SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1582

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

Civil Rights & Judiciary (originally House sponsored Representatives Gregerson, Kloba, Peterson, Valdez, Pollet, Wylie, Appleton, Bergquist, Doglio, Reeves, Tharinger, Kirby, Jinkins, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/19.

- AN ACT Relating to manufactured/mobile home tenant protections; 1
- 2 amending RCW 59.20.030, 59.20.045, 59.20.050,
- 3 59.20.070, 59.20.073, 59.20.080, 59.20.090, 59.20.150, and 59.20.210;
- 4 and adding a new section to chapter 59.20 RCW.
- BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON: 5
- 6 Sec. 1. RCW 59.20.030 and 2008 c 116 s 2 are each amended to 7 read as follows:
- 8 For purposes of this chapter:
- 9 (1) "Abandoned" as it relates to a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model owned by a tenant in a mobile home park, mobile 10 11 home park cooperative, or mobile home park subdivision or tenancy in
- 12 a mobile home lot means the tenant has defaulted in rent and by 13
- absence and by words or actions reasonably indicates the intention 14 not to continue tenancy;
- 15
- (2) "Consumer price index" has the same meaning as in RCW 16 7.68.020;
- 17 (3) "Eligible organization" includes local governments, local
- 18 housing authorities, nonprofit community or neighborhood-based
- 19 organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes in the state of
- 20 Washington, and regional or statewide nonprofit housing assistance
- 21 organizations;

p. 1 SHB 1582 (((3))) (4) "Housing and low-income assistance organization" means an organization that provides tenants living in mobile home parks, manufactured housing communities, and manufactured/mobile home communities with information about their rights and other pertinent information.

- (5) "Housing authority" or "authority" means any of the public body corporate and politic created in RCW 35.82.030;
- (((4))) (6) "Landlord" means the owner of a mobile home park and 9 includes the agents of a landlord;
- $((\frac{(5)}{(5)}))$ <u>(7)</u> "Local government" means a town government, city government, code city government, or county government in the state 12 of Washington;
 - ((\(\frac{(+6)}{(+6)}\)) (8) "Manufactured home" means a single-family dwelling built according to the United States department of housing and urban development manufactured home construction and safety standards act, which is a national preemptive building code. A manufactured home also: (a) Includes plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems; (b) is built on a permanent chassis; and (c) can be transported in one or more sections with each section at least eight feet wide and forty feet long when transported, or when installed on the site is three hundred twenty square feet or greater;
- $((\frac{(7)}{)})$ "Manufactured/mobile home" means either a 23 manufactured home or a mobile home;
 - (((8))) (10) "Mobile home" means a factory-built dwelling built prior to June 15, 1976, to standards other than the United States department of housing and urban development code, and acceptable under applicable state codes in effect at the time of construction or introduction of the home into the state. Mobile homes have not been built since the introduction of the United States department of housing and urban development manufactured home construction and safety act;
 - ((+9)) (11) "Mobile home lot" means a portion of a mobile home park or manufactured housing community designated as the location of one mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and its accessory buildings, and intended for the exclusive use as a primary residence by the occupants of that mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;
- $((\frac{(10)}{(10)}))$ $\underline{(12)}$ "Mobile home park," "manufactured housing 39 community," or "manufactured/mobile home community" means any real 40 property which is rented or held out for rent to others for the

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placement of two or more mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models for the primary purpose of production of income, except where such real property is rented or held out for rent for seasonal recreational purpose only and is not intended for year-round occupancy;

((\(\frac{(11+)}{11+}\)) (13) "Mobile home park cooperative" or "manufactured housing cooperative" means real property consisting of common areas and two or more lots held out for placement of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models in which both the individual lots and the common areas are owned by an association of shareholders which leases or otherwise extends the right to occupy individual lots to its own members;

 $((\frac{12}{12}))$ (14) "Mobile home park subdivision" or "manufactured housing subdivision" means real property, whether it is called a subdivision, condominium, or planned unit development, consisting of common areas and two or more lots held for placement of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models in which there is private ownership of the individual lots and common, undivided ownership of the common areas by owners of the individual lots;

(((13))) (15) "Notice of sale" means a notice required under RCW 59.20.300 to be delivered to all tenants of a manufactured/mobile home community and other specified parties within fourteen days after the date on which any advertisement, multiple listing, or public notice advertises that a manufactured/mobile home community is for sale;

(((14))) <u>(16)</u> "Park model" means a recreational vehicle intended for permanent or semi-permanent installation and is used as a primary residence;

(((15))) (17) "Qualified sale of manufactured/mobile home community" means the sale, as defined in RCW 82.45.010, of land and improvements comprising a manufactured/mobile home community that is transferred in a single purchase to a qualified tenant organization or to an eligible organization for the purpose of preserving the property as a manufactured/mobile home community;

 $((\frac{(16)}{(16)}))$ <u>(18)</u> "Qualified tenant organization" means a formal organization of tenants within a manufactured/mobile home community, with the only requirement for membership consisting of being a tenant;

 $((\frac{(17)}{(17)}))$ "Recreational vehicle" means a travel trailer, 40 motor home, truck camper, or camping trailer that is primarily

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- 1 designed and used as temporary living quarters, is either self-
- 2 propelled or mounted on or drawn by another vehicle, is transient, is
- 3 not occupied as a primary residence, and is not immobilized or
- 4 permanently affixed to a mobile home lot;
- 5 (((18))) (20) "Tenant" means any person, except a transient, who 6 rents a mobile home lot;
- 7 (((19))) (21) "Transient" means a person who rents a mobile home 8 lot for a period of less than one month for purposes other than as a
- 9 primary residence;
- 10 $((\frac{(20)}{(20)}))$ (22) "Occupant" means any person, including a live-in
- 11 care provider, other than a tenant, who occupies a mobile home,
- 12 manufactured home, or park model and mobile home lot.
- 13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 59.20.045 and 1993 c 66 s 18 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
- Rules are enforceable against a tenant only if:
- 16 (1) Their purpose is to promote the convenience, health, safety,
- 17 or welfare of the residents, protect and preserve the premises from
- 18 abusive use, or make a fair distribution of services and facilities
- 19 made available for the tenants generally;
- 20 (2) They are reasonably related to the purpose for which they are 21 adopted;
- 22 (3) They apply to all tenants in a fair manner;
- 23 (4) They are not for the purpose of evading an obligation of the landlord; ((and))
- 25 (5) They are not retaliatory or discriminatory in nature; and
- 26 (6) With respect to any new or amended rules not contained within the rental agreement:
- 28 <u>(a) They only go into effect at the end of the term of the rental</u>
 29 <u>agreement; and</u>
- 30 (b) (i) The tenant has agreed, in writing, to the new or amended 31 rule; or
- 32 <u>(ii) The tenant was provided at least ninety days' written notice</u>
 33 of the new or amended rule.
- 34 **Sec. 3.** RCW 59.20.050 and 1999 c 359 s 4 are each amended to 35 read as follows:
- 36 (1) No landlord may offer a mobile home lot for rent to anyone without offering a written rental agreement for a term of ((one)) two

38 year \underline{s} or more. No landlord may offer to anyone any rental agreement

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for a term of ((one)) two years or more for which the monthly rental 1 2 is greater, or the terms of payment or other material conditions more burdensome to the tenant, than any month-to-month rental agreement 3 also offered to such tenant or prospective tenant. Anyone who desires 4 to occupy a mobile home lot for other than a term of ((one)) two 5 6 years or more may have the option to be on a month-to-month basis but must waive, in writing, the right to such ((one)) two years or more 7 term: PROVIDED, That annually, at any anniversary date of the tenancy 8 9 the tenant may require that the landlord provide a written rental agreement for a term of ((one)) two years. No landlord shall allow a 10 11 mobile home, manufactured home, or park model to be moved into a mobile home park in this state until a written rental agreement has 12 13 been signed by and is in the possession of the parties: PROVIDED, 14 That if the landlord allows the tenant to move a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model into a mobile home park without 15 16 obtaining a written rental agreement for a term of ((one)) two years 17 or more, or a written waiver of the right to a ((one)) two-year term or more, the term of the tenancy shall be deemed to be for ((one)) 18 two years from the date of occupancy of the mobile home lot; 19

20 (2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not 21 apply if:

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- (a) The mobile home park or part thereof has been acquired or is under imminent threat of condemnation for a public works project, or
- 24 (b) An employer-employee relationship exists between a landlord 25 and tenant;
- 26 (3) The provisions of this section shall apply to any tenancy 27 upon expiration of the term of any oral or written rental agreement 28 governing such tenancy.
- 29 **Sec. 4.** RCW 59.20.060 and 2012 c 213 s 1 are each amended to 30 read as follows:
- 31 (1) Any mobile home space tenancy regardless of the term, shall 32 be based upon a written rental agreement, signed by the parties, 33 which shall contain:
 - (a) The terms for the payment of rent, including time and place, and any additional charges to be paid by the tenant. Additional charges that occur less frequently than monthly shall be itemized in a billing to the tenant. Accurate historical information regarding the past five years' rental amount charged for the lot or space must

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1 also be included, together with the projected rent for that lot or
2 space for the next two years;

- (b) Reasonable rules for guest parking which shall be clearly stated:
 - (c) The rules and regulations of the park;

- (d) The name and address of the person who is the landlord, and if such person does not reside in the state there shall also be designated by name and address a person who resides in the county where the mobile home park is located who is authorized to act as agent for the purposes of service of notices and process. If no designation is made of a person to act as agent, then the person to whom rental payments are to be made shall be considered the agent;
- (e) The name and address of any party who has a secured interest in the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;
 - (f) A forwarding address of the tenant or the name and address of a person who would likely know the whereabouts of the tenant in the event of an emergency or an abandonment of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;
 - (g) (i) A covenant by the landlord that, except for acts or events beyond the control of the landlord, the mobile home park will not be converted to a land use that will prevent the space that is the subject of the lease from continuing to be used for its intended use for a period of ((three)) five years after the beginning of the term of the rental agreement;
 - (ii) A rental agreement may, in the alternative, contain a statement that: "The park may be sold or otherwise transferred at any time with the result that subsequent owners may close the mobile home park, or that the landlord may close the park at any time after the required notice." The covenant or statement required by this subsection must: (A) Appear in print that is in bold face and is larger than the other text of the rental agreement; (B) be set off by means of a box, blank space, or comparable visual device; and (C) be located directly above the tenant's signature on the rental agreement.
- (h) The terms and conditions under which any deposit or portion thereof may be withheld by the landlord upon termination of the rental agreement if any moneys are paid to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit or as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a rental agreement;

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(i) A listing of the utilities, services, and facilities which will be available to the tenant during the tenancy and the nature of the fees, if any, to be charged together with a statement that, in the event any utilities, services, or facilities are changed to be charged independent of the rent, discontinued or eliminated during the term of the rental agreement, the landlord agrees to decrease the amount of rent charged proportionately;

- (j) A written description, picture, plan, or map of the boundaries of a mobile home space sufficient to inform the tenant of the exact location of the tenant's space in relation to other tenants' spaces;
- (k) A written description, picture, plan, or map of the location of the tenant's responsibility for utility hook-ups, consistent with RCW 59.20.130(6);
- 15 (1) A statement of the current zoning of the land on which the 16 mobile home park is located; and
 - (m) A statement of the expiration date of any conditional use, temporary use, or other land use permit subject to a fixed expiration date that is necessary for the continued use of the land as a mobile home park.
- 21 (2) Any rental agreement executed between the landlord and tenant 22 shall not contain any provision:
 - (a) Which allows the landlord to charge a fee for guest parking unless a violation of the rules for guest parking occurs: PROVIDED, That a fee may be charged for guest parking which covers an extended period of time as defined in the rental agreement;
 - (b) Which authorizes the towing or impounding of a vehicle except upon notice to the owner thereof or the tenant whose guest is the owner of the vehicle;
 - (c) Which allows the landlord to alter the due date for rent payment or increase the rent: (i) During the term of the rental agreement if the term is less than ((one)) two years, or (ii) more frequently than ((annually)) biennially if the term is for ((one)) two years or more: PROVIDED, That a rental agreement may include an escalation clause for a pro rata share of any increase in the mobile home park's real property taxes or utility assessments or charges, over the base taxes or utility assessments or charges of the year in which the rental agreement took effect, if the clause also provides for a pro rata reduction in rent or other charges in the event of a reduction in real property taxes or utility assessments or charges,

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- below the base year: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a rental agreement for a term exceeding ((one)) two years may provide for ((annual)) biennial increases in rent in specified amounts or by a formula specified in such agreement;
 - (d) By which the tenant agrees to waive or forego rights or remedies under this chapter;
 - (e) Allowing the landlord to charge an "entrance fee" or an "exit fee." However, an entrance fee may be charged as part of a continuing care contract as defined in RCW 70.38.025;
 - (f) Which allows the landlord to charge a fee for guests: PROVIDED, That a landlord may establish rules charging for guests who remain on the premises for more than fifteen days in any sixty-day period;
 - (g) By which the tenant agrees to waive or forego homestead rights provided by chapter 6.13 RCW. This subsection shall not prohibit such waiver after a default in rent so long as such waiver is in writing signed by the husband and wife or by an unmarried claimant and in consideration of the landlord's agreement not to terminate the tenancy for a period of time specified in the waiver if the landlord would be otherwise entitled to terminate the tenancy under this chapter; or
- (h) By which, at the time the rental agreement is entered into, the landlord and tenant agree to the selection of a particular arbitrator.
- 25 (3) Any provision prohibited under this section that is included 26 in a rental agreement is unenforceable.
- **Sec. 5.** RCW 59.20.070 and 2012 c 213 s 2 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

A landlord shall not:

(1) Deny any tenant the right to sell such tenant's mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park, or prohibit, in any manner, any tenant from posting on the tenant's manufactured/mobile home or park model, or on the rented mobile home lot, a commercially reasonable "for sale" sign or any similar sign designed to advertise the sale of the manufactured/mobile home or park model. In addition, a landlord shall not require the removal of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model from the park because of the sale thereof. Requirements for the transfer of the rental agreement are in RCW 59.20.073. Nothing in this subsection prohibits a landlord from

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enforcing reasonable rules or restrictions regarding the placement of "for sale" signs on the tenant's manufactured/mobile home or park model, or on the rented mobile home lot, if (a) the main purpose of the rules or restrictions is to protect the safety of park tenants or residents and (b) the rules or restrictions comply with RCW 59.20.045. The landlord may restrict the number of "for sale" signs on the lot to two and may restrict the size of the signs to conform to those in common use by home sale businesses;

- (2) Restrict the tenant's freedom of choice in purchasing goods or services but may reserve the right to approve or disapprove any exterior structural improvements on a mobile home space: PROVIDED, That door-to-door solicitation in the mobile home park may be restricted in the rental agreement. Door-to-door solicitation does not include public officials, housing and low-income assistance organizations, or candidates for public office meeting or distributing information to tenants in accordance with subsection (3) or (4) of this section;
- (3) Prohibit the distribution of information or meetings by tenants of the mobile home park to discuss mobile home living and affairs, including political caucuses or forums for or speeches of public officials or candidates for public office, meetings with housing and low-income assistance organizations, or meetings of organizations that represent the interest of tenants in the park, held in a tenant's home or any of the park community or recreation halls if these halls are open for the use of the tenants, conducted at reasonable times and in an orderly manner on the premises, nor penalize any tenant for participation in such activities;
- (4) Prohibit a public official, housing and low-income assistance organization, or candidate for public office from meeting with or distributing information to tenants in their individual mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models, nor penalize any tenant for participating in these meetings or receiving this information;
- (5) Evict a tenant, terminate a rental agreement, decline to renew a rental agreement, increase rental or other tenant obligations, decrease services, or modify park rules in retaliation for any of the following actions on the part of a tenant taken in good faith:
- 38 (a) Filing a complaint with any federal, state, county, or 39 municipal governmental authority relating to any alleged violation by 40 the landlord of an applicable statute, regulation, or ordinance;

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- (b) Requesting the landlord to comply with the provision of this chapter or other applicable statute, regulation, or ordinance of the state, county, or municipality;
 - (c) Filing suit against the landlord for any reason;

- 5 (d) Participation or membership in any homeowners association or 6 group;
 - (6) Charge to any tenant a utility fee in excess of actual utility costs or intentionally cause termination or interruption of any tenant's utility services, including water, heat, electricity, or gas, except when an interruption of a reasonable duration is required to make necessary repairs;
 - (7) Remove or exclude a tenant from the premises unless this chapter is complied with or the exclusion or removal is under an appropriate court order; or
 - (8) Prevent the entry or require the removal of a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model for the sole reason that the mobile home has reached a certain age. Nothing in this subsection shall limit a ((landlords')) landlord's right to exclude or expel a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model for any other reason, including but not limited to, failure to comply with fire, safety, and other provisions of local ordinances and state laws relating to mobile homes, manufactured homes, and park models, as long as the action conforms to this chapter or any other relevant statutory provision.
- **Sec. 6.** RCW 59.20.073 and 2012 c 213 s 3 are each amended to 26 read as follows:
 - (1) Any rental agreement shall be assignable by the tenant to any person to whom he or she sells or transfers title to the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model.
 - (2) A tenant who sells a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park shall notify the landlord in writing of the date of the intended sale and transfer of the rental agreement at least fifteen days in advance of such intended transfer and shall notify the buyer in writing of the provisions of this section. The tenant shall verify in writing to the landlord payment of all taxes, rent, and reasonable expenses due on the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and mobile home lot. The tenant shall notify the buyer of all taxes, rent, and reasonable expenses due on the manufactured/mobile home or park model and the mobile home lot.

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(3) ((The landlord shall notify the selling tenant, in writing, of a refusal to permit transfer of the rental agreement at least seven days in advance of such intended transfer.)) At least seven days in advance of such intended transfer, the landlord shall:

- (a) Notify the selling tenant, in writing, of a refusal to permit transfer of the rental agreement; or
- (b) If the landlord approves of the transfer, provide the buyer with copies of the written rental agreement, the rules and regulations, and all other documents related to the tenancy. A landlord may not accept payment for rent or deposit from the buyer until the landlord has provided the buyer with these copies.
- (4) The landlord may require the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model to meet applicable fire and safety standards if a state or local agency responsible for the enforcement of fire and safety standards has issued a notice of violation of those standards to the tenant and those violations remain uncorrected. Upon correction of the violation to the satisfaction of the state or local agency responsible for the enforcement of that notice of violation, the landlord's refusal to permit the transfer is deemed withdrawn.
- (5) The landlord shall approve or disapprove of the assignment of a rental agreement on the same basis that the landlord approves or disapproves of any new tenant, and any disapproval shall be in writing. Consent to an assignment shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- (6) Failure to notify the landlord in writing, as required under subsection (2) of this section; or failure of the new tenant to make a good faith attempt to arrange an interview with the landlord to discuss assignment of the rental agreement; or failure of the current or new tenant to obtain written approval of the landlord for assignment of the rental agreement, shall be grounds for disapproval of such transfer.
- Sec. 7. RCW 59.20.080 and 2012 c 213 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:
- (1) A landlord shall not terminate or fail to renew a tenancy of a tenant or the occupancy of an occupant, of whatever duration except for one or more of the following reasons:
- (a) Substantial violation, or repeated or periodic violations, of an enforceable rule of the mobile home park as established by the landlord at the inception of the tenancy or as assumed subsequently with the consent of the tenant or for violation of the tenant's

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duties as provided in RCW 59.20.140. The tenant shall be given written notice to cease the rule violation immediately. The notice shall state that failure to cease the violation of the rule or any subsequent violation of that or any other rule shall result in termination of the tenancy, and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within ((fifteen)) thirty days: PROVIDED, That for a periodic violation the notice shall also specify that repetition of the same violation shall result in termination: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the case of a violation of a "material change" in park rules with respect to pets, tenants with minor children living with them, or recreational facilities, the tenant shall be given written notice under this chapter of a six month period in which to comply or vacate;

(b) Nonpayment of rent or other charges specified in the rental agreement, upon ((five)) <u>fifteen</u> days written notice to pay rent and/or other charges or to vacate;

- (c) Conviction of the tenant of a crime, commission of which threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the other mobile home park tenants. The tenant shall be given written notice of a fifteen day period in which to vacate;
- (d) Failure of the tenant to comply with local ordinances and state laws and regulations relating to mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models or mobile home, manufactured homes, or park model living within a reasonable time after the tenant's receipt of notice of such noncompliance from the appropriate governmental agency;
- (e) Change of land use of the mobile home park including, but not limited to, conversion to a use other than for mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models or conversion of the mobile home park to a mobile home park cooperative or mobile home park subdivision. The landlord shall give the tenants ((twelve months!)) three years! notice in advance of the effective date of such change;
- (f) Engaging in "criminal activity." "Criminal activity" means a criminal act defined by statute or ordinance that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the tenants. A park owner seeking to evict a tenant or occupant under this subsection need not produce evidence of a criminal conviction, even if the alleged misconduct constitutes a criminal offense. Notice from a law enforcement agency of criminal activity constitutes sufficient grounds, but not the only grounds, for an eviction under this subsection. Notification of the

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seizure of illegal drugs under RCW 59.20.155 is evidence of criminal activity and is grounds for an eviction under this subsection. The requirement that any tenant or occupant register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130 is grounds for eviction of the sex offender under this subsection. If criminal activity is alleged to be a basis of termination, the park owner may proceed directly to an unlawful detainer action;

- (g) The tenant's application for tenancy contained a material misstatement that induced the park owner to approve the tenant as a resident of the park, and the park owner discovers and acts upon the misstatement within one year of the time the resident began paying rent;
- (h) If the landlord serves a tenant three ((fifteen-day)) thirty-day notices, each of which was valid under (a) of this subsection at the time of service, within a twelve-month period to comply or vacate for failure to comply with the material terms of the rental agreement or an enforceable park rule, other than failure to pay rent by the due date. The applicable twelve-month period shall commence on the date of the first violation;
- (i) Failure of the tenant to comply with obligations imposed upon tenants by applicable provisions of municipal, county, and state codes, statutes, ordinances, and regulations, including this chapter. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within fifteen days;
- (j) The tenant engages in disorderly or substantially annoying conduct upon the park premises that results in the destruction of the rights of others to the peaceful enjoyment and use of the premises. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within fifteen days;
- (k) The tenant creates a nuisance that materially affects the health, safety, and welfare of other park residents. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to cease the conduct that constitutes a nuisance immediately. The notice must describe the nuisance and state (i) what the tenant must do to cease the nuisance and (ii) that failure to cease the conduct will result in termination

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of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises in five days;

- (1) Any other substantial just cause that materially affects the health, safety, and welfare of other park residents. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must describe the harm caused by the tenant, describe what the tenant must do to comply and to discontinue the harm, and state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within fifteen days; or
- (m) Failure to pay rent by the due date provided for in the rental agreement three or more times in a twelve-month period, commencing with the date of the first violation, after service of a ((five-day)) fifteen-day notice to comply or vacate.
- (2) Within five days of a notice of eviction as required by subsection (1)(a) of this section, the landlord and tenant shall submit any dispute to mediation. The parties may agree in writing to mediation by an independent third party or through industry mediation procedures. If the parties cannot agree, then mediation shall be through industry mediation procedures. A duty is imposed upon both parties to participate in the mediation process in good faith for a period of ten days for an eviction under subsection (1)(a) of this section. It is a defense to an eviction under subsection (1)(a) of this section that a landlord did not participate in the mediation process in good faith.
- (3) A tenant evicted from a mobile home park under this section shall be allowed one hundred twenty days within which to sell the tenant's mobile home, manufactured home, or park model in place within the mobile home park: PROVIDED, That the tenant remains current in the payment of rent incurred after eviction, and pays any past due rent, reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs at the time the rental agreement is assigned. The provisions of RCW 59.20.073 regarding transfer of rental agreements apply.
- (4) Chapters 59.12 and 59.18 RCW govern the eviction of recreational vehicles, as defined in RCW 59.20.030, from mobile home parks. This chapter governs the eviction of mobile homes, manufactured homes, park models, and recreational vehicles used as a primary residence from a mobile home park.
- **Sec. 8.** RCW 59.20.090 and 2010 c 8 s 19034 are each amended to read as follows:

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(1) Unless otherwise agreed rental agreements shall be for a term of ((one)) two years. Any rental agreement of whatever duration shall be automatically renewed for the term of the original rental agreement, unless a different specified term is agreed upon.

- (2) (a) A landlord seeking to increase the rent upon expiration of the term of a rental agreement of any duration shall notify the tenant in writing ((three)) six months prior to the effective date of any increase in rent.
- 9 <u>(b) Any rental agreement or renewal of a rental agreement shall</u>
 10 <u>include or shall be deemed to include:</u>
 - (i) A provision requiring a minimum of six months prior written notice whenever the periodic or monthly rent is to be increased; and
 - (ii) A provision prohibiting any periodic or monthly rent increase that exceeds the lesser of three percent or the consumer price index increase over the periodic or monthly rental rate charged the same tenant for the same housing unit and same services for any period or month during the preceding two-year period.
 - (3) A tenant shall notify the landlord in writing one month prior to the expiration of a rental agreement of an intention not to renew.
 - (4) (a) The tenant may terminate the rental agreement upon thirty days written notice whenever a change in the location of the tenant's employment requires a change in his or her residence, and shall not be liable for rental following such termination unless after due diligence and reasonable effort the landlord is not able to rent the mobile home lot at a fair rental. If the landlord is not able to rent the lot, the tenant shall remain liable for the rental specified in the rental agreement until the lot is rented or the original term ends.
 - (b) Any tenant who is a member of the armed forces, including the national guard and armed forces reserves, or that tenant's spouse or dependent, may terminate a rental agreement with less than thirty days notice if the tenant receives reassignment or deployment orders which do not allow greater notice. The tenant shall provide notice of the reassignment or deployment order to the landlord no later than seven days after receipt.
- **Sec. 9.** RCW 59.20.150 and 1999 c 359 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:
- 38 (1) Any notice required by this chapter to be given to a tenant 39 shall be served on behalf of the landlord: (a) By delivering a copy

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- personally to the tenant; or (b) if the tenant is absent from the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model by affixing a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place on the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and also sending a copy through the mail addressed to the tenant at the tenant's last known address.
 - (2) Any notice required by this chapter to be given to a tenant shall be in a language that the particular tenant to whom it is given can understand.

- (3) Any notice required by this chapter to be given to the landlord shall be served by the tenant in the same manner as provided for in subsection (1) of this section, or by mail to the landlord at such place as shall be expressly provided in the rental agreement.
- $((\frac{3}{1}))$ (4) The landlord shall state in any notice of eviction 14 required by RCW 59.20.080(1) as now or hereafter amended the specific 15 reason for eviction in a clear and concise manner.
- **Sec. 10.** RCW 59.20.210 and 2013 c 23 s 117 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) If at any time during the tenancy, the landlord fails to carry out any of the duties imposed by RCW 59.20.130, and notice of the defect is given to the landlord pursuant to RCW 59.20.200, the tenant may submit to the landlord or the landlord's designated agent by certified mail or in person at least two bids to perform the repairs necessary to correct the defective condition from licensed or registered persons, or if no licensing or registration requirement applies to the type of work to be performed, from responsible persons capable of performing such repairs. Such bids may be submitted to the landlord at the same time as notice is given pursuant to RCW 59.20.200.
 - (2) If the landlord fails to commence repair of the defective condition within a reasonable time after receipt of notice from the tenant, the tenant may contract with the person submitting the lowest bid to make the repair, and upon the completion of the repair and an opportunity for inspection by the landlord or the landlord's designated agent, the tenant may deduct the cost of repair from the rent in an amount not to exceed the sum expressed in dollars representing one month's rental of the tenant's mobile home space in any calendar year. When, however, the landlord is required to begin remedying the defective condition within thirty days under RCW 59.20.200, the tenant cannot contract for repairs for at least

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- fifteen days following receipt of bids by the landlord. The total costs of repairs deducted by the tenant in any calendar year under this subsection shall not exceed the sum expressed in dollars representing one month's rental of the tenant's mobile home space.
 - (3) Two or more tenants ((shall not)) may collectively initiate remedies under this section. Remedial action under this section shall not be initiated for conditions in the design or construction existing in a mobile home park before June 7, 1984.
 - (4) The provisions of this section shall not:

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- 10 (a) Create a relationship of employer and employee between 11 landlord and tenant; or
 - (b) Create liability under the worker's compensation act; or
- 13 (c) Constitute the tenant as an agent of the landlord for the 14 purposes of mechanics' and material suppliers' liens under chapter 15 60.04 RCW.
 - (5) Any repair work performed under this section shall comply with the requirements imposed by any applicable code, statute, ordinance, or rule. A landlord whose property is damaged because of repairs performed in a negligent manner may recover the actual damages in an action against the tenant.
 - (6) Nothing in this section shall prevent the tenant from agreeing with the landlord to undertake the repairs in return for cash payment or a reasonable reduction in rent, the agreement to be between the parties, and this agreement does not alter the landlord's obligations under this chapter.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 59.20 RCW to read as follows:
 - (1) A court may order an unlawful detainer action to be of limited dissemination for one or more persons if: (a) The court finds that the plaintiff's case was sufficiently without basis in fact or law; (b) the tenancy was reinstated by the court; or (c) other good cause exists for limiting dissemination of the unlawful detainer action.
- 34 (2) An order to limit dissemination of an unlawful detainer 35 action must be in writing.
 - (3) When an order for limited dissemination of an unlawful detainer action has been entered with respect to a person, a tenant screening service provider must not: (a) Disclose the existence of that unlawful detainer action in a tenant screening report pertaining

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- 1 to the person for whom dissemination has been limited, or (b) use the
- 2 unlawful detainer action as a factor in determining any score or
- 3 recommendation to be included in a tenant screening report pertaining
- 4 to the person for whom dissemination has been limited.

--- END ---

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