By Senator Pizzo

37-01077A-24 20241378

A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes; transferring the division to the Department of Legal Affairs by a type two transfer on a date certain; requiring the Department of Business and Professional Regulation and the Department of Legal Affairs to enter into a memorandum of agreement by a date certain; requiring the Department of Legal Affairs to develop rules and procedures for resolving certain disputes to include all possible means of alternative dispute resolution; amending ss. 20.165, 192.037, 213.053, 326.002, 455.116, 475.011, 475.455, 546.10, 558.002, 714.17, 718.103, 718.112, 718.116, 718.117, 718.1255, 718.503, 719.103, 719.108, 719.1255, 719.501, 719.503, 720.301, 720.30851, 721.05, 721.11, 721.13, 723.003, 721.82, 723.061, 723.0611, and 723.06115, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; conforming cross-references; amending s. 723.006, F.S.; deleting obsolete language; providing effective dates.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Effective July 1, 2025, all powers, duties, functions, records, offices, personnel, associated administrative support positions, property, pending issues, existing contracts, administrative authority, administrative rules, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations,

37-01077A-24 20241378

and other funds for the Division of Florida Condominiums,

Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Business and

Professional Regulation are transferred by a type two transfer,

as defined in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Department

of Legal Affairs.

Section 2. Effective July 1, 2024, the Department of
Business and Professional Regulation and the Department of Legal
Affairs shall enter into a memorandum of agreement regarding the
type two transfer of the Division of Florida Condominiums,
Timeshares, and Mobile Homes before January 1, 2025. The
agreement must address all aspects of the transfer identified in
section 1 of this act after the July 1, 2025, type two transfer
of authority.

Section 3. Upon the transfer of the Division of Florida
Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes to the Department of
Legal Affairs, the Department of Legal Affairs shall adopt rules
and procedures for resolving disputes related to condominiums,
timeshares, and mobile homes to include all possible means of
alternative dispute resolution under s. 718.501, Florida
Statutes.

Section 4. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 20.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 20.165 Department of Business and Professional Regulation.—
 There is created a Department of Business and Professional
 Regulation.
- (2) The following divisions of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation are established:
- (c) Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes.

37-01077A-24 20241378

Section 5. Paragraph (e) of subsection (6) of section 192.037, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

192.037 Fee timeshare real property; taxes and assessments; escrow.—

(6)

(e) On or before May 1 of each year, a statement of receipts and disbursements of the escrow account must be filed with the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Legal Affairs Business and Professional Regulation, which may enforce this paragraph pursuant to s. 721.26. This statement must appropriately show the amount of principal and interest in such account.

Section 6. Paragraph (i) of subsection (8) of section 213.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

213.053 Confidentiality and information sharing.-

- (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department may provide:
- (i) Information relative to chapters 212 and 326 to the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation in the conduct of its official duties.

Disclosure of information under this subsection shall be pursuant to a written agreement between the executive director and the agency. Such agencies, governmental or nongovernmental, shall be bound by the same requirements of confidentiality as the Department of Revenue. Breach of confidentiality is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided by s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

37-01077A-24 20241378

Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 326.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

326.002 Definitions.—As used in ss. 326.001-326.006, the term:

(2) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation.

Section 8. Subsection (5) of section 455.116, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.116 Regulation trust funds.—The following trust funds shall be placed in the department:

(5) Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund.

Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 475.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.011 Exemptions.—This part does not apply to:

(8)

(b) An exchange company, as that term is defined by \underline{s} . $\underline{721.05}$ \underline{s} . $\underline{721.05(15)}$, but only to the extent that the exchange company is engaged in exchange program activities as described in and is in compliance with \underline{s} . $\underline{721.18}$.

Section 10. Section 475.455, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

475.455 Exchange of disciplinary information.—The commission shall inform the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Legal Affairs Business and Professional Regulation of any disciplinary action the commission has taken against any of its licensees. The division shall inform the commission of any disciplinary action

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37-01077A-24 20241378

the division has taken against any broker or sales associate registered with the division.

Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 546.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 546.10 Amusement games or machines.-
- (6)(a) A Type B amusement game or machine may only be operated at:
- 1. A facility as defined in <u>s. 721.05</u> s. 721.05(17) that is under the control of a timeshare plan.
- 2. A public lodging establishment or public food service establishment licensed pursuant to chapter 509.
- 3. The following premises, if the owner or operator of the premises has a current license issued by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation pursuant to chapter 509, chapter 561, chapter 562, chapter 563, chapter 564, chapter 565, chapter 567, or chapter 568:
 - a. An arcade amusement center;
 - b. A bowling center, as defined in s. 849.141; or
- c. A truck stop.
- 136 (b) A Type C amusement game or machine may only be operated at:
- 138 1. A facility as defined in s. 721.05 s. 721.05(17) that is under the control of a timeshare plan;
 - 2. An arcade amusement center;
 - 3. A bowling center, as defined in s. 849.141;
 - 4. The premises of a retailer, as defined in s. 212.02;
- 5. A public lodging establishment or public food service establishment licensed pursuant to chapter 509;
 - 6. A truck stop; or

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37-01077A-24 20241378

7. The premises of a veterans' service organization granted a federal charter under Title 36, U.S.C., or a division, department, post, or chapter of such organization, for which an alcoholic beverage license has been issued.

Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 558.002, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

558.002 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(2) "Association" has the same meaning as in s. 718.103, <u>s.</u> 719.103 <u>s. 719.103(2)</u>, s. 720.301(9), or s. 723.075.

Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 714.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

714.17 Executory contract.-

(1) For the purposes of this section, the term "timeshare interest" has the same meaning as in s. $721.05 \cdot (36)$.

Section 14. Subsections (17) through (32) of section 718.103, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (18) through (33), respectively, present subsections (18) and (24) are amended, and a new subsection (17) is added to that section, to read:

718.103 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(17) "Department" means the Department of Legal Affairs.

(19) (18) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Legal Affairs Business and Professional Regulation.

(20) (24) "Residential condominium" means a condominium consisting of two or more units, any of which are intended for use as a private temporary or permanent residence, except that a condominium is not a residential condominium if the use for which the units are intended is primarily commercial or

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37-01077A-24 20241378

industrial and not more than three units are intended to be used for private residence, and are intended to be used as housing for maintenance, managerial, janitorial, or other operational staff of the condominium. With respect to a condominium that is not a timeshare condominium, a residential unit includes a unit intended as a private temporary or permanent residence as well as a unit not intended for commercial or industrial use. With respect to a timeshare condominium, the timeshare instrument as defined in s. 721.05 \pm 3. 721.05 \pm 3. 721.05 \pm 3. 3. 3. 3. of each unit in the condominium. If a condominium is a residential condominium but contains units intended to be used for commercial or industrial purposes, then, with respect to those units which are not intended for or used as private residences, the condominium is not a residential condominium. A condominium which contains both commercial and residential units is a mixed-use condominium and is subject to the requirements of s. 718.404.

Section 15. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 718.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.112 Bylaws.-

- (2) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.—The bylaws shall provide for the following and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include the following:
- (k) Transfer fees.—An association may not charge a fee in connection with the sale, mortgage, lease, sublease, or other transfer of a unit unless the association is required to approve such transfer and a fee for such approval is provided for in the declaration, articles, or bylaws. Any such fee may be preset but may not exceed \$150 per applicant. For the purpose of

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37-01077A-24 20241378

calculating the fee, spouses or a parent or parents and any dependent children are considered one applicant. However, if the lease or sublease is a renewal of a lease or sublease with the same lessee or sublessee, a charge may not be made. Such fees must be adjusted every 5 years in an amount equal to the total of the annual increases occurring in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items during that 5-year period. The division Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall periodically calculate the fees, rounded to the nearest dollar, and publish the amounts, as adjusted, on its website. The foregoing notwithstanding, if the authority to do so appears in the declaration, articles, or bylaws, an association may require that a prospective lessee place a security deposit, in an amount not to exceed the equivalent of 1 month's rent, into an escrow account maintained by the association. The security deposit shall protect against damages to the common elements or association property. Payment of interest, claims against the deposit, refunds, and disputes under this paragraph shall be handled in the same fashion as provided in part II of chapter 83.

Section 16. Paragraph (i) of subsection (8) of section 718.116, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.116 Assessments; liability; lien and priority; interest; collection.—

(8) Within 10 business days after receiving a written or electronic request therefor from a unit owner or the unit owner's designee, or a unit mortgagee or the unit mortgagee's designee, the association shall issue the estoppel certificate. Each association shall designate on its website a person or

37-01077A-24 20241378

entity with a street or e-mail address for receipt of a request for an estoppel certificate issued pursuant to this section. The estoppel certificate must be provided by hand delivery, regular mail, or e-mail to the requestor on the date of issuance of the estoppel certificate.

(i) The fees specified in this subsection shall be adjusted every 5 years in an amount equal to the total of the annual increases for that 5-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items. The <u>division Department of Business and Professional Regulation</u> shall periodically calculate the fees, rounded to the nearest dollar, and publish the amounts, as adjusted, on its website.

Section 17. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 718.117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.117 Termination of condominium.

- (2) TERMINATION BECAUSE OF ECONOMIC WASTE OR IMPOSSIBILITY.—
- (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a condominium that includes units and timeshare estates where the improvements have been totally destroyed or demolished may be terminated pursuant to a plan of termination proposed by a unit owner upon the filing of a petition in court seeking equitable relief. Within 10 days after the filing of a petition as provided in this paragraph and in lieu of the requirements of paragraph (15) (a), the petitioner shall record the proposed plan of termination and mail a copy of the proposed plan and a copy of the petition to:
- 1. If the association has not been dissolved as a matter of law, each member of the board of directors of the association identified in the most recent annual report filed with the

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37-01077A-24 20241378

Department of State and the registered agent of the association;

- 2. The managing entity as defined in $\underline{s.721.05}$ $\underline{s.721.05}$
- 3. Each unit owner and each timeshare estate owner at the address reflected in the official records of the association, or, if the association records cannot be obtained by the petitioner, each unit owner and each timeshare estate owner at the address listed in the office of the tax collector for tax notices; and
- 4. Each holder of a recorded mortgage lien affecting a unit or timeshare estate at the address appearing on the recorded mortgage or any recorded assignment thereof.

The association, if it has not been dissolved as a matter of law, acting as class representative, or the managing entity as defined in s. 721.05 \pm . 721.05 (22), any unit owner, any timeshare estate owner, or any holder of a recorded mortgage lien affecting a unit or timeshare estate may intervene in the proceedings to contest the proposed plan of termination brought pursuant to this paragraph. The provisions of subsection (9), to the extent inconsistent with this paragraph, and subsection (16) are not applicable to a party contesting a plan of termination under this paragraph. If no party intervenes to contest the proposed plan within 45 days after the filing of the petition, the petitioner may move the court to enter a final judgment to authorize implementation of the plan of termination. If a party timely intervenes to contest the proposed plan, the plan may not be implemented until a final judgment has been entered by the court finding that the proposed plan of termination is fair and

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37-01077A-24 20241378

reasonable and authorizing implementation of the plan.

Section 18. Subsection (4) of section 718.1255, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.1255 Alternative dispute resolution; mediation; nonbinding arbitration; applicability.—

(4) NONBINDING ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION OF DISPUTES.—The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Legal Affairs Business and Professional Regulation may employ full-time attorneys to act as arbitrators to conduct the arbitration hearings provided by this chapter. The division may also certify attorneys who are not employed by the division to act as arbitrators to conduct the arbitration hearings provided by this chapter. A person may not be employed by the department as a full-time arbitrator unless he or she is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar. A person may only be certified by the division to act as an arbitrator if he or she has been a member in good standing of The Florida Bar for at least 5 years and has mediated or arbitrated at least 10 disputes involving condominiums in this state during the 3 years immediately preceding the date of application, mediated or arbitrated at least 30 disputes in any subject area in this state during the 3 years immediately preceding the date of application, or attained board certification in real estate law or condominium and planned development law from The Florida Bar. Arbitrator certification is valid for 1 year. An arbitrator who does not maintain the minimum qualifications for initial certification may not have his or her certification renewed. The department may not enter into a legal services contract for an arbitration hearing under this chapter with an attorney who is

37-01077A-24 20241378

not a certified arbitrator unless a certified arbitrator is not available within 50 miles of the dispute. The department shall adopt rules of procedure to govern such arbitration hearings including mediation incident thereto. The decision of an arbitrator is final; however, a decision is not deemed final agency action. Nothing in This subsection does not provision shall be construed to foreclose parties from proceeding in a trial de novo unless the parties have agreed that the arbitration is binding. If judicial proceedings are initiated, the final decision of the arbitrator is admissible in evidence in the trial de novo.

- (a) Before the institution of court litigation, a party to a dispute, other than an election or recall dispute, shall either petition the division for nonbinding arbitration or initiate presuit mediation as provided in subsection (5). Arbitration is binding on the parties if all parties in arbitration agree to be bound in a writing filed in arbitration. The petition must be accompanied by a filing fee in the amount of \$50. Filing fees collected under this section must be used to defray the expenses of the alternative dispute resolution program.
- (b) The petition must recite, and have attached thereto, supporting proof that the petitioner gave the respondents <u>all of</u> the following:
- 1. Advance written notice of the specific nature of the dispute $\underline{\cdot}$
- 2. A demand for relief, and a reasonable opportunity to comply or to provide the relief.; and
 - 3. Notice of the intention to file an arbitration petition

37-01077A-24 20241378

or other legal action in the absence of a resolution of the dispute.

Failure to include the allegations or proof of compliance with these prerequisites requires dismissal of the petition without prejudice.

- by the division shall promptly review the petition to determine the existence of a dispute and compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b). If emergency relief is required and is not available through arbitration, a motion to stay the arbitration may be filed. The motion must be accompanied by a verified petition alleging facts that, if proven, would support entry of a temporary injunction, and if an appropriate motion and supporting papers are filed, the division may abate the arbitration pending a court hearing and disposition of a motion for temporary injunction.
- (d) Upon determination by the division that a dispute exists and that the petition substantially meets the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) and any other applicable rules, the division shall assign or enter into a contract with an arbitrator and serve a copy of the petition upon all respondents. The arbitrator shall conduct a hearing within 30 days after being assigned or entering into a contract unless the petition is withdrawn or a continuance is granted for good cause shown.
- (e) Before or after the filing of the respondents' answer to the petition, any party may request that the arbitrator refer the case to mediation under this section and any rules adopted

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37-01077A-24 20241378

by the division. Upon receipt of a request for mediation, the division shall promptly contact the parties to determine if there is agreement that mediation would be appropriate. If all parties agree, the dispute must be referred to mediation. Notwithstanding a lack of an agreement by all parties, the arbitrator may refer a dispute to mediation at any time.

(f) Upon referral of a case to mediation, the parties must select a mutually acceptable mediator. To assist in the selection, the arbitrator shall provide the parties with a list of both volunteer and paid mediators who that have been certified by the division under s. 718.501. If the parties are unable to agree on a mediator within the time allowed by the arbitrator, the arbitrator shall appoint a mediator from the list of certified mediators. If a case is referred to mediation, the parties shall attend a mediation conference, as scheduled by the parties and the mediator. If any party fails to attend a duly noticed mediation conference, without the permission or approval of the arbitrator or mediator, the arbitrator must impose sanctions against the party, including the striking of any pleadings filed, the entry of an order of dismissal or default if appropriate, and the award of costs and attorney fees incurred by the other parties. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties or as provided by order of the arbitrator, a party is deemed to have appeared at a mediation conference by the physical presence of the party or its representative having full authority to settle without further consultation, provided that an association may comply by having one or more representatives present with full authority to negotiate a settlement and recommend that the board of administration ratify and approve

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37-01077A-24 20241378

such a settlement within 5 days $\underline{\text{after}}$ from the date of the mediation conference. The parties shall share equally the expense of mediation, unless they agree otherwise.

- (g) The purpose of mediation as provided for by this section is to present the parties with an opportunity to resolve the underlying dispute in good faith, and with a minimum expenditure of time and resources.
- (h) Mediation proceedings must generally be conducted in accordance with the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, and these proceedings are privileged and confidential to the same extent as court-ordered mediation. Persons who are not parties to the dispute are not allowed to attend the mediation conference without the consent of all parties, with the exception of counsel for the parties and corporate representatives designated to appear for a party. If the mediator declares an impasse after a mediation conference has been held, the arbitration proceeding terminates, unless all parties agree in writing to continue the arbitration proceeding, in which case the arbitrator's decision is shall be binding or nonbinding, as agreed upon by the parties. + In the arbitration proceeding, the arbitrator may shall not consider any evidence relating to the unsuccessful mediation except in a proceeding to impose sanctions for failure to appear at the mediation conference. If the parties do not agree to continue arbitration, the arbitrator shall enter an order of dismissal, and either party may institute a suit in a court of competent jurisdiction. The parties may seek to recover any costs and attorney fees incurred in connection with arbitration and mediation proceedings under this section as part of the costs and fees that may be recovered by the prevailing

37-01077A-24 20241378

party in any subsequent litigation.

- (i) Arbitration <u>must</u> <u>shall</u> be conducted according to rules adopted by the division. The filing of a petition for arbitration <u>tolls</u> <u>shall toll</u> the applicable statute of limitations.
- (j) At the request of any party to the arbitration, the arbitrator shall issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, documents, and other evidence and any party on whose behalf a subpoena is issued may apply to the court for orders compelling such attendance and production. Subpoenas <u>must shall</u> be served and <u>are shall be</u> enforceable in the manner provided by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. Discovery may, in the discretion of the arbitrator, be permitted in the manner provided by the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. Rules adopted by the division may authorize any reasonable sanctions except contempt for a violation of the arbitration procedural rules of the division or for the failure of a party to comply with a reasonable nonfinal order issued by an arbitrator which is not under judicial review.
- (k) The arbitration decision <u>must</u> shall be rendered within 30 days after the hearing and presented to the parties in writing. An arbitration decision is final in those disputes in which the parties have agreed to be bound. An arbitration decision is also final if a complaint for a trial de novo is not filed in a court of competent jurisdiction in which the condominium is located within 30 days <u>after receipt of the arbitration decision</u>. The right to file for a trial de novo entitles the parties to file a complaint in the appropriate trial court for a judicial resolution of the dispute. The

37-01077A-24 20241378

prevailing party in an arbitration proceeding shall be awarded the costs of the arbitration and reasonable attorney fees in an amount determined by the arbitrator. Such an award <u>must shall</u> include the costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred in the arbitration proceeding as well as the costs and reasonable attorney fees incurred in preparing for and attending any scheduled mediation. An arbitrator's failure to render a written decision within 30 days after the hearing may result in the cancellation of his or her arbitration certification.

- (1) The party who files a complaint for a trial de novo shall be assessed the other party's arbitration costs, court costs, and other reasonable costs, including attorney fees, investigation expenses, and expenses for expert or other testimony or evidence incurred after the arbitration hearing if the judgment upon the trial de novo is not more favorable than the arbitration decision. If the judgment is more favorable, the party who filed a complaint for trial de novo shall be awarded reasonable court costs and attorney fees.
- (m) Any party to an arbitration proceeding may enforce an arbitration award by filing a petition in a court of competent jurisdiction in which the condominium is located. A petition may not be granted unless the time for appeal by the filing of a complaint for trial de novo has expired. If a complaint for a trial de novo has been filed, a petition may not be granted with respect to an arbitration award that has been stayed. If the petition for enforcement is granted, the petitioner shall recover reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred in enforcing the arbitration award. A mediation settlement may also be enforced through the county or circuit court, as applicable, and

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37-01077A-24 20241378

any costs and fees incurred in the enforcement of a settlement agreement reached at mediation must be awarded to the prevailing party in any enforcement action.

Section 19. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) and paragraphs (b) and (e) of subsection (2) of section 718.503, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

718.503 Developer disclosure prior to sale; nondeveloper unit owner disclosure prior to sale; voidability.—

- (1) DEVELOPER DISCLOSURE. -
- (d) Milestone inspection, turnover inspection report, or structural integrity reserve study.-If the association is required to have completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, and the association has not completed the milestone inspection, the turnover inspection report, or the structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is required to have a milestone inspection, a turnover inspection report, or a structural integrity reserve study and has not completed such inspection, report, or study, as appropriate. If the association is not required to have a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899 or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is not required to have a milestone inspection or a structural integrity reserve study, as appropriate. If the

37-01077A-24 20241378

association has completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type:

- 1. A clause which states: THE BUYER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES
 THAT BUYER HAS BEEN PROVIDED A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTORPREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED
 IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF
 THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION
 718.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A
 COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY
 RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND
 718.112(2)(g), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE, MORE THAN 15
 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, PRIOR TO
 EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT; and
- 2. A clause which states: THIS AGREEMENT IS VOIDABLE BY BUYER BY DELIVERING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE BUYER'S INTENTION TO CANCEL WITHIN 15 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE DATE OF EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE BUYER AND RECEIPT BY BUYER OF A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 718.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND 718.112(2)(q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE. ANY PURPORTED

37-01077A-24 20241378

WAIVER OF THESE VOIDABILITY RIGHTS SHALL BE OF NO EFFECT. BUYER MAY EXTEND THE TIME FOR CLOSING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 15 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE BUYER RECEIVES A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 718.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES; OR A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND 718.112(2)(g), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF REQUESTED IN WRITING. BUYER'S RIGHT TO VOID THIS AGREEMENT SHALL TERMINATE AT CLOSING.

A contract that does not conform to the requirements of this paragraph is voidable at the option of the purchaser $\frac{\text{before}}{\text{prior to}}$ closing.

(b) The prospective purchaser is also entitled to receive

from the seller a copy of a governance form. Such form shall be

understanding association governance, the governance form shall

(2) NONDEVELOPER DISCLOSURE. -

provided by the division summarizing governance of condominium associations. In addition to such other information as the division considers helpful to a prospective purchaser in

 address the following subjects:

1. The role of the board in conducting the day-to-day affairs of the association on behalf of, and in the best interests of, the owners.

2. The board's responsibility to provide advance notice of board and membership meetings.

37-01077A-24 20241378

3. The rights of owners to attend and speak at board and membership meetings.

- 4. The responsibility of the board and of owners with respect to maintenance of the condominium property.
- 5. The responsibility of the board and owners to abide by the condominium documents, this chapter, rules adopted by the division, and reasonable rules adopted by the board.
- 6. Owners' rights to inspect and copy association records and the limitations on such rights.
- 7. Remedies available to owners with respect to actions by the board which may be abusive or beyond the board's power and authority.
- 8. The right of the board to hire a property management firm, subject to its own primary responsibility for such management.
- 9. The responsibility of owners with regard to payment of regular or special assessments necessary for the operation of the property and the potential consequences of failure to pay such assessments.
 - 10. The voting rights of owners.
- 11. Rights and obligations of the board in enforcement of rules in the condominium documents and rules adopted by the board.

The governance form shall also include the following statement in conspicuous type: "This publication is intended as an informal educational overview of condominium governance. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of chapter 718, Florida Statutes, rules adopted by the Division of Florida Condominiums,

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37-01077A-24 20241378

Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation, the provisions of the condominium documents, and reasonable rules adopted by the condominium association's board of administration prevail over the contents of this publication."

(e) If the association is required to have completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, and the association has not completed the milestone inspection, the turnover inspection report, or the structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is required to have a milestone inspection, a turnover inspection report, or a structural integrity reserve study and has not completed such inspection, report, or study, as appropriate. If the association is not required to have a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899 or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is not required to have a milestone inspection or a structural integrity reserve study, as appropriate. If the association has completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the resale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type:

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37-01077A-24 20241378

1. A clause which states: THE BUYER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES
THAT BUYER HAS BEEN PROVIDED A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTORPREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED
IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF
THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION
718.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A
COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY
RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND
718.112(2)(g), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE, MORE THAN 3
DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, PRIOR TO
EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT; and

2. A clause which states: THIS AGREEMENT IS VOIDABLE BY BUYER BY DELIVERING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE BUYER'S INTENTION TO CANCEL WITHIN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE DATE OF EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE BUYER AND RECEIPT BY BUYER OF A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 718.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND 718.112(2)(q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE. ANY PURPORTED WAIVER OF THESE VOIDABILITY RIGHTS SHALL BE OF NO EFFECT. BUYER MAY EXTEND THE TIME FOR CLOSING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE BUYER RECEIVES A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER

37-01077A-24 20241378

INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 718.301(4)(p) AND (q),

FLORIDA STATUTES; OR A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT

STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS

718.103(27) 718.103(26) AND 718.112(2)(g), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF

REQUESTED IN WRITING. BUYER'S RIGHT TO VOID THIS AGREEMENT SHALL

TERMINATE AT CLOSING.

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A contract that does not conform to the requirements of this paragraph is voidable at the option of the purchaser <u>before</u> prior to closing.

Section 20. Subsections (16) through (29) of section 719.103, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (17) through (30), respectively, present subsection (17) is amended, and a new subsection (16) is added to that section, to read:

719.103 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

(16) "Department" means the Department of Legal Affairs.

(18) (17) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of Legal Affairs Business and Professional Regulation.

Section 21. Paragraph (i) of subsection (6) of section 719.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

719.108 Rents and assessments; liability; lien and priority; interest; collection; cooperative ownership.—

(6) Within 10 business days after receiving a written or electronic request for an estoppel certificate from a unit owner or the unit owner's designee, or a unit mortgagee or the unit mortgagee's designee, the association shall issue the estoppel certificate. Each association shall designate on its website a person or entity with a street or e-mail address for receipt of

37-01077A-24 20241378

a request for an estoppel certificate issued pursuant to this section. The estoppel certificate must be provided by hand delivery, regular mail, or e-mail to the requestor on the date of issuance of the estoppel certificate.

(i) The fees specified in this subsection shall be adjusted every 5 years in an amount equal to the total of the annual increases for that 5-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items. The <u>division Department of Business and Professional Regulation</u> shall periodically calculate the fees, rounded to the nearest dollar, and publish the amounts, as adjusted, on its website.

Section 22. Section 719.1255, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

719.1255 Alternative resolution of disputes.—The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation shall provide for alternative dispute resolution in accordance with s. 718.1255.

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 719.501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

719.501 Powers and duties of <u>the</u> Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes.—

(1) The Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation, referred to as the "division" in this part, in addition to other powers and duties prescribed by chapter 718, has the power to enforce and ensure compliance with this chapter and adopted rules relating to the development, construction, sale, lease, ownership, operation, and management

37-01077A-24 20241378

of residential cooperative units; complaints related to the procedural completion of the structural integrity reserve studies under s. 719.106(1)(k); and complaints related to the procedural completion of milestone inspections under s. 553.899. In performing its duties, the division <u>has shall have</u> the following powers and duties:

- (a) The division may make necessary public or private investigations within or outside this state to determine whether any person has violated this chapter or any rule or order hereunder, to aid in the enforcement of this chapter, or to aid in the adoption of rules or forms hereunder.
- (b) The division may require or permit any person to file a statement in writing, under oath or otherwise, as the division determines, as to the facts and circumstances concerning a matter to be investigated.
- (c) For the purpose of any investigation under this chapter, the division director or any officer or employee designated by the division director may administer oaths or affirmations, subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance, take evidence, and require the production of any matter which is relevant to the investigation, including the existence, description, nature, custody, condition, and location of any books, documents, or other tangible things and the identity and location of persons having knowledge of relevant facts or any other matter reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of material evidence. Upon failure by a person to obey a subpoena or to answer questions propounded by the investigating officer and upon reasonable notice to all persons affected thereby, the division may apply to the circuit court for an order compelling

37-01077A-24 20241378

compliance.

(d) Notwithstanding any remedies available to unit owners and associations, if the division has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of any provision of this chapter or related rule has occurred, the division may institute enforcement proceedings in its own name against a developer, an association, an officer, or a member of the board, or its assignees or agents, as follows:

- 1. The division may permit a person whose conduct or actions may be under investigation to waive formal proceedings 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.
- 2. The division may issue an order requiring the developer, association, officer, or member of the board, or its assignees or agents, to cease and desist from the unlawful practice and take such affirmative action as in the judgment of the division will carry out the purposes of this chapter. Such affirmative action may include, but is not limited to, an order requiring a developer to pay moneys determined to be owed to a cooperative condominium association.
- 3. The division may bring an action in circuit court on behalf of a class of unit owners, lessees, or purchasers for declaratory relief, injunctive relief, or restitution.
- 4. The division may impose a civil penalty against a developer or <u>an</u> association, or its assignees or agents, for any violation of this chapter or related rule. The division may impose a civil penalty individually against any officer or board member who willfully and knowingly violates <u>a provision of</u> this

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37-01077A-24 20241378

chapter, a rule adopted pursuant to this chapter, or a final order of the division. The term "willfully and knowingly" means that the division informed the officer or board member that his or her action or intended action violates this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division, and that the officer or board member refused to comply with the requirements of this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division. The division, before prior to initiating formal agency action under chapter 120, shall provide notice to afford the officer or board member an opportunity to voluntarily comply with this chapter, a rule adopted under this chapter, or a final order of the division. An officer or a board member who complies within 10 days after receiving notice from the division is not subject to a civil penalty. A penalty may be imposed on the basis of each day of continuing violation, but $\frac{1}{10}$ no event shall the penalty may not for any offense exceed \$5,000 for any offense. The division shall adopt, by rule, penalty quidelines applicable to possible violations or to categories of violations of this chapter or rules adopted by the division. The guidelines must specify a meaningful range of civil penalties for each such violation of the statute and rules and must be based upon the harm caused by the violation, upon the repetition of the violation, and upon such other factors deemed relevant by the division. For example, the division may consider whether the violations were committed by a developer or an owner-controlled association, the size of the association, and other factors. The quidelines must designate the possible mitigating or aggravating circumstances that justify a departure from the range of penalties provided by the rules. It is the legislative intent

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37-01077A-24 20241378

that minor violations be distinguished from those which endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the cooperative residents or other persons and that such quidelines provide reasonable and meaningful notice to the public of likely penalties that may be imposed for proscribed conduct. This subsection does not limit the ability of the division to informally dispose of administrative actions or complaints by stipulation, agreed settlement, or consent order. All amounts collected shall be deposited with the Chief Financial Officer to the credit of the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes Trust Fund. If a developer fails to pay the civil penalty, the division shall thereupon issue an order directing that such developer cease and desist from further operation until such time as the civil penalty is paid or may pursue enforcement of the penalty in a court of competent jurisdiction. If an association fails to pay the civil penalty, the division shall thereupon pursue enforcement in a court of competent jurisdiction, and the order imposing the civil penalty or the cease and desist order may shall not take effect become effective until 20 days after the date of such order. Any action commenced by the division must shall be brought in the county in which the division has its executive offices or in the county where the violation occurred.

- (e) The division may prepare and disseminate a prospectus and other information to assist prospective owners, purchasers, lessees, and developers of residential cooperatives in assessing the rights, privileges, and duties pertaining thereto.
- (f) The division has authority to adopt rules pursuant to $ss.\ 120.536(1)$ and 120.54 to implement and enforce the

37-01077A-24 20241378

provisions of this chapter.

(g) The division shall establish procedures for providing notice to an association when the division is considering the issuance of a declaratory statement with respect to the cooperative documents governing such cooperative community.

- (h) The division shall furnish each association that which pays the fees required by paragraph (2)(a) a copy of this act, subsequent changes to this act on an annual basis, an amended version of this act as it becomes available from the Secretary of State's office on a biennial basis, and the rules adopted thereto on an annual basis.
- (i) The division shall annually provide each association with a summary of declaratory statements and formal legal opinions relating to the operations of cooperatives which were rendered by the division during the previous year.
- (j) The division shall adopt uniform accounting principles, policies, and standards to be used by all associations in the preparation and presentation of all financial statements required by this chapter. The principles, policies, and standards <u>must shall</u> take into consideration the size of the association and the total revenue collected by the association.
- (k) The division shall provide training and educational programs for cooperative association board members and unit owners. The training may, in the division's discretion, include web-based electronic media and live training and seminars in various locations throughout the state. The division may review and approve education and training programs for board members and unit owners offered by providers and shall maintain a current list of approved programs and providers and make such

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37-01077A-24 20241378

list available to board members and unit owners in a reasonable and cost-effective manner.

- (1) The division shall maintain a toll-free telephone number accessible to cooperative unit owners.
- (m) When a complaint is made to the division, the division shall conduct its inquiry with reasonable dispatch and with due regard to the interests of the affected parties. Within 30 days after receipt of a complaint, the division shall acknowledge the complaint in writing and notify the complainant whether the complaint is within the jurisdiction of the division and whether additional information is needed by the division from the complainant. The division shall conduct its investigation and shall, within 90 days after receipt of the original complaint or timely requested additional information, take action upon the complaint. However, the failure to complete the investigation within 90 days does not prevent the division from continuing the investigation, accepting or considering evidence obtained or received after 90 days, or taking administrative action if reasonable cause exists to believe that a violation of this chapter or a rule of the division has occurred. If an investigation is not completed within the time limits established in this paragraph, the division shall, on a monthly basis, notify the complainant in writing of the status of the investigation. When reporting its action to the complainant, the division shall inform the complainant of any right to a hearing pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57.
- (n) The division shall develop a program to certify both volunteer and paid mediators to provide mediation of cooperative disputes. The division shall provide, upon request, a list of

37-01077A-24 20241378

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

Section 24. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) and paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 719.503, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

719.503 Disclosure prior to sale.

- (1) DEVELOPER DISCLOSURE. -
- (d) Milestone inspection, turnover inspection report, or structural integrity reserve study.—If the association is required to have completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, and the association has not completed the milestone inspection, the turnover inspection report, or the structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit

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37-01077A-24 20241378

shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is required to have a milestone inspection, a turnover inspection report, or a structural integrity reserve study and has not completed such inspection, report, or study, as appropriate. If the association is not required to have a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899 or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is not required to have a milestone inspection or a structural integrity reserve study, as appropriate. If the association has completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type:

- 1. A clause which states: THE BUYER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES THAT BUYER HAS BEEN PROVIDED A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 719.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE, MORE THAN 15 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, PRIOR TO EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT; and
 - 2. A clause which states: THIS AGREEMENT IS VOIDABLE BY

37-01077A-24

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958 BUYER BY DELIVERING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE BUYER'S INTENTION TO 959 CANCEL WITHIN 15 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL 960 HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE DATE OF EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE 961 BUYER AND RECEIPT BY BUYER OF A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-962 PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED 963 IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF 964 THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 965 719.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A 966 COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY 967 RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND 968 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE. ANY PURPORTED 969 WAIVER OF THESE VOIDABILITY RIGHTS SHALL BE OF NO EFFECT. BUYER 970 MAY EXTEND THE TIME FOR CLOSING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 15 971 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER 972 THE BUYER RECEIVES A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED 973 SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN 974 SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER 975 INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 719.301(4)(p) AND (q), 976 FLORIDA STATUTES; OR A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT 977 STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 978 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF 979 REQUESTED IN WRITING. BUYER'S RIGHT TO VOID THIS AGREEMENT SHALL 980 TERMINATE AT CLOSING. 981 982 A contract that does not conform to the requirements of this 983 paragraph is voidable at the option of the purchaser before 984 prior to closing. 985 (2) NONDEVELOPER DISCLOSURE. -

(d) If the association is required to have completed a

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37-01077A-24 20241378

milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, and the association has not completed the milestone inspection, the turnover inspection report, or the structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is required to have a milestone inspection, a turnover inspection report, or a structural integrity reserve study and has not completed such inspection, report, or study, as appropriate. If the association is not required to have a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899 or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the sale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type a statement indicating that the association is not required to have a milestone inspection or a structural integrity reserve study, as appropriate. If the association has completed a milestone inspection as described in s. 553.899, a turnover inspection report for a turnover inspection performed on or after July 1, 2023, or a structural integrity reserve study, each contract entered into after December 31, 2024, for the resale of a residential unit shall contain in conspicuous type:

1. A clause which states: THE BUYER HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGES
THAT BUYER HAS BEEN PROVIDED A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTORPREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED
IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF
THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION
719.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A

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1016 COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

1017 RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND

1018 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE, MORE THAN 3

1019 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, PRIOR TO

1020 EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT; and

2. A clause which states: THIS AGREEMENT IS VOIDABLE BY BUYER BY DELIVERING WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE BUYER'S INTENTION TO CANCEL WITHIN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE DATE OF EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE BUYER AND RECEIPT BY BUYER OF A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 719.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE; AND A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF APPLICABLE. ANY PURPORTED WAIVER OF THESE VOIDABILITY RIGHTS SHALL BE OF NO EFFECT. BUYER MAY EXTEND THE TIME FOR CLOSING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN 3 DAYS, EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND LEGAL HOLIDAYS, AFTER THE BUYER RECEIVES A CURRENT COPY OF THE INSPECTOR-PREPARED SUMMARY OF THE MILESTONE INSPECTION REPORT AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 553.899, FLORIDA STATUTES; A COPY OF THE TURNOVER INSPECTION REPORT DESCRIBED IN SECTION 719.301(4)(p) AND (q), FLORIDA STATUTES; OR A COPY OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MOST RECENT STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY RESERVE STUDY DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 719.103(25) 719.103(24) AND 719.106(1)(k), FLORIDA STATUTES, IF REQUESTED IN WRITING. BUYER'S RIGHT TO VOID THIS AGREEMENT SHALL TERMINATE AT CLOSING.

37-01077A-24 20241378

A contract that does not conform to the requirements of this paragraph is voidable at the option of the purchaser <u>before</u> prior to closing.

Section 25. Subsections (5) and (7) of section 720.301, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

720.301 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

- (5) "Department" means the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u>

 Business and Professional Regulation.
- (7) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes in the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation.

Section 26. Subsection (9) of section 720.30851, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

720.30851 Estoppel certificates.—Within 10 business days after receiving a written or electronic request for an estoppel certificate from a parcel owner or the parcel owner's designee, or a parcel mortgagee or the parcel mortgagee's designee, the association shall issue the estoppel certificate. Each association shall designate on its website a person or entity with a street or e-mail address for receipt of a request for an estoppel certificate issued pursuant to this section. The estoppel certificate must be provided by hand delivery, regular mail, or e-mail to the requestor on the date of issuance of the estoppel certificate.

(9) The fees specified in this section shall be adjusted every 5 years in an amount equal to the total of the annual increases for that 5-year period in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items. The division

37-01077A-24 20241378

Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall periodically calculate the fees, rounded to the nearest dollar, and publish the amounts, as adjusted, on its website.

Section 27. Subsection (11) of section 721.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

721.05 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(11) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> Business and Professional Regulation.

Section 28. Subsections (7), (8), and (9) of section 721.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

721.11 Advertising materials; oral statements.-

- (7) Notwithstanding <u>s. 721.05(8)(b)</u> the provisions of s. $\frac{721.05(7)(b)}{(b)}$, a seller may portray possible accommodations or facilities to prospective purchasers in advertising material, or a purchaser public offering statement, without such accommodations or facilities being available for use by purchasers so long as the advertising material or purchaser public offering statement complies with the provisions of subsection (4).
- (8) Notwithstanding <u>s. 721.05(8)(b)</u> the provisions of s. $\frac{721.05(7)(b)}{(b)}$, a developer may portray possible accommodations or facilities to prospective purchasers by disseminating oral or written statements regarding same to broadcast or print media with no obligation on the developer's part to actually construct such accommodations or facilities or to file such accommodations or facilities with the division, but only so long as such oral or written statements are not considered advertising material pursuant to paragraph (3)(e).

37-01077A-24 20241378

(9) Notwithstanding <u>s. 721.05(8)(b)</u> the provisions of s. $\frac{721.05(7)(b)}{721.05(7)(b)}$, a seller of a multisite timeshare plan may portray a possible component site to prospective purchasers with no accommodations or facilities located at such component site being available for use by purchasers so long as the seller satisfies the following requirements:

- (a) A developer of a multisite timeshare plan may disseminate oral or written statements to broadcast or print media describing a possible component site with no obligation on the developer's part to actually add such component site to the multisite timeshare plan or to amend the developer's filing with the division, but only so long as such oral or written statements are not considered advertising material pursuant to paragraph (3) (e).
- (b) A seller may make representations to purchasers in advertising material or in a purchaser public offering statement regarding the possible accommodations and facilities of a possible component site without such accommodations or facilities being available for use by purchasers so long as the advertising material or purchaser public offering statement complies with the provisions of subsection (4).
- (c) In the event a seller makes any of the representations permitted by paragraph (b), the purchase agreement must contain the following conspicuous disclosure unless and until such time as the developer has committed itself in the timeshare instrument to adding the possible component site to the multisite timeshare plan, at which time the seller may portray the component site pursuant to the timeshare instrument without restriction:

37-01077A-24 20241378

[Description of possible component site] is only a possible component site which may never be added to the multisite timeshare plan (or multisite vacation ownership plan or multisite vacation plan or vacation club). Do not purchase an interest in the multisite timeshare plan (or multisite vacation ownership plan or multisite vacation plan or vacation club) in reliance upon the addition of this component site.

- (d) Notwithstanding anything contained in this chapter to the contrary, a developer or managing entity may communicate with existing purchasers regarding possible component sites without restriction, so long as all oral and written statements made to existing purchasers pursuant to this subsection comply with the provisions of subsection (4).
- (e) Any violation of this subsection by a developer, seller, or managing entity constitutes shall constitute a violation of this chapter. Any violation of this subsection with respect to a purchaser whose purchase has not yet closed provides shall be deemed to provide that purchaser with a new 10-day voidability period.

Section 29. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 721.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

721.13 Management.

(2)

(b) The managing entity shall invest the operating and reserve funds of the timeshare plan in accordance with s. 518.11(1); however, the managing entity shall give safety of capital greater weight than production of income. In no event shall the managing entity invest timeshare plan funds with a

37-01077A-24 20241378

developer or with any entity that is not independent of any developer or any managing entity within the meaning of $\underline{s.721.05}$ $\underline{s.721.05(22)}$, and in no event shall the managing entity invest timeshare plan funds in notes and mortgages related in any way to the timeshare plan.

Section 30. Subsections (1) through (21) of section 723.003, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (22), respectively, paragraph (b) of present subsection (7) and present subsections (2) and (18) are amended, and a new subsection (1) is added to that section, to read:

- 723.003 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
- (1) "Department" means the Department of Legal Affairs.
- (3) (2) "Division" means the Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes of <u>Legal Affairs</u> the <u>Department of Business and Professional Regulation</u>.

 $(8) \frac{(7)}{}$

- (b) For purposes of mediation under ss. 723.037 and 723.038, the term "parties" means a park owner as defined in subsection (14) (13) and a homeowners' committee selected pursuant to s. 723.037.
- (19) (18) "Proportionate share" as used in subsection (18) (17) means an amount calculated by dividing equally among the affected developed lots in the park the total costs for the necessary and actual direct costs and impact or hookup fees incurred for governmentally mandated capital improvements serving the recreational and common areas and all affected developed lots in the park.

Section 31. Subsection (14) of section 721.82, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

37-01077A-24 20241378

721.82 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(14) "Trustee" means an attorney who is a member in good standing of The Florida Bar and who has been practicing law for at least 5 years or that attorney's law firm, or a title insurer authorized to transact business in this state under s. 624.401 and who has been authorized to transact business for at least 5 years, appointed as trustee or as substitute trustee in accordance with s. 721.855 or s. 721.856. A receiver appointed under s. 721.26 may act as a trustee under s. 721.855. A trustee must be independent as defined in s. 721.05 s. 721.05(20).

Section 32. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 723.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

723.061 Eviction; grounds, proceedings.—

- (1) A mobile home park owner may evict a mobile home owner, a mobile home tenant, a mobile home occupant, or a mobile home only on one or more of the following grounds:
- (d) Change in use of the land comprising the mobile home park, or the portion thereof from which mobile homes are to be evicted, from mobile home lot rentals to some other use, if:
- 1. The park owner gives written notice to the homeowners' association formed and operating under ss. 723.075-723.079 of its right to purchase the mobile home park, if the land comprising the mobile home park is changing use from mobile home lot rentals to a different use, at the price and under the terms and conditions set forth in the written notice.
- a. The notice shall be delivered to the officers of the homeowners' association by United States mail. Within 45 days after the date of mailing of the notice, the homeowners' association may execute and deliver a contract to the park owner

37-01077A-24 20241378

to purchase the mobile home park at the price and under the terms and conditions set forth in the notice. If the contract between the park owner and the homeowners' association is not executed and delivered to the park owner within the 45-day period, the park owner is under no further obligation to the homeowners' association except as provided in sub-subparagraph b.

- b. If the park owner elects to offer or sell the mobile home park at a price lower than the price specified in her or his initial notice to the officers of the homeowners' association, the homeowners' association has an additional 10 days to meet the revised price, terms, and conditions of the park owner by executing and delivering a revised contract to the park owner.
- c. The park owner is not obligated under this subparagraph or s. 723.071 to give any other notice to, or to further negotiate with, the homeowners' association for the sale of the mobile home park to the homeowners' association after 6 months after the date of the mailing of the initial notice under subsubparagraph a.
- 2. The park owner gives the affected mobile home owners and tenants at least 6 months' notice of the eviction due to the projected change in use and of their need to secure other accommodations. Within 20 days after giving an eviction notice to a mobile home owner, the park owner must provide the division with a copy of the notice. The division must provide the executive director of the Florida Mobile Home Relocation Corporation with a copy of the notice.
 - a. The notice of eviction due to a change in use of the

37-01077A-24 20241378

land must include in a font no smaller than the body of the notice the following statement:

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION FROM THE FLORIDA MOBILE HOME RELOCATION TRUST FUND, ADMINISTERED BY THE FLORIDA MOBILE HOME RELOCATION CORPORATION (FMHRC). FMHRC CONTACT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION.

b. The park owner may not give a notice of increase in lot rental amount within 90 days before giving notice of a change in use.

Section 33. Subsection (1) of section 723.0611, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

723.0611 Florida Mobile Home Relocation Corporation.-

- (1) (a) There is created the Florida Mobile Home Relocation Corporation. The corporation shall be administered by a board of directors made up of six members, three of whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation from a list of nominees submitted by the largest nonprofit association representing mobile home owners in this state, and three of whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation from a list of nominees submitted by the largest nonprofit association representing the manufactured housing industry in this state. All members of the board of directors, including the chair, shall be appointed to serve for staggered 3-year terms.
- (b) A member of the board of directors shall be removed from the board by The Attorney General Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation, with or without cause, shall remove a member of the board of directors from the board immediately

37-01077A-24 20241378

after <u>receiving a the written</u> request for removal from the association in paragraph (a) that originally nominated that board member. The nominating entity must include nominees for replacement with the request for removal, and the <u>Attorney General secretary</u> must immediately fill the vacancy created by the removal. The removal process may not occur more than once in a calendar year.

Section 34. Subsection (1) of section 723.06115, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

723.06115 Florida Mobile Home Relocation Trust Fund.-

established within the Department of <u>Legal Affairs</u> <u>Business and</u> <u>Professional Regulation</u>. The trust fund is to be used to fund the administration and operations of the Florida Mobile Home Relocation Corporation. All interest earned from the investment or deposit of moneys in the trust fund shall be deposited in the trust fund. The trust fund shall be funded from moneys collected by the corporation from mobile home park owners under s. 723.06116, the surcharge collected by the department under s. 723.007(2), the surcharge collected by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and from other appropriated funds.

Section 35. Subsection (15) of section 723.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

723.006 Powers and duties of division.—In performing its duties, the division has the following powers and duties:

(15) The division shall adopt rules to implement the board member training requirements for educational programs as provided in this chapter. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall publish a notice of proposed rule

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37-01077A-24

20241378__

1306 pursuant to s. 120.54(3)(a) by October 1, 2016. Such rules shall

1307 include the requirements for content and notice of the board

1308 member training program to assure that providers meet minimum

1309 training requirements.

Section 36. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect July 1, 2024, this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.