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SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1043

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By House Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives McEntire, Leavitt, and Walsh)

READ FIRST TIME 01/19/23.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to association records in common interest
- 2 communities; and amending RCW 64.32.170, 64.34.372, 64.38.045, and
- 3 64.90.495.

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- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 64.32.170 and 1965 ex.s. c 11 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) The manager or board of directors, as the case may be, shall keep complete and accurate books and records of the receipts and expenditures affecting the common areas and facilities, specifying and itemizing the maintenance and repair expenses of the common areas and facilities and any other expenses incurred. Such books and records and the vouchers authorizing payments shall be available for examination by the apartment owners, their agents or attorneys, at any reasonable time or times. All books and records shall be kept in accordance with good accounting procedures and be audited at least once a year by an auditor outside of the organization.
 - (2) (a) The association shall keep a complete and accurate list of apartment owners. The list must include the names of the current apartment owners, addresses used by the association to communicate

20 with them, and the number of votes allocated to each apartment.

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- 1 (b) Subject to (d) and (e) of this subsection, the list of
 2 apartment owners must be made available for examination and copying
 3 by all apartment owners and their authorized agents as follows,
 4 unless agreed otherwise:
- 5 <u>(i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient</u> 6 <u>time and location; and</u>
 - (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.

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- 8 (c) A right to copy the list of apartment owners under (b) of
 9 this subsection includes the right to receive copies by photocopying
 10 or other means, including through an electronic transmission if
 11 available upon request by an apartment owner.
- 12 (d) The association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and 13 providing copies of the list of apartment owners and for supervising 14 an apartment owner's inspection of the list.
- 15 <u>(e) The list of apartment owners must have the following</u> 16 information redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:
- 17 <u>(i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any</u> 18 <u>apartment owner or resident;</u>
 - (ii) The address of any apartment owner or resident who is known to the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program established by law;
 - (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or
- 24 <u>(iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a</u> 25 <u>court order.</u>
- 26 <u>(f) Information provided pursuant to this subsection (2) may not</u> 27 be used for any commercial purposes.
- 28 (g) An association is not obligated to compile or synthesize information for the purposes of this subsection.
- 30 **Sec. 2.** RCW 64.34.372 and 1992 c 220 s 19 are each amended to 31 read as follows:
- (1) The association shall keep financial records sufficiently 32 33 detailed to enable the association to comply with RCW 64.34.425. All financial and other records of the association, including but not 34 limited to checks, bank records, and invoices, are the property of 35 association, but shall be made reasonably available for 36 examination and copying by the manager of the association, any unit 37 38 owner, or the owner's authorized agents. At least annually, the 39 association shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a financial

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statement of the association in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The financial statements of condominiums consisting of ((fifty)) 50 or more units shall be audited at least annually by a certified public accountant. In the case of a condominium consisting of fewer than ((fifty)) 50 units, an annual audit is also required but may be waived annually by unit owners other than the declarant of units to which ((fifty)) 60 percent of the votes are allocated, excluding the votes allocated to units owned by the declarant.

- (2) The funds of an association shall be kept in accounts in the name of the association and shall not be commingled with the funds of any other association, nor with the funds of any manager of the association or any other person responsible for the custody of such funds. Any reserve funds of an association shall be kept in a segregated account and any transaction affecting such funds, including the issuance of checks, shall require the signature of at least two persons who are officers or directors of the association.
- (3) (a) The association shall keep a complete and accurate list of unit owners. The list must include the names of the current unit owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them, and the number of votes allocated to each unit.
- (b) Subject to (d) and (e) of this subsection, the list of unit owners must be made available for examination and copying by all unit owners and their authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:
- (i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient time and location; and
 - (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.
- (c) A right to copy the list of unit owners under (b) of this subsection includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through an electronic transmission if available upon request by a unit owner.
- (d) An association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing copies of the list of unit owners and for supervising a unit owner's inspection of the list.
- 36 <u>(e) The list of unit owners must have the following information</u>
 37 <u>redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:</u>
- (i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any unit owner or resident;

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- (ii) The address of any unit owner or resident who is known to
 the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality
 program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program
 established by law;
- 5 (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or
- 6 <u>(iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a</u>
 7 <u>court order.</u>
- 8 (f) Information provided pursuant to this subsection (3) may not 9 be used for any commercial purposes.
- 10 (g) An association is not obligated to compile or synthesize 11 information for the purposes of this subsection.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 64.38.045 and 1995 c 283 s 9 are each amended to 13 read as follows:

- (1) The association or its managing agent shall keep financial and other records sufficiently detailed to enable the association to fully declare to each owner the true statement of its financial status. All financial and other records of the association, including but not limited to checks, bank records, and invoices, in whatever form they are kept, are the property of the association. Each association managing agent shall turn over all original books and records to the association immediately upon termination of the management relationship with the association, or upon such other demand as is made by the board of directors. An association managing agent is entitled to keep copies of association records. All records which the managing agent has turned over to the association shall be made reasonably available for the examination and copying by the managing agent.
- (2) All records of the association, ((including the names and addresses of owners and other occupants of the lots)) except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, shall be available for examination by all owners, holders of mortgages on the lots, and their respective authorized agents on reasonable advance notice during normal working hours at the offices of the association or its managing agent. The association shall not release the unlisted telephone number of any owner. The association may impose and collect a reasonable charge for copies and any reasonable costs incurred by the association in providing access to records.
- (3) At least annually, the association shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a financial statement of the association. The financial

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statements of associations with annual assessments of ((fifty thousand dollars)) \$50,000 or more shall be audited at least annually by an independent certified public accountant, but the audit may be waived if ((sixty-seven)) 67 percent of the votes cast by owners, in person or by proxy, at a meeting of the association at which a quorum is present, vote each year to waive the audit.

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- (4) The funds of the association shall be kept in accounts in the name of the association and shall not be commingled with the funds of any other association, nor with the funds of any manager of the association or any other person responsible for the custody of such funds.
- 12 (5) (a) The association shall keep a complete and accurate list of
 13 lot owners. The list must include the names of the current lot
 14 owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them,
 15 and the number of votes allocated to each lot.
 - (b) Subject to (d) and (e) of this subsection, the list of lot owners must be made available for examination and copying by all owners and their respective authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:
- 20 <u>(i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient</u>
 21 <u>time and location; and</u>
 - (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.
 - (c) A right to copy the list of lot owners under (b) of this subsection includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through an electronic transmission if available upon request by a lot owner.
 - (d) An association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing copies of the list of lot owners and for supervising a lot owner's inspection of the list.
- 30 <u>(e) The list of lot owners must have the following information</u>
 31 <u>redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:</u>
- 32 <u>(i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any</u>
 33 <u>lot owner or resident;</u>
- (ii) The address of any lot owner or resident who is known to the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program established by law;
- 38 (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or
- (iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a court order.

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- 1 (f) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be used 2 for any commercial purposes.
- 3 (g) An association is not obligated to compile or synthesize
 4 information for the purposes of this subsection.
- 5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 64.90.495 and 2018 c 277 s 320 are each amended to 6 read as follows:
 - (1) An association must retain the following:

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- 8 (a) The current budget, detailed records of receipts and 9 expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the 10 association, and other appropriate accounting records within the last 11 seven years;
 - (b) Minutes of all meetings of its unit owners and board other than executive sessions, a record of all actions taken by the unit owners or board without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken by a committee in place of the board on behalf of the association;
 - (c) The names of current unit owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them, and the number of votes allocated to each unit;
- 19 (d) Its original or restated declaration, organizational 20 documents, all amendments to the declaration and organizational 21 documents, and all rules currently in effect;
- (e) All financial statements and tax returns of the association for the past seven years;
- 24 (f) A list of the names and addresses of its current board 25 members and officers;
- 26 (g) Its most recent annual report delivered to the secretary of 27 state, if any;
- 28 (h) Financial and other records sufficiently detailed to enable 29 the association to comply with RCW 64.90.640;
- 30 (i) Copies of contracts to which it is or was a party within the 31 last seven years;
- 32 (j) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee to 33 approve or deny any requests for design or architectural approval for 34 a period of seven years after the decision is made;
- 35 (k) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee 36 concerning a decision to enforce the governing documents for a period 37 of seven years after the decision is made;
- 38 (1) Copies of insurance policies under which the association is a 39 named insured;

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(m) Any current warranties provided to the association;

- 2 (n) Copies of all notices provided to unit owners or the 3 association in accordance with this chapter or the governing 4 documents; and
 - (o) Ballots, proxies, absentee ballots, and other records related to voting by unit owners for one year after the election, action, or vote to which they relate.
 - (2) (a) Subject to subsections (3) ((and (4))) through (5) of this section, and except as provided in (b) of this subsection, all records required to be retained by an association must be made available for examination and copying by all unit owners, holders of mortgages on the units, and their respective authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:
- $((\frac{1}{2}))$ <u>(i)</u> During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient time and location; and
- $((\frac{b}{b}))$ <u>(ii)</u> At the offices of the association or its managing 17 agent.
 - (b) The list of unit owners required to be retained by an association under subsection (1)(c) of this section is not required to be made available for examination and copying by holders of mortgages on the units.
 - (3) Records retained by an association ((may be withheld from inspection and copying to the extent that they concern)) must have the following information redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:
 - (a) Personnel and medical records relating to specific individuals;
 - (b) Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to purchase or provide goods or services currently being negotiated;
- 30 (c) Existing or potential litigation or mediation, arbitration, 31 or administrative proceedings;
 - (d) Existing or potential matters involving federal, state, or local administrative or other formal proceedings before a governmental tribunal for enforcement of the governing documents;
 - (e) Legal advice or communications that are otherwise protected by the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product doctrine, including communications with the managing agent or other agent of the association;
- 39 (f) Information the disclosure of which would violate a court 40 order or law;

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(g) Records of an executive session of the board;

- 2 (h) Individual unit files other than those of the requesting unit 3 owner;
 - (i) Unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any unit owner or resident;
 - (j) Security access information provided to the association for emergency purposes; or
- 8 (k) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure to the 9 members.
 - (4) In addition to the requirements in subsection (3) of this section, an association must, prior to disclosure of the list of unit owners required to be retained by an association under subsection (1)(c) of this section, redact or otherwise remove the address of any unit owner or resident who is known to the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program established by law.
 - (5) An association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing copies of any records under this section and for supervising the unit owner's inspection.
 - ((+5))) (6) A right to copy records under this section includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through an electronic transmission if available upon request by the unit owner.
- $((\frac{(6)}{(6)}))$ An association is not obligated to compile or 25 synthesize information.
- $((\frac{(7)}{)})$ (8) Information provided pursuant to this section may not 27 be used for commercial purposes.
 - $((\frac{(8)}{(8)}))$ An association's managing agent must deliver all of the association's original books and records to the association immediately upon termination of its management relationship with the association, or upon such other demand as is made by the board. An association managing agent may keep copies of the association records at its own expense.

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