accessible on the website or
19	application; providing that an association or its
20	agent is not liable for the disclosure of certain
21	information; requiring an association to adopt certain
22	rules; providing criminal penalties; defining the term
23	"repeatedly"; requiring an association to provide or
24	make available subpoenaed records within a certain
25	timeframe; requiring an association to assist in a law

Page 1 of 44

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26 enforcement investigation as allowed by law; requiring 27 that certain associations prepare audited financial 28 statements; prohibiting associations from preparing 29 financial statements for consecutive years; 30 prohibiting an association and certain persons from 31 using specified debit cards for payment of association 32 expenses; providing a criminal penalty; defining the 33 term "lawful obligation of the association"; requiring 34 a detailed accounting of amounts due to the association be given to certain persons within a 35 36 certain timeframe upon written request; limiting how 37 often certain persons may request from the board a 38 detailed accounting; providing for a waiver of 39 outstanding fines which are more than a specified timeframe past due under certain circumstances; making 40 41 technical changes; amending s. 720.3033, F.S.; 42 providing education requirements for newly elected or 43 appointed directors; providing requirements for the 44 educational curriculum; requiring certain directors to complete a certain number of hours of continuing 45 46 education annually; requiring the Department of 47 Business and Professional Regulation to adopt certain 48 rules; defining the term "kickback"; providing 49 criminal penalties for certain actions by an officer, 50 a director, or a manager of an association; providing

Page 2 of 44

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51 that a vacancy is declared if a director or an officer 52 is charged by information or indictment with certain 53 crimes; making technical changes; amending s. 54 720.3035, F.S.; requiring an association or any architectural, construction improvement, or other such 55 56 similar committee of an association to apply and 57 enforce certain standards reasonably and equitably; 58 prohibiting an association or certain committees of 59 the association from enforcing or adopting certain covenants, rules, or guidelines; requiring an 60 61 association or any architectural, construction improvement, or other such similar committee of an 62 63 association to provide certain written notice to a parcel owner; amending s. 720.3045, F.S.; authorizing 64 65 parcel owners or their tenants to install, display, or 66 store clotheslines and vegetable gardens under certain 67 circumstances; conforming to a provision made by this 68 act; amending s. 720.305, F.S.; specifying the manner 69 in which fines, suspensions, attorney fees, and costs 70 are determined; requiring that certain notices be 71 provided to parcel owners and, if applicable, an 72 occupant, a licensee, or an invitee of the parcel 73 owner; requiring that certain hearings be held within 74 a specified timeframe and authorizing such hearings to 75 be held by telephone or other electronic means;

Page 3 of 44

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76 prohibiting a fine or suspension from being imposed if 77 a violation has been cured before the hearing; 78 requiring the committee to set a hearing no later than 79 a specified timeframe if a violation is not cured; 80 prohibiting attorney fees and costs from being awarded 81 against a parcel owner based on certain actions by the 82 board before the date the fine is to be paid; 83 prohibiting an association from levying a fine or 84 imposing a suspension for certain actions; amending s. 720.3065, F.S.; providing criminal penalties for 85 certain voting violations; providing applicability; 86 87 making technical changes; amending s. 720.3075, F.S.; 88 prohibiting certain homeowners' association documents 89 from precluding property owners from taking, limiting, 90 or requiring certain actions; amending s. 720.3085, 91 F.S.; specifying when a lien is effective for 92 mortgages of record; deleting provisions relating to the priority of certain liens, mortgages, or certified 93 94 judgments; specifying that simple interest accrues on 95 assessments and installments on assessments that are 96 not paid when due; providing that assessments and 97 installments on assessments may not accrue compound 98 interest; amending s. 720.317, F.S.; authorizing a 99 member to consent electronically to online voting if certain conditions are met; amending s. 720.318, F.S.; 100

Page 4 of 44

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CS/CS/HB1203, Engrossed 1
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101 authorizing a law enforcement officer to park his or 102 her assigned law enforcement vehicle on public roads 103 and rights-of-way; providing an effective date. 104 105 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 106 107 Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 468.4334, 108 Florida Statutes, to read: 109 468.4334 Professional practice standards; liability; community association manager requirements.-110 (3) A community association manager or community 111 112 association management firm that is authorized by contract to provide community association management services to a 113 114 homeowners' association shall do all of the following: 115 (a) Attend in person at least one member meeting or board 116 meeting of the homeowners' association annually. 117 (b) Provide to the members of the homeowners' association 118 the name and contact information for each community association 119 manager or representative of a community association management 120 firm assigned to the homeowners' association, the manager's or representative's hours of availability, and a summary of the 121 122 duties for which the manager or representative is responsible. 123 The homeowners' association shall also post this information on 124 the association's website or application required under s. 125 720.303(4)(b). The community association manager or community

Page 5 of 44

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126 association management firm shall update the homeowners' 127 association and its members within 14 business days after any 128 change to such information. 129 (c) Provide to any member upon request a copy of the 130 contract between the community association manager or community 131 association management firm and the homeowners' association and 132 include such contract with association's official records. 133 Section 2. Section 468.4337, Florida Statutes, is amended 134 to read: 135 468.4337 Continuing education.-The department may not 136 renew a license until the licensee submits proof that the 137 licensee has completed the requisite hours of continuing 138 education. No more than 10 hours of continuing education 139 annually shall be required for renewal of a license. The number 140 of continuing education hours, criteria, and course content 141 shall be approved by the council by rule. The council may not 142 require more than 10 hours of continuing education annually for 143 renewal of a license. A community association manager who provides community association management services to a 144 145 homeowners' association must biennially complete at least 5 hours of continuing education that pertains specifically to 146 147 homeowners' associations, 3 hours of which must relate to 148 recordkeeping. 149 Section 3. Subsections (1), (4), and (5), paragraph (f) of subsection (6), and paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (7) of 150

Page 6 of 44

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151 section 720.303, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections 152 (13) and (14) are added to that section, to read: 153 720.303 Association powers and duties; meetings of board; 154 official records; budgets; financial reporting; association 155 funds; recalls.-

156 (1) POWERS AND DUTIES. - An association that which operates 157 a community as defined in s. 720.301, must be operated by an association that is a Florida corporation. After October 1, 158 159 1995, the association must be incorporated and the initial 160 governing documents must be recorded in the official records of 161 the county in which the community is located. An association may operate more than one community. The officers and directors of 162 an association are subject to s. 617.0830 and have a fiduciary 163 164 relationship to the members who are served by the association. 165 The powers and duties of an association include those set forth 166 in this chapter and, except as expressly limited or restricted 167 in this chapter, those set forth in the governing documents. 168 After control of the association is obtained by members other 169 than the developer, the association may institute, maintain, 170 settle, or appeal actions or hearings in its name on behalf of 171 all members concerning matters of common interest to the 172 members, including, but not limited to, the common areas; roof 173 or structural components of a building, or other improvements 174 for which the association is responsible; mechanical, electrical, or plumbing elements serving an improvement or 175

Page 7 of 44

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176 building for which the association is responsible; 177 representations of the developer pertaining to any existing or 178 proposed commonly used facility; and protesting ad valorem taxes 179 on commonly used facilities. The association may defend actions 180 in eminent domain or bring inverse condemnation actions. Before commencing litigation against any party in the name of the 181 182 association involving amounts in controversy in excess of 183 \$100,000, the association must obtain the affirmative approval 184 of a majority of the voting interests at a meeting of the 185 membership at which a quorum has been attained. This subsection 186 does not limit any statutory or common-law right of any individual member or class of members to bring any action 187 188 without participation by the association. A member does not have 189 authority to act for the association by virtue of being a 190 member. An association may have more than one class of members 191 and may issue membership certificates. An association of 15 or 192 fewer parcel owners may enforce only the requirements of those 193 deed restrictions established prior to the purchase of each 194 parcel upon an affected parcel owner or owners.

195

(4) OFFICIAL RECORDS.-

196 <u>(a)</u> The association shall maintain each of the following 197 items, when applicable, <u>for at least 7 years, unless the</u> 198 <u>governing documents of the association require a longer period</u> 199 <u>of time</u>, which constitute the official records of the 200 association:

Page 8 of 44

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201 <u>1.(a)</u> Copies of any plans, specifications, permits, and 202 warranties related to improvements constructed on the common 203 areas or other property that the association is obligated to 204 maintain, repair, or replace.

205 $\underline{2.(b)}$ A copy of the bylaws of the association and of each 206 amendment to the bylaws.

207 <u>3.(c)</u> A copy of the articles of incorporation of the 208 association and of each amendment thereto.

209 <u>4.(d)</u> A copy of the declaration of covenants and a copy of 210 each amendment thereto.

211 5.(e) A copy of the current rules of the homeowners' 212 association.

213 <u>6.(f)</u> The minutes of all meetings of the board of 214 directors and of the members, which minutes must be retained for 215 <u>at least 7 years</u>.

216 7.(q) A current roster of all members and their designated 217 mailing addresses and parcel identifications. A member's 218 designated mailing address is the member's property address, 219 unless the member has sent written notice to the association 220 requesting that a different mailing address be used for all 221 required notices. The association shall also maintain the e-mail 222 addresses and the facsimile numbers designated by members for 223 receiving notice sent by electronic transmission of those 224 members consenting to receive notice by electronic transmission. 225 A member's e-mail address is the e-mail address the member

Page 9 of 44

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226 provided when consenting in writing to receiving notice by 227 electronic transmission, unless the member has sent written 228 notice to the association requesting that a different e-mail 229 address be used for all required notices. The e-mail addresses 230 and facsimile numbers provided by members to receive notice by 231 electronic transmission must be removed from association records 232 when the member revokes consent to receive notice by electronic 233 transmission. However, the association is not liable for an 234 erroneous disclosure of the e-mail address or the facsimile 235 number for receiving electronic transmission of notices.

236 <u>8.(h)</u> All of the association's insurance policies or a 237 copy thereof, which policies must be retained for at least 7 238 years.

239 <u>9.(i)</u> A current copy of all contracts to which the 240 association is a party, including, without limitation, any 241 management agreement, lease, or other contract under which the 242 association has any obligation or responsibility. Bids received 243 by the association for work to be performed <u>are must also be</u> 244 considered official records and must be kept for a period of 1 245 year.

246 <u>10.(j)</u> The financial and accounting records of the 247 association, kept according to good accounting practices. All 248 financial and accounting records must be maintained for a period 249 of at least 7 years. The financial and accounting records must 250 include:

Page 10 of 44

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251 a.1. Accurate, itemized, and detailed records of all 252 receipts and expenditures. 253 b.2. A current account and a periodic statement of the 254 account for each member, designating the name and current 255 address of each member who is obligated to pay assessments, the 256 due date and amount of each assessment or other charge against 257 the member, the date and amount of each payment on the account, 258 and the balance due. 259 c.3. All tax returns, financial statements, and financial 260 reports of the association. d.4. Any other records that identify, measure, record, or 261 262 communicate financial information. 263 11.(k) A copy of the disclosure summary described in s. 264 720.401(1). 265 12.(1) Ballots, sign-in sheets, voting proxies, and all 266 other papers and electronic records relating to voting by parcel 267 owners, which must be maintained for at least 1 year after the 268 date of the election, vote, or meeting. 269 13. (m) All affirmative acknowledgments made pursuant to s. 270 720.3085(3)(c)3. 14.(n) All other written records of the association not 271 specifically included in this subsection which are related to 272 273 the operation of the association. 274 (b)1. By January 1, 2025, an association that has 100 or 275 more parcels shall post the following documents on its website Page 11 of 44

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276 or make available such documents through an application that can 277 be downloaded on a mobile device: 278 a. The articles of incorporation of the association and 279 each amendment thereto. 280 The recorded bylaws of the association and each b. 281 amendment thereto. 282 c. The declaration of covenants and a copy of each 283 amendment thereto. 284 d. The current rules of the association. 285 e. A list of all current executory contracts or documents 286 to which the association is a party or under which the 287 association or the parcel owners have an obligation or 288 responsibility and, after bidding for the related materials, 289 equipment, or services has closed, a list of bids received by 290 the association within the past year. 291 f. The annual budget required by subsection (6) and any 292 proposed budget to be considered at the annual meeting. 293 g. The financial report required by subsection (7) and any 294 monthly income or expense statement to be considered at a meeting. 295 296 h. The association's current insurance policies. 297 i. The certification of each director as required by s. 298 720.3033(1)(a). 299 j. All contracts or transactions between the association and any director, officer, corporation, firm, or association 300 Page 12 of 44

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301 that is not an affiliated homeowners' association or any other 302 entity in which a director of an association is also a director 303 or an officer and has a financial interest. 304 k. Any contract or document regarding a conflict of 305 interest or possible conflict of interest as provided in ss. 306 468.436(2)(b)6. and 720.3033(2). 307 1. Notice of any scheduled meeting of members and the agenda for the meeting, as required by s. 720.306, at least 14 308 309 days before such meeting. The notice must be posted in plain 310 view on the homepage of the website or application, or on a 311 separate subpage of the website or application labeled "Notices" 312 which is conspicuously visible and linked from the homepage. The 313 association shall also post on its website or application any 314 document to be considered and voted on by the members during the 315 meeting or any document listed on the meeting agenda at least 7 316 days before the meeting at which such document or information 317 within the document will be considered. m. Notice of any board meeting, the agenda, and any other 318 319 document required for such meeting as required by subsection 320 (3), which must be posted on the website or application no later 321 than the date required for notice under subsection (3). 322 2. The association's website or application must be 323 accessible through the Internet and must contain a subpage, web 324 portal, or other protected electronic location that is 325 inaccessible to the general public and accessible only to parcel

Page 13 of 44

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326 owners and employees of the association. 327 Upon written request by a parcel owner, the association 3. 328 must provide the parcel owner with a username and password and 329 access to the protected sections of the association's website or 330 application which contains the official documents of the 331 association. 332 4. The association shall ensure that the information and 333 records described in paragraph (5)(g), which are not allowed to 334 be accessible to parcel owners, are not posted on the 335 association's website or application. If protected information 336 or information restricted from being accessible to parcel owners 337 is included in documents that are required to be posted on the 338 association's website or application, the association must 339 ensure the information is redacted before posting the documents. 340 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the association or its authorized 341 agent is not liable for disclosing information that is protected 342 or restricted under paragraph (5)(g) unless such disclosure was made with a knowing or intentional disregard of the protected or 343 344 restricted nature of such information. 345 (c) The association shall adopt written rules governing 346 the method or policy by which the official records of the 347 association are to be retained and the time period such records 348 must be retained pursuant to paragraph (a). Such information 349 must be made available to the parcel owners through the 350 association's website or application.

Page 14 of 44

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351

(5) INSPECTION AND COPYING OF RECORDS.-

352 Unless otherwise provided by law or the governing (a) 353 documents of the association, the official records must shall be 354 maintained within this the state for at least 7 years and shall 355 be made available to a parcel owner for inspection or 356 photocopying within 45 miles of the community or within the 357 county in which the association is located within 10 business 358 days after receipt by the board or its designee of a written 359 request from the parcel owner. This subsection may be complied 360 with by having a copy of the official records available for 361 inspection or copying in the community or, at the option of the 362 association, by making the records available to a parcel owner 363 electronically via the Internet or by allowing the records to be 364 viewed in electronic format on a computer screen and printed 365 upon request. If the association has a photocopy machine 366 available where the records are maintained, it must provide 367 parcel owners with copies on request during the inspection if 368 the entire request is limited to no more than 25 pages. An 369 association shall allow a member or his or her authorized 370 representative to use a portable device, including a smartphone, 371 tablet, portable scanner, or any other technology capable of 372 scanning or taking photographs, to make an electronic copy of 373 the official records in lieu of the association's providing the 374 member or his or her authorized representative with a copy of 375 such records. The association may not charge a fee to a member

Page 15 of 44

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376 or his or her authorized representative for the use of a 377 portable device.

378 <u>(b)(a)</u> The failure of an association to provide access to 379 the records within 10 business days after receipt of a written 380 request submitted by certified mail, return receipt requested, 381 creates a rebuttable presumption that the association willfully 382 failed to comply with this subsection.

383 <u>(c)(b)</u> A member who is denied access to official records 384 is entitled to the actual damages or minimum damages for the 385 association's willful failure to comply with this subsection. 386 The minimum damages are to be \$50 per calendar day up to 10 387 days, the calculation to begin on the 11th business day after 388 receipt of the written request.

389 (d) Any director or member of the board or association or 390 a community association manager who knowingly, willfully, and 391 repeatedly violates paragraph (a), with the intent of causing 392 harm to the association or one or more of its members, commits a 393 misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 394 775.082 or s. 775.083. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 395 "repeatedly" means two or more violations within a 12-month 396 period.

<u>perrou</u>

397 (e) Any person who knowingly and intentionally defaces or 398 destroys accounting records during the period in which such 399 records are required to be maintained, or who knowingly or 400 intentionally fails to create or maintain accounting records

Page 16 of 44

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401 that are required to be created or maintained, with the intent 402 of causing harm to the association or one or more of its 403 members, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable 404 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(f) Any person who willfully and knowingly refuses to release or otherwise produce association records with the intent to avoid or escape detection, arrest, trial, or punishment for the commission of a crime, or to assist another person with such avoidance or escape, commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

411 (q) (c) The association may adopt reasonable written rules 412 governing the frequency, time, location, notice, records to be 413 inspected, and manner of inspections, but may not require a 414 parcel owner to demonstrate any proper purpose for the 415 inspection, state any reason for the inspection, or limit a 416 parcel owner's right to inspect records to less than one 8-hour 417 business day per month. The association may impose fees to cover 418 the costs of providing copies of the official records, including 419 the costs of copying and the costs required for personnel to 420 retrieve and copy the records if the time spent retrieving and 421 copying the records exceeds one-half hour and if the personnel costs do not exceed \$20 per hour. Personnel costs may not be 422 423 charged for records requests that result in the copying of 25 or 424 fewer pages. The association may charge up to 25 cents per page 425 for copies made on the association's photocopier. If the

Page 17 of 44

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426 association does not have a photocopy machine available where 427 the records are kept, or if the records requested to be copied 428 exceed 25 pages in length, the association may have copies made 429 by an outside duplicating service and may charge the actual cost 430 of copying, as supported by the vendor invoice. The association 431 shall maintain an adequate number of copies of the recorded 432 governing documents, to ensure their availability to members and 433 prospective members. Notwithstanding this subsection paragraph, 434 the following records are not accessible to members or parcel 435 owners:

436 1. Any record protected by the lawyer-client privilege as 437 described in s. 90.502 and any record protected by the work-438 product privilege, including, but not limited to, a record 439 prepared by an association attorney or prepared at the 440 attorney's express direction which reflects a mental impression, 441 conclusion, litigation strategy, or legal theory of the attorney 442 or the association and which was prepared exclusively for civil 443 or criminal litigation or for adversarial administrative 444 proceedings or which was prepared in anticipation of such 445 litigation or proceedings until the conclusion of the litigation 446 or proceedings.

447 2. Information obtained by an association in connection
448 with the approval of the lease, sale, or other transfer of a
449 parcel.

450

3. Information an association obtains in a gated community

Page 18 of 44

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451 in connection with guests' visits to parcel owners or community 452 residents.

453 4. Personnel records of association or management company 454 employees, including, but not limited to, disciplinary, payroll, 455 health, and insurance records. For purposes of this 456 subparagraph, the term "personnel records" does not include 457 written employment agreements with an association or management 458 company employee or budgetary or financial records that indicate 459 the compensation paid to an association or management company 460 employee.

461 5. Medical records of parcel owners or community462 residents.

463 6. Social security numbers, driver license numbers, credit 464 card numbers, electronic mailing addresses, telephone numbers, 465 facsimile numbers, emergency contact information, any addresses 466 for a parcel owner other than as provided for association notice 467 requirements, and other personal identifying information of any 468 person, excluding the person's name, parcel designation, mailing 469 address, and property address. Notwithstanding the restrictions 470 in this subparagraph, an association may print and distribute to 471 parcel owners a directory containing the name, parcel address, 472 and all telephone numbers of each parcel owner. However, an 473 owner may exclude his or her telephone numbers from the 474 directory by so requesting in writing to the association. An owner may consent in writing to the disclosure of other contact 475

Page 19 of 44

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476 information described in this subparagraph. The association is 477 not liable for the disclosure of information that is protected 478 under this subparagraph if the information is included in an 479 official record of the association and is voluntarily provided 480 by an owner and not requested by the association.

481 7. Any electronic security measure that is used by the482 association to safeguard data, including passwords.

8. The software and operating system used by the association which allows 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.

487 9. All affirmative acknowledgments made pursuant to s.
488 720.3085(3)(c)3.

489 (h) (d) The association or its authorized agent is not 490 required to provide a prospective purchaser or lienholder with 491 information about the residential subdivision or the association 492 other than information or documents required by this chapter to 493 be made available or disclosed. The association or its 494 authorized agent may charge a reasonable fee to the prospective 495 purchaser or lienholder or the current parcel owner or member 496 for providing good faith responses to requests for information 497 by or on behalf of a prospective purchaser or lienholder, other 498 than that required by law, if the fee does not exceed \$150 plus the reasonable cost of photocopying and any attorney fees 499 incurred by the association in connection with the response. 500

Page 20 of 44

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501 (i) If an association receives a subpoena for records from 502 a law enforcement agency, the association must provide a copy of 503 such records or otherwise make the records available for 504 inspection and copying to a law enforcement agency within 5 505 business days after receipt of the subpoena, unless otherwise 506 specified by the law enforcement agency or subpoena. An 507 association must assist a law enforcement agency in its 508 investigation to the extent permissible by law.

509

(6) BUDGETS.-

510 (f) After one or more reserve accounts are established, 511 the membership of the association, upon a majority vote at a 512 meeting at which a quorum is present, may provide for no 513 reserves or less reserves than required by this section. If a 514 meeting of the parcel unit owners has been called to determine 515 whether to waive or reduce the funding of reserves and such 516 result is not achieved or a quorum is not present, the reserves 517 as included in the budget go into effect. After the turnover, 518 the developer may vote its voting interest to waive or reduce 519 the funding of reserves. Any vote taken pursuant to this 520 subsection to waive or reduce reserves is applicable only to one 521 budget year.

522 (7) FINANCIAL REPORTING.—Within 90 days after the end of 523 the fiscal year, or annually on the date provided in the bylaws, 524 the association shall prepare and complete, or contract with a 525 third party for the preparation and completion of, a financial

Page 21 of 44

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526 report for the preceding fiscal year. Within 21 days after the 527 final financial report is completed by the association or 528 received from the third party, but not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year or other date as provided in the 529 530 bylaws, the association shall, within the time limits set forth 531 in subsection (5), provide each member with a copy of the annual 532 financial report or a written notice that a copy of the 533 financial report is available upon request at no charge to the 534 member. Financial reports shall be prepared as follows:

(a) An association that meets the criteria of this paragraph shall prepare or cause to be prepared a complete set of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as adopted by the Board of Accountancy. The financial statements shall be based upon the association's total annual revenues, as follows:

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

544 2. An association with total annual revenues of at least 545 \$300,000, but less than \$500,000, shall prepare reviewed 546 financial statements.

5473. An association with total annual revenues of \$500,000548or more shall prepare audited financial statements.

549 <u>4. An association with at least 1,000 parcels shall</u> 550 prepare audited financial statements, notwithstanding the

Page 22 of 44

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551	association's total annual revenues.
552	(d) If approved by a majority of the voting interests
553	present at a properly called meeting of the association, an
554	association may prepare or cause to be prepared:
555	1. A report of cash receipts and expenditures in lieu of a
556	compiled, reviewed, or audited financial statement;
557	2. A report of cash receipts and expenditures or a
558	compiled financial statement in lieu of a reviewed or audited
559	financial statement; or
560	3. A report of cash receipts and expenditures, a compiled
561	financial statement, or a reviewed financial statement in lieu
562	of an audited financial statement.
563	
000	
564	An association may not prepare a financial statement pursuant to
	An association may not prepare a financial statement pursuant to this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years.
564	
564 565	this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years.
564 565 566	this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) DEBIT CARDS.—
564 565 566 567	this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) DEBIT CARDS.— (a) An association and its officers, directors, employees,
564 565 566 567 568	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) DEBIT CARDS (a) An association and its officers, directors, employees, and agents may not use a debit card issued in the name of the</pre>
564 565 566 567 568 569	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) 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</pre>
564 565 566 567 568 569 570	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) 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 expenses.</pre>
564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) 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 expenses. (b) A person who uses a debit card issued in the name of</pre>
564 565 567 568 569 570 571 572	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) 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 expenses. (b) A person who uses a debit card issued in the name of the association, or billed directly to the association, for any</pre>
564 565 567 568 569 570 571 572 573	<pre>this paragraph for consecutive fiscal years. (13) 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 expenses. (b) A person who uses 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 association</pre>

Page 23 of 44

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576 For the purposes of this subsection, the term "lawful obligation 577 of the association" means an obligation that has been properly 578 preapproved by the board and is reflected in the meeting minutes 579 or the written budget. 580 (14) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE AN ACCOUNTING. - A parcel owner 581 may make a written request to the board for a detailed 582 accounting of any amounts he or she owes to the association 583 related to the parcel, and the board shall provide such 584 information within 15 business days after receipt of the written 585 request. After a parcel owner makes such written request to the 586 board, he or she may not request another detailed accounting for 587 at least 90 calendar days. Failure by the board to respond 588 within 15 business days to a written request for a detailed 589 accounting constitutes a complete waiver of any outstanding 590 fines of the person who requested such accounting which are more 591 than 30 days past due and for which the association has not 592 given prior written notice of the imposition of the fines. 593 Section 4. Subsections (1) and (3) and paragraph (a) of 594 subsection (4) of section 720.3033, Florida Statutes, are 595 amended to read: 596 720.3033 Officers and directors.-597 (1) (a) Within 90 days after being elected or appointed to 598 the board, each director shall certify in writing to the 599 secretary of the association that he or she has read the 600 association's declaration of covenants, articles of Page 24 of 44

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	Dege 25 of 44
625	parcels must complete at least 4 hours of continuing education
624	a. A director of an association that has fewer than 2,500
623	newly elected or appointed directors:
622	5. In addition to the educational curriculum specific to
621	levying of fines, and notice and meeting requirements.
620	relating to financial literacy and transparency, recordkeeping,
619	to newly elected or appointed directors must include training
618	4. The department-approved educational curriculum specific
617	newly elected or appointed directors at least every 4 years.
616	3. A director must complete the education specific to
615	years.
614	2. The certificate of completion is valid for a up to 4
613	directors within 90 days after being elected or appointed.
612	the department-approved education for newly elected or appointed
611	1. The newly elected or appointed director must complete
610	approved education provider.
609	curriculum administered by a <u>department-approved</u> division-
608	certificate of having satisfactorily completed the educational
607	the newly elected or appointed director <u>must</u> may submit a
606	appointed to the board, in lieu of such written certification,
605	association's members. Within 90 days after being elected or
604	faithfully discharge his or her fiduciary responsibility to the
603	to the best of his or her ability; and that he or she will
602	that he or she will work to uphold such documents and policies
601	incorporation, bylaws, and current written rules and policies;

Page 25 of 44

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626 annually.

b. A director of an association that has 2,500 parcels or
 more must complete at least 8 hours of continuing education
 annually within 1 year before or 90 days after the date of
 election or appointment.

(b) The written certification or educational certificate
is valid for the uninterrupted tenure of the director on the
board. A director who does not timely file the written
certification or educational certificate is shall be suspended
from the board until he or she complies with the requirement.
The board may temporarily fill the vacancy during the period of
suspension.

(c) The association shall retain each director's written certification or educational certificate for inspection by the members for 5 years after the director's election. However, the failure to have the written certification or educational certificate on file does not affect the validity of any board action.

644 (d) The department shall adopt rules to implement and
 645 administer the educational curriculum and continuing education
 646 requirements under this subsection.

647 (3) An officer, a director, or a manager may not solicit,
648 offer to accept, or accept <u>a kickback. As used in this</u>
649 <u>subsection, the term "kickback" means</u> any thing or service of
650 value for which consideration has not been provided for <u>an</u>

Page 26 of 44

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651 officer's, a director's, or a manager's his or her benefit or 652 for the benefit of a member of his or her immediate family from 653 any person providing or proposing to provide goods or services 654 to the association. An officer, a director, or a manager who 655 knowingly solicits, offers to accept, or accepts a any thing or 656 service of value or kickback commits a felony of the third 657 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, 775.083, or s. 658 775.084, and for which consideration has not been provided for 659 his or her own benefit or that of his or her immediate family 660 from any person providing or proposing to provide goods or services to the association is subject to monetary damages under 661 662 s. 617.0834. If the board finds that an officer or a director 663 has violated this subsection, the board must shall immediately 664 remove the officer or director from office. The vacancy shall be 665 filled according to law until the end of the officer's or 666 director's term of office. However, an officer, a director, or a 667 manager may accept food to be consumed at a business meeting 668 with a value of less than \$25 per individual or a service or 669 good received in connection with trade fairs or education 670 programs.

(4) (a) A director or an officer charged by information or
indictment with any of the following crimes must be removed from
office and a vacancy declared:

674 1. Forgery of a ballot envelope or voting certificate used675 in a homeowners' association election as provided in s. 831.01.

Page 27 of 44

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676 2. Theft or embezzlement involving the association's funds 677 or property as provided in s. 812.014. 678 3. Destruction of or the refusal to allow inspection or copying of an official record of a homeowners' association which 679 680 is accessible to parcel owners within the time periods required 681 by general law, in furtherance of any crime. Such act 682 constitutes tampering with physical evidence as provided in s. 683 918.13. 684 4. Obstruction of justice as provided in chapter 843. 685 5. Any criminal violation under this chapter. Section 5. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 720.3035, 686 687 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 688 720.3035 Architectural control covenants; parcel owner 689 improvements; rights and privileges.-690 (1) (a) The authority of an association or any 691 architectural, construction improvement, or other such similar 692 committee of an association to review and approve plans and 693 specifications for the location, size, type, or appearance of 694 any structure or other improvement on a parcel, or to enforce 695 standards for the external appearance of any structure or improvement located on a parcel, shall be permitted only to the 696 697 extent that the authority is specifically stated or reasonably 698 inferred as to such location, size, type, or appearance in the 699 declaration of covenants or other published guidelines and standards authorized by the declaration of covenants. An 700

Page 28 of 44

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701	association or any architectural, construction improvement, or
702	similar committee of an association must reasonably and
703	equitably apply and enforce on all parcel owners the
704	architectural and construction improvement standards authorized
705	by the declaration of covenants or other published guidelines
706	and standards authorized by the declaration of covenants.
707	(b) An association or any architectural, construction
708	improvement, or other such similar committee of an association
709	may not enforce or adopt a covenant, rule, or guideline that:
710	1. Limits or places requirements on the interior of a
711	structure that is not visible from the parcel's frontage or an
712	adjacent parcel, an adjacent common area, or a community golf
713	course.
714	2. Requires the review and approval of plans and
715	specifications for a central air-conditioning, refrigeration,
716	heating, or ventilating system by the association or any
717	architectural, construction improvement, or other such similar
718	committee of an association, if such system is not visible from
719	the parcel's frontage, an adjacent parcel, an adjacent common
720	area, or a community golf course and is substantially similar to
721	a system that is approved or recommended by the association or a
722	committee thereof.
723	(4) <u>(a)</u> Each parcel owner <u>is</u> shall be entitled to the
724	rights and privileges set forth in the declaration of covenants
725	or other published guidelines and standards authorized by the
	Page 29 of 44

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726 declaration of covenants concerning the architectural use of the 727 parcel, and the construction of permitted structures and 728 improvements on the parcel. and Such rights and privileges may 729 shall not be unreasonably infringed upon or impaired by the 730 association or any architectural, construction improvement, or 731 other such similar committee of the association. If the 732 association or any architectural, construction improvement, or 733 other such similar committee of the association denies a parcel 734 owner's request or application for the construction of a 735 structure or other improvement on a parcel, the association or 736 committee must provide written notice to the parcel owner 737 stating with specificity the rule or covenant on which the 738 association or committee relied when denying the request or 739 application and the specific aspect or part of the proposed 740 improvement that does not conform to such rule or covenant.

741 (b) If the association or any architectural, construction 742 improvement, or other such similar committee of the association 743 should unreasonably, knowingly, and willfully infringe upon or 744 impair the rights and privileges set forth in the declaration of 745 covenants or other published guidelines and standards authorized by the declaration of covenants, the adversely affected parcel 746 747 owner is shall be entitled to recover damages caused by such infringement or impairment, including any costs and reasonable 748 749 attorney attorney's fees incurred in preserving or restoring the rights and privileges of the parcel owner set forth in the 750

Page 30 of 44

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declaration of covenants or other published guidelines andstandards authorized by the declaration of covenants.

753 Section 6. Section 720.3045, Florida Statutes, is amended 754 to read:

755 720.3045 Installation, display, and storage of items.-756 Regardless of any covenants, restrictions, bylaws, rules, or 757 requirements of an association, and unless prohibited by general 758 law or local ordinance, an association may not restrict parcel 759 owners or their tenants from installing, displaying, or storing 760 any items on a parcel which are not visible from the parcel's 761 frontage or an adjacent parcel, an adjacent common area, or a 762 community golf course, including, but not limited to, artificial 763 turf, boats, flags, vegetable gardens, clotheslines, and 764 recreational vehicles.

Section 7. Present paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 720.305, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (f) and amended, a new paragraph (e) and paragraph (g) are added to that subsection, subsection (7) is added to that section, and paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (2) of that section are amended, to read:

771 720.305 Obligations of members; remedies at law or in
772 equity; levy of fines and suspension of use rights.-

(2) An association may levy reasonable fines for
violations of the declaration, association bylaws, or reasonable
rules of the association. A fine may not exceed \$100 per

Page 31 of 44

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776 violation against any member or any member's tenant, quest, or 777 invitee for the failure of the owner of the parcel or its 778 occupant, licensee, or invitee to comply with any provision of 779 the declaration, the association bylaws, or reasonable rules of 780 the association unless otherwise provided in the governing 781 documents. A fine may be levied by the board for each day of a 782 continuing violation, with a single notice and opportunity for 783 hearing, except that the fine may not exceed \$1,000 in the 784 aggregate unless otherwise provided in the governing documents. 785 A fine of less than \$1,000 may not become a lien against a parcel. In any action to recover a fine, the prevailing party is 786 787 entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs from the 788 nonprevailing party as determined by the court.

789 A fine or suspension levied by the board of (b) 790 administration may not be imposed unless the board first 791 provides at least 14 days' written notice of the parcel owner's 792 right to a hearing to the parcel owner at his or her designated 793 mailing or e-mail address in the association's official records 794 and, if applicable, to any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the 795 parcel owner, sought to be fined or suspended. Such and a 796 hearing must be held within 90 days after issuance of the notice 797 before a committee of at least three members appointed by the board who are not officers, directors, or employees of the 798 799 association, or the spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister of an officer, director, or employee. The committee may hold the 800

Page 32 of 44

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801 <u>hearing by telephone or other electronic means.</u> The notice must 802 include a description of the alleged violation; the specific 803 action required to cure such violation, if applicable; and the 804 <u>hearing date, and location, and access information if held by</u> 805 <u>telephone or other electronic means</u> of the hearing. A parcel 806 owner has the right to attend a hearing by telephone or other 807 electronic means.

808 Within 7 days after the hearing, the committee shall (d) 809 provide written notice to the parcel owner at his or her 810 designated mailing or e-mail address in the association's 811 official records and, if applicable, any occupant, licensee, or 812 invitee of the parcel owner, of the committee's findings related 813 to the violation, including any applicable fines or suspensions 814 that the committee approved or rejected, and how the parcel 815 owner or any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the parcel owner 816 may cure the violation, if applicable, or fulfill a suspension, 817 or the date by which a fine must be paid.

818 (e) If a violation has been cured before the hearing or in 819 the manner specified in the written notice required in paragraph 820 (b) or paragraph (d), a fine or suspension may not be imposed. (f) (e) If a violation is not cured and the proposed fine 821 822 or suspension levied by the board is approved by the committee 823 by a majority vote, the committee must set a date by which the 824 fine must be paid, which date must be at least 30 days after 825 delivery of the written notice required in paragraph (d).

Page 33 of 44

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826	Attorney fees and costs may not be awarded against the parcel
827	owner based on actions taken by the board before the date set
828	for the fine to be paid.
829	(g) If a violation and the proposed fine or suspension
830	levied by the board is approved by the committee and the
831	violation is not cured or the fine is not paid per the written
832	notice required in paragraph (d), reasonable attorney fees and
833	costs may be awarded to the association. Attorney fees and costs
834	may not begin to accrue until after the date noticed for payment
835	under paragraph (d) and the time for an appeal has expired.
836	(7) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in an
837	association's governing documents, an association may not levy a
838	fine or impose a suspension for any of the following:
839	(a) Leaving garbage receptacles at the curb or end of the
840	driveway within 24 hours before or after the designated garbage
841	collection day or time.
842	(b) Leaving holiday decorations or lights on a structure
843	or other improvement on a parcel longer than indicated in the
844	governing documents, unless such decorations or lights are left
845	up for longer than 1 week after the association provides written
846	notice of the violation to the parcel owner fine payment is due
847	5 days after notice of the approved fine required under
848	paragraph (d) is provided to the parcel owner and, if
849	applicable, to any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the parcel
850	owner. The association must provide written notice of such fine
	Page 34 of 44

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851 or suspension by mail or hand delivery to the parcel owner and, 852 if applicable, to any occupant, licensee, or invitee of the 853 parcel owner.

854 Section 8. Section 720.3065, Florida Statutes, is amended 855 to read:

856 720.3065 Fraudulent voting activities relating to 857 association elections; penalties.-

858 (1) A person who engages in Each of the following acts of 859 is a fraudulent voting activity relating to association 860 elections <u>commits</u> and <u>constitutes</u> a misdemeanor of the first 861 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083:

862 <u>(a)</u>(1) Willfully and falsely swearing to or affirming an 863 oath or affirmation, or willfully procuring another person to 864 falsely swear to or affirm an oath or affirmation, in connection 865 with or arising out of voting activities.

866 <u>(b) (2)</u> Perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate, or aiding 867 in the perpetration of, fraud in connection with a vote cast, to 868 be cast, or attempted to be cast.

869 <u>(c)</u>(3) Preventing a member from voting or preventing a 870 member from voting as he or she intended by fraudulently 871 changing or attempting to change a ballot, ballot envelope, 872 vote, or voting certificate of the member.

873 (d) (4) Menacing, threatening, or using bribery or any
874 other corruption to attempt, directly or indirectly, to
875 influence, deceive, or deter a member when the member is voting.

Page 35 of 44

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876 (e) (5) Giving or promising, directly or indirectly, 877 anything of value to another member with the intent to buy the 878 vote of that member or another member or to corruptly influence 879 that member or another member in casting his or her vote. This 880 paragraph subsection does not apply to any food served which is 881 to be consumed at an election rally or a meeting or to any item 882 of nominal value which is used as an election advertisement, 883 including a campaign message designed to be worn by a member. 884 (f) (6) Using or threatening to use, directly or 885 indirectly, force, violence, or intimidation or any tactic of 886 coercion or intimidation to induce or compel a member to vote or 887 refrain from voting in an election or on a particular ballot 888 measure. 889 (2) Each of the following acts constitutes a misdemeanor 890 of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 891 775.083: 892 (a) Knowingly aiding, abetting, or advising a person in 893 the commission of a fraudulent voting activity related to 894 association elections. 895 (b) Agreeing, conspiring, combining, or confederating with 896 at least one other person to commit a fraudulent voting activity 897 related to association elections. 898 (c) Having knowledge of a fraudulent voting activity 899 related to association elections and giving any aid to the 900 offender with intent that the offender avoid or escape

Page 36 of 44

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901 detection, arrest, trial, or punishment. 902 903 This subsection does not apply to a licensed attorney giving 904 legal advice to a client. 905 Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 720.3075, Florida 906 Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (c) is added to subsection 907 (4) of that section, to read: 908 720.3075 Prohibited clauses in association documents.-909 (3) Homeowners' association documents, including 910 declarations of covenants, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, 911 may not preclude: 912 The display of up to two portable, removable flags as (a) 913 described in s. 720.304(2)(a) by property owners. However, all 914 flags must be displayed in a respectful manner consistent with 915 the requirements for the United States flag under 36 U.S.C. 916 chapter 10. 917 (b) A property owner or a tenant, a guest, or an invitee 918 of the property owner from parking his or her personal vehicle, 919 including a pickup truck, in the property owner's driveway, or 920 in any other area at which the property owner or the property owner's tenant, guest, or invitee has a right to park as 921 922 governed by state, county, and municipal regulations. The 923 homeowners' association documents, including declarations of 924 covenants, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, may not 925 prohibit, regardless of any official insignia or visible

Page 37 of 44

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926 designation, a property owner or a tenant, a guest, or an 927 invitee of the property owner from parking his or her work 928 vehicle, which is not a commercial motor vehicle as defined in 929 s. 320.01(25), in the property owner's driveway. 930 (c) A property owner from inviting, hiring, or allowing 931 entry to a contractor or worker on the owner's parcel solely 932 because the contractor or worker is not on a preferred vendor 933 list of the association. Additionally, homeowners' association 934 documents may not preclude a property owner from inviting, 935 hiring, or allowing entry to a contractor or worker on his or 936 her parcel solely because the contractor or worker does not have 937 a professional or an occupational license. The association may not require a contractor or worker to present or prove 938 939 possession of a professional or an occupational license to be 940 allowed entry onto a property owner's parcel. 941 (d) Operating a vehicle that is not a commercial motor 942 vehicle as defined in s. 320.01(25) in conformance with state 943 traffic laws, on public roads or rights-of-way or the property 944 owner's parcel. 945 Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 720.3085, Florida 946 Statutes, are amended to read: 720.3085 Payment for assessments; lien claims.-947 Assessments and installments on assessments that are 948 (3) 949 not paid when due bear interest from the due date until paid at the rate provided in the declaration of covenants or the bylaws 950 Page 38 of 44

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951 of the association, which rate may not exceed the rate allowed 952 by law. If no rate is provided in the declaration or bylaws, 953 <u>simple</u> interest accrues at the rate of 18 percent per year. 954 <u>Notwithstanding the declaration or bylaws, compound interest may</u> 955 <u>not accrue on assessments and installments on assessments that</u> 956 are not paid when due.

(a) If the declaration or bylaws so provide, the
association may also charge an administrative late fee not to
exceed the greater of \$25 or 5 percent of the amount of each
installment that is paid past the due date.

961 (b) Any payment received by an association and accepted 962 shall be applied first to any interest accrued, then to any 963 administrative late fee, then to any costs and reasonable 964 attorney fees incurred in collection, and then to the delinquent 965 assessment. This paragraph applies notwithstanding any 966 restrictive endorsement, designation, or instruction placed on 967 or accompanying a payment. A late fee is not subject to the 968 provisions of chapter 687 and is not a fine. The foregoing is 969 applicable notwithstanding s. 673.3111, any purported accord and 970 satisfaction, or any restrictive endorsement, designation, or 971 instruction placed on or accompanying a payment. The preceding sentence is intended to clarify existing law. 972

973 (c)1. If an association sends out an invoice for 974 assessments or a parcel's statement of the account described in 975 <u>s. 720.303(4)(a)10.b.</u> s. 720.303(4)(j)2., the invoice for

Page 39 of 44

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976 assessments or the parcel's statement of account must be 977 delivered to the parcel owner by first-class United States mail 978 or by electronic transmission to the parcel owner's e-mail 979 address maintained in the association's official records.

980 Before changing the method of delivery for an invoice 2. 981 for assessments or the statement of the account, the association 982 must deliver a written notice of such change to each parcel 983 owner. The written notice must be delivered to the parcel owner 984 at least 30 days before the association sends the invoice for 985 assessments or the statement of the account by the new delivery 986 method. The notice must be sent by first-class United States 987 mail to the owner at his or her last address as reflected in the 988 association's records and, if such address is not the parcel 989 address, must be sent by first-class United States mail to the 990 parcel address. Notice is deemed to have been delivered upon 991 mailing as required by this subparagraph.

992 3. A parcel owner must affirmatively acknowledge his or 993 her understanding that the association will change its method of 994 delivery of the invoice for assessments or the statement of the 995 account before the association may change the method of 996 delivering an invoice for assessments or the statement of 997 account. The parcel owner may make the affirmative 998 acknowledgment electronically or in writing.

999 (d) An association may not require payment of attorney1000 fees related to a past due assessment without first delivering a

Page 40 of 44

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1017

1001 written notice of late assessment to the parcel owner which 1002 specifies the amount owed the association and provides the 1003 parcel owner an opportunity to pay the amount owed without the 1004 assessment of attorney fees. The notice of late assessment must 1005 be sent by first-class United States mail to the owner at his or 1006 her last address as reflected in the association's records and, 1007 if such address is not the parcel address, must also be sent by 1008 first-class United States mail to the parcel address. Notice is 1009 deemed to have been delivered upon mailing as required by this 1010 paragraph. A rebuttable presumption that an association mailed a 1011 notice in accordance with this paragraph is established if a 1012 board member, officer, or agent of the association, or a manager 1013 licensed under part VIII of chapter 468, provides a sworn 1014 affidavit attesting to such mailing. The notice must be in 1015 substantially the following form: 1016

NOTICE OF LATE ASSESSMENT

1018 RE: Parcel of ... (name of association) ... 1019 The following amounts are currently due on your 1020 account to ... (name of association) ..., and must be 1021 paid within 30 days after the date of this letter. 1022 This letter shall serve as the association's notice to 1023 proceed with further collection action against your 1024 property no sooner than 30 days after the date of this letter, unless you pay in full the amounts set forth 1025

Page 41 of 44

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1026	below:
1027	Maintenance due(dates) \$
1028	Late fee, if applicable \$
1029	Interest through(dates)* \$
1030	TOTAL OUTSTANDING \$
1031	*Interest accrues at the rate of percent per
1032	annum.
1033	
1034	Section 11. Section 720.317, Florida Statutes, is amended
1035	to read:
1036	720.317 Electronic voting
1037	(1) The association may conduct elections and other
1038	membership votes through an Internet-based online voting system
1039	if a member consents, <u>electronically or</u> in writing, to online
1040	voting and if the following requirements are met:
1041	(a) (1) The association provides each member with:
1042	1.(a) A method to authenticate the member's identity to
1043	the online voting system.
1044	2(b) A method to confirm, at least 14 days before the
1045	voting deadline, that the member's electronic device can
1046	successfully communicate with the online voting system.
1047	3.(c) A method that is consistent with the election and
1048	voting procedures in the association's bylaws.
1049	(b) (2) The association uses an online voting system that
1050	is:
	Page 42 of 44

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1051 1. (a) Able to authenticate the member's identity. 1052 2.(b) Able to authenticate the validity of each electronic 1053 vote to ensure that the vote is not altered in transit. 1054 3.(c) Able to transmit a receipt from the online voting 1055 system to each member who casts an electronic vote. 1056 4.(d) Able to permanently separate any authentication or 1057 identifying information from the electronic election ballot, 1058 rendering it impossible to tie an election ballot to a specific 1059 member. This subparagraph paragraph only applies if the 1060 association's bylaws provide for secret ballots for the election 1061 of directors. 5.(e) Able to store and keep electronic ballots accessible 1062 1063 to election officials for recount, inspection, and review 1064 purposes. 1065 (2) (3) A member voting electronically pursuant to this 1066 section shall be counted as being in attendance at the meeting 1067 for purposes of determining a quorum. 1068 (3) (4) This section applies to an association that 1069 provides for and authorizes an online voting system pursuant to 1070 this section by a board resolution. The board resolution must 1071 provide that members receive notice of the opportunity to vote 1072 through an online voting system, must establish reasonable 1073 procedures and deadlines for members to consent, electronically 1074 or in writing, to online voting, and must establish reasonable procedures and deadlines for members to opt out of online voting 1075

Page 43 of 44

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1076 after giving consent. Written notice of a meeting at which the 1077 board resolution regarding online voting will be considered must 1078 be mailed, delivered, or electronically transmitted to the unit 1079 owners and posted conspicuously on the condominium property or association property at least 14 days before the meeting. 1080 1081 Evidence of compliance with the 14-day notice requirement must 1082 be made by an affidavit executed by the person providing the notice and filed with the official records of the association. 1083

1084 <u>(4)(5)</u> A member's consent to online voting is valid until 1085 the member opts out of online voting pursuant to the procedures 1086 established by the board of administration <u>under subsection (3)</u> 1087 pursuant to subsection (4).

1088 <u>(5)(6)</u> This section may apply to any matter that requires 1089 a vote of the members.

1090 Section 12. Section 720.318, Florida Statutes, is amended 1091 to read:

1092 720.318 First responder Law enforcement vehicles.-An 1093 association may not prohibit a first responder law enforcement officer, as defined in s. 112.1815(1) s. 943.10(1), who is a 1094 1095 parcel owner, or who is a tenant, guest, or invitee of a parcel 1096 owner, from parking his or her assigned first responder law 1097 enforcement vehicle in an area where the parcel owner, or the 1098 tenant, quest, or invitee of the parcel owner, otherwise has a 1099 right to park, including on public roads or rights-of-way. 1100 Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

Page 44 of 44

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