SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1259

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

 ${\bf By}$ House Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representatives Seaquist and Kelley)

READ FIRST TIME 02/15/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to the notice requirement for homeowners' 2 associations meetings; and amending RCW 64.38.035.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 64.38.035 and 1995 c 283 s 7 are each amended to read 5 as follows:

6 (1) A meeting of the association must be held at least once each 7 year. Special meetings of the association may be called by the 8 president, a majority of the board of directors, or by owners having 9 ten percent of the votes in the association.

10 (2) Not less than fourteen nor more than sixty days in advance of 11 any meeting <u>of the association</u>, the secretary or other officers 12 specified in the bylaws shall ((cause notice to be hand delivered or 13 sent)) provide written notice to each owner of record by:

14 (a) Hand delivery to the mailing address of the owner or other 15 address designated in writing by the owner;

16 (b) Prepaid ((by)) first-class United States mail to the mailing 17 address of ((each)) the owner or to any other mailing address 18 designated in writing by the owner; or

(c) Electronic transmission to an address, location, or system 1 designated in writing by the owner. Notice to owners by an electronic 2 transmission complies with this section only with respect to those 3 owners who have delivered to the secretary or other officers specified 4 in the bylaws a written record consenting to receive electronically 5 transmitted notices. An owner who has consented to receipt of б electronically transmitted notices may revoke the consent at any time 7 by delivering a written record of the revocation to the secretary or 8 other officer specified in the bylaws. Consent is deemed revoked if 9 the secretary or other officer specified in the bylaws is unable to 10 electronically transmit two consecutive notices given in accordance 11 12 with the consent.

13 (3) The notice of any meeting shall state the time and place of the 14 meeting and the business to be placed on the agenda by the board of 15 directors for a vote by the owners, including the general nature of any 16 proposed amendment to the articles of incorporation, bylaws, any budget 17 or changes in the previously approved budget that result in a change in 18 assessment obligation, and any proposal to remove a director.

19 (((2))) (4) Except as provided in this subsection, all meetings of 20 the board of directors shall be open for observation by all owners of record and their authorized agents. The board of directors shall keep 21 22 minutes of all actions taken by the board, which shall be available to 23 all owners. Upon the affirmative vote in open meeting to assemble in closed session, the board of directors may convene in closed executive 24 session to consider personnel matters; consult with legal counsel or 25 26 consider communications with legal counsel; and discuss likely or 27 pending litigation, matters involving possible violations of the governing documents of the association, and matters involving the 28 29 possible liability of an owner to the association. The motion shall 30 state specifically the purpose for the closed session. Reference to the motion and the stated purpose for the closed session shall be 31 included in the minutes. The board of directors shall restrict the 32 33 consideration of matters during the closed portions of meetings only to those purposes specifically exempted and stated in the motion. 34 No 35 motion, or other action adopted, passed, or agreed to in closed session 36 may become effective unless the board of directors, following the 37 closed session, reconvenes in open meeting and votes in the open 38 meeting on such motion, or other action which is reasonably identified.

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1 The requirements of this subsection shall not require the disclosure of

- 2 information in violation of law or which is otherwise exempt from
- 3 disclosure.

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