HOUSE BILL 1043

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By Representatives McEntire, Leavitt, and Walsh

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

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

4 Sec. 1. RCW 64.32.170 and 1965 ex.s. c 11 s 5 are each amended 5 to read as follows:

(1) The manager or board of directors, as the case may be, shall 6 7 keep complete and accurate books and records of the receipts and 8 expenditures affecting the common areas and facilities, specifying and itemizing the maintenance and repair expenses of the common areas 9 and facilities and any other expenses incurred. Such books and 10 11 records and the vouchers authorizing payments shall be available for 12 examination by the apartment owners, their agents or attorneys, at 13 any reasonable time or times. All books and records shall be kept in accordance with good accounting procedures and be audited at least 14 15 once a year by an auditor outside of the organization.

16 (2) (a) The association shall keep a complete and accurate list of 17 apartment owners. The list must include the names of the current 18 apartment owners, addresses used by the association to communicate 19 with them, and the number of votes allocated to each apartment.

20 (b) Subject to (d) and (e) of this subsection, the list of 21 apartment owners must be made available for examination and copying

1 by all apartment owners, holders of mortgages on the apartments, and their authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise: 2 (i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient 3 time and location; and 4 (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent. 5 6 (c) A right to copy the list of apartment owners under (b) of 7 this subsection includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through an electronic transmission if 8 available upon request by an apartment owner. 9 (d) The association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and 10 providing copies of the list of apartment owners and for supervising 11 12 an apartment owner's inspection of the list. (e) The list of apartment owners may be withheld from inspection 13 14 and copying to the extent that it concerns: (i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any 15 16 apartment owner or resident; 17 (ii) The address of any apartment owner or resident who is known to the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality 18 program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program 19 20 established by law; 21 (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or (iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a 22 23 court order. 24 (f) Information provided pursuant to this subsection (2) may not 25 be used for any commercial purposes.

26 Sec. 2. RCW 64.34.372 and 1992 c 220 s 19 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

28 (1) The association shall keep financial records sufficiently 29 detailed to enable the association to comply with RCW 64.34.425. All 30 financial and other records of the association, including but not 31 limited to checks, bank records, and invoices, are the property of the association, but shall be made reasonably available for 32 examination and copying by the manager of the association, any unit 33 owner, or the owner's authorized agents. At least annually, the 34 35 association shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a financial statement of the association in accordance with generally accepted 36 accounting principles. The financial statements of condominiums 37 38 consisting of ((fifty)) 50 or more units shall be audited at least annually by a certified public accountant. In the case of a 39

1 condominium consisting of fewer than ((fifty)) 50 units, an annual 2 audit is also required but may be waived annually by unit owners 3 other than the declarant of units to which ((sixty)) 60 percent of 4 the votes are allocated, excluding the votes allocated to units owned 5 by the declarant.

6 (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 7 any other association, nor with the funds of any manager of the 8 association or any other person responsible for the custody of such 9 10 funds. Any reserve funds of an association shall be kept in a 11 segregated account and any transaction affecting such funds, 12 including the issuance of checks, shall require the signature of at least two persons who are officers or directors of the association. 13

14 (3) (a) The association shall keep a complete and accurate list of 15 unit owners. The list must include the names of the current unit 16 owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them, 17 and the number of votes allocated to each unit.

18 (b) Subject to (d) and (e) of this subsection, the list of unit 19 owners must be made available for examination and copying by all unit 20 owners, holders of mortgages on the units, and their authorized 21 agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:

22 (i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient 23 time and location; and

(ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.

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25 (c) A right to copy the list of unit owners under (b) of this 26 subsection includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or 27 other means, including through an electronic transmission if 28 available upon request by a unit owner.

29 (d) An association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and 30 providing copies of the list of unit owners and for supervising a 31 unit owner's inspection of the list.

32 (e) The list of unit owners may be withheld from inspection and 33 copying to the extent that it concerns:

34 <u>(i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any</u> 35 <u>unit owner or resident;</u>

36 <u>(ii) The address of any unit owner or resident who is known to</u> 37 <u>the association to be a participant in the address confidentiality</u> 38 <u>program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program</u> 39 <u>established by law;</u>

40 (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or

- 1 <u>(iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a</u> 2 <u>court order.</u>
- 3 (f) Information provided pursuant to this subsection (3) may not
 4 be used for any commercial purposes.

5 **Sec. 3.** RCW 64.38.045 and 1995 c 283 s 9 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

7 (1) The association or its managing agent shall keep financial and other records sufficiently detailed to enable the association to 8 fully declare to each owner the true statement of its financial 9 status. All financial and other records of the association, including 10 but not limited to checks, bank records, and invoices, in whatever 11 form they are kept, are the property of the association. Each 12 association managing agent shall turn over all original books and 13 records to the association immediately upon termination of the 14 management relationship with the association, or upon such other 15 16 demand as is made by the board of directors. An association managing agent is entitled to keep copies of association records. All records 17 which the managing agent has turned over to the association shall be 18 made reasonably available for the examination and copying by the 19 20 managing agent.

(2) ((All records of the association, including the names and 21 22 addresses of owners and other occupants of the lots, shall be available for examination by all owners, holders of mortgages on the 23 24 lots, and their respective authorized agents on reasonable advance notice during normal working hours at the offices of the association 25 or its managing agent. The association shall not release the unlisted 26 27 telephone number of any owner. The association may impose and collect a reasonable charge for copies and any reasonable costs incurred by 28 29 the association in providing access to records.)) The association 30 shall keep a complete and accurate list of lot owners. The list must 31 include the names of the current lot owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them, and the number of votes 32 33 allocated to each lot.

(3) At least annually, the association shall prepare, or cause to
be prepared, a financial statement of the association. The financial
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

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1 person or by proxy, at a meeting of the association at which a quorum 2 is present, vote each year to waive the audit.

3 (4) The funds of the association shall be kept in accounts in the 4 name of the association and shall not be commingled with the funds of 5 any other association, nor with the funds of any manager of the 6 association or any other person responsible for the custody of such 7 funds.

8 (5) (a) Subject to (c) and (d) of this subsection, all association 9 records, including the list of lot owners, must be made available for 10 examination and copying by all owners, holders of mortgages on the 11 lots, and their respective authorized agents as follows, unless 12 agreed otherwise:

13 (i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient 14 time and location; and

15 (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.

16 (b) A right to copy records under this section includes the right 17 to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through 18 an electronic transmission if available upon request by a lot owner.

19 (c) An association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and 20 providing copies of any records under this section and for 21 supervising a lot owner's inspection.

22 (d) The list of lot owners may be withheld from inspection and 23 copying to the extent that it concerns:

24 <u>(i) The unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any</u> 25 <u>lot owner or resident;</u>

26 (ii) The address of any lot owner or resident who is known to the 27 association to be a participant in the address confidentiality 28 program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar program 29 established by law;

30 (iii) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure; or

- 31 <u>(iv) Information the disclosure of which would violate a law or a</u> 32 <u>court order.</u>
- 33 (e) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be used 34 for any commercial purposes.

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