1

A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to condominiums; amending s. 718.104, 3 F.S.; allowing condominium units to come into 4 existence regardless of requirements or restrictions 5 in a declaration; amending s. 718.105, F.S.; extending 6 the amount of time that a clerk may hold a sum of 7 money before notifying the registered agent of an 8 association that the sum is still available and the 9 purpose for which it was deposited; amending s. 718.110, F.S.; changing the requirements relating to 10 the circumstances under which a declaration of 11 12 condominium or other documents are effective to create 13 a condominium; making technical changes; amending s. 718.111, F.S.; revising the conditions under which 14 15 unit owners may vote on issues related to the 16 preparation of financial reports; making technical 17 changes; amending s. 718.112, F.S.; revising the 18 conditions under which a developer may vote to waive or reduce the funding of reserves; making technical 19 20 changes; amending s. 718.114, F.S.; revising the conditions under which a developer may acquire 21 22 leaseholds, memberships, or other possessory or use 23 interests; making technical changes; amending s. 24 718.301, F.S.; revising the conditions under which 25 unit owners other than the developer are entitled to 26 elect at least a majority of the members of a board of 27 administration; revising requirements related to the 28 documents that the developer must deliver to the

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29 association; making technical changes; amending s. 30 718.403, F.S.; revising the conditions under which a 31 developer may amend a declaration of condominium 32 governing a phase condominium; providing for an 33 extension of the 7-year period for the completion of a 34 phase; providing requirements for the adoption of an 35 amendment; providing that an amendment adopted 36 pursuant to this section is exempt from other 37 requirements of law; providing an effective date. 38 39 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 40 41 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 718.104, Florida 42 Statutes, is amended to read: 43 718.104 Creation of condominiums; contents of 44 declaration.-Every condominium created in this state shall be 45 created pursuant to this chapter. A condominium is created by recording a declaration in 46 (2) the public records of the county where the land is located, 47 48 executed and acknowledged with the requirements for a deed. All 49 persons who have record title to the interest in the land being 50 submitted to condominium ownership, or their lawfully authorized 51 agents, must join in the execution of the declaration. Upon the 52 recording of the declaration, or an amendment adding a phase to 53 the condominium under s. 718.403(6), all units described in the 54 declaration or phase amendment as being located in or on the 55 land then being submitted to condominium ownership shall come 56 into existence, regardless of the state of completion of planned

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57 improvements in which the units may be located <u>or any other</u> 58 <u>requirement or description that a declaration may provide</u>. Upon 59 recording the declaration of condominium pursuant to this 60 section, the developer shall file the recording information with 61 the division within 120 calendar days on a form prescribed by 62 the division.

63 Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section
64 718.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

718.105 Recording of declaration.-

66 (4)

65

67 If the sum of money held by the clerk has not been (C) 68 paid to the developer or association as provided in paragraph 69 (b) within 5 $\frac{3}{2}$ years after the date the declaration was 70 originally recorded, the clerk may notify, in writing, the 71 registered agent of the association that the sum is still 72 available and the purpose for which it was deposited. If the 73 association does not record the certificate within 90 days after 74 the clerk has given the notice, the clerk may disburse the money 75 to the developer. If the developer cannot be located, the clerk 76 shall disburse the money to the Division of Florida 77 Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes for deposit in the 78 Division of Florida Condominiums, Timeshares, and Mobile Homes 79 Trust Fund.

80 Section 3. Subsection (10) of section 718.110, Florida81 Statutes, is amended to read:

82 718.110 Amendment of declaration; correction of error or
83 omission in declaration by circuit court.-

84

(10)

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If there is an omission or error in a declaration of

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85 condominium, or any other document required to establish the 86 condominium, and the which omission or error would affect the 87 valid existence of the condominium, the circuit court may has jurisdiction to entertain a petition of one or more of the unit 88 89 owners in the condominium, or of the association, to correct the 90 error or omission, and the action may be a class action. The 91 court may require that one or more methods of correcting the error or omission be submitted to the unit owners to determine 92 93 the most acceptable correction. All unit owners, the association, and the mortgagees of a first mortgage of record 94 95 must be joined as parties to the action. Service of process on 96 unit owners may be by publication, but the plaintiff must 97 furnish every unit owner not personally served with process with 98 a copy of the petition and final decree of the court by 99 certified mail, return receipt requested, at the unit owner's last known residence address. If an action to determine whether 100 the declaration or another condominium document complies with 101 the mandatory requirements for the formation of a condominium is 102 not brought within 3 years of the recording of the certificate 103 104 of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the 105 recording of an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the 106 condominium which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of 107 developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever 108 occurs first, recording of the declaration, the declaration and 109 other documents will effectively shall be effective under this 110 chapter to create a condominium, as of the date the declaration 111 was recorded, regardless of whether or not the documents substantially comply with the mandatory requirements of law. 112

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However, both before and after the expiration of this 3-year period, the circuit court has jurisdiction to entertain a petition permitted under this subsection for the correction of the documentation, and other methods of amendment may be utilized to correct the errors or omissions at any time.

Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (13) of section 718.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120

718.111 The association.-

121 (13) FINANCIAL REPORTING.-Within 90 days after the end of 122 the fiscal year, or annually on a date provided in the bylaws, 123 the association shall prepare and complete, or contract for the 124 preparation and completion of, a financial report for the 125 preceding fiscal year. Within 21 days after the final financial 126 report is completed by the association or received from the 127 third party, but not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year or other date as provided in the bylaws, the 128 129 association shall mail to each unit owner at the address last 130 furnished to the association by the unit owner, or hand deliver to each unit owner, a copy of the financial report or a notice 131 132 that a copy of the financial report will be mailed or hand 133 delivered to the unit owner, without charge, upon receipt of a 134 written request from the unit owner. The division shall adopt 135 rules setting forth uniform accounting principles and standards to be used by all associations and addressing the financial 136 137 reporting requirements for multicondominium associations. The 138 rules must include, but not be limited to, standards for 139 presenting a summary of association reserves, including a good faith estimate disclosing the annual amount of reserve funds 140

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159

141 that would be necessary for the association to fully fund 142 reserves for each reserve item based on the straight-line 143 accounting method. This disclosure is not applicable to reserves 144 funded via the pooling method. In adopting such rules, the 145 division shall consider the number of members and annual 146 revenues of an association. Financial reports shall be prepared 147 as follows:

(d) If approved by a majority of the voting interests
present at a properly called meeting of the association, an
association may prepare:

A report of cash receipts and expenditures in lieu of a
 compiled, reviewed, or audited financial statement;

153 2. A report of cash receipts and expenditures or a 154 compiled financial statement in lieu of a reviewed or audited 155 financial statement; or

3. A report of cash receipts and expenditures, a compiled
financial statement, or a reviewed financial statement in lieu
of an audited financial statement.

160 Such meeting and approval must occur before the end of the 161 fiscal year and is effective only for the fiscal year in which 162 the vote is taken, except that the approval may also be 163 effective for the following fiscal year. If With respect to an 164 association to which the developer has not turned over control 165 of the association, all unit owners, including the developer, 166 may vote on issues related to the preparation of the 167 association's financial reports for the first 2 fiscal years of 168 the association's operation, from beginning with the date of

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169 incorporation of the association through the end of the second 170 fiscal year after the fiscal year in which the certificate of a 171 surveyor and mapper is recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or 172 an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the condominium 173 which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer 174 rights in favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded, 175 whichever occurs first declaration is recorded. Thereafter, all 176 unit owners except the developer may vote on such issues until 177 control is turned over to the association by the developer. Any 178 audit or review prepared under this section shall be paid for by 179 the developer if done before turnover of control of the 180 association. An association may not waive the financial 181 reporting requirements of this section for more than 3 182 consecutive years.

183 Section 5. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section184 718.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

185

718.112 Bylaws.-

186 (2) REQUIRED PROVISIONS.—The bylaws shall provide for the
187 following and, if they do not do so, shall be deemed to include
188 the following:

189 (f) Annual budget.-

190 1. The proposed annual budget of estimated revenues and 191 expenses <u>must</u> shall be detailed and <u>must</u> shall show the amounts 192 budgeted by accounts and expense classifications, including, if 193 applicable, but not limited to, those expenses listed in s. 194 718.504(21). A multicondominium association shall adopt a 195 separate budget of common expenses for each condominium the 196 association operates and shall adopt a separate budget of common

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197 expenses for the association. In addition, if the association 198 maintains limited common elements with the cost to be shared 199 only by those entitled to use the limited common elements as 200 provided for in s. 718.113(1), the budget or a schedule attached 201 to it must a schedule attached thereto shall show the amount 202 budgeted for this maintenance amounts budgeted therefor. If, 203 after turnover of control of the association to the unit owners, 204 any of the expenses listed in s. 718.504(21) are not applicable, 205 they need not be listed.

206 In addition to annual operating expenses, the budget 2. 207 must shall include reserve accounts for capital expenditures and 208 deferred maintenance. These accounts must shall include, but are 209 not limited to, roof replacement, building painting, and 210 pavement resurfacing, regardless of the amount of deferred 211 maintenance expense or replacement cost, and for any other item 212 that has a for which the deferred maintenance expense or 213 replacement cost that exceeds \$10,000. The amount to be reserved 214 must shall be computed using by means of a formula which is based upon estimated remaining useful life and estimated 215 216 replacement cost or deferred maintenance expense of each reserve 217 item. The association may adjust replacement reserve assessments 218 annually to take into account any changes in estimates or 219 extension of the useful life of a reserve item caused by 220 deferred maintenance. This subsection does not apply to an 221 adopted budget in which the members of an association have 222 determined, by a majority vote at a duly called meeting of the 223 association, to provide no reserves or less reserves than 224 required by this subsection. However, prior to turnover of

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225 control of an association by a developer to unit owners other 226 than a developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer may vote 227 to waive the reserves or reduce the funding of reserves through 228 the period expiring at the end of the second fiscal year after 229 the fiscal year in which the certificate of a surveyor and 230 mapper is recorded pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or an instrument 231 that transfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not 232 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 233 favor of the grantee of such unit is recorded, whichever occurs 234 first, for the first 2 fiscal years of the association's 235 operation, beginning with the fiscal year in which the initial declaration is recorded, after which time reserves may be waived 236 237 or reduced only upon the vote of a majority of all nondeveloper 238 voting interests voting in person or by limited proxy at a duly 239 called meeting of the association. If a meeting of the unit 240 owners has been called to determine whether to waive or reduce 241 the funding of reserves, and no such result is achieved or a 242 quorum is not attained, the reserves as included in the budget shall go into effect. After the turnover, the developer may vote 243 244 its voting interest to waive or reduce the funding of reserves.

245 Reserve funds and any interest accruing thereon shall 3. 246 remain in the reserve account or accounts, and may shall be used 247 only for authorized reserve expenditures unless their use for 248 other purposes is approved in advance by a majority vote at a 249 duly called meeting of the association. Prior to turnover of 250 control of an association by a developer to unit owners other 251 than the developer pursuant to s. 718.301, the developer-252 controlled association shall not vote to use reserves for

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purposes other than that for which they were intended without the approval of a majority of all nondeveloper voting interests, voting in person or by limited proxy at a duly called meeting of the association.

257 4. The only voting interests that which are eligible to 258 vote on questions that involve waiving or reducing the funding 259 of reserves, or using existing reserve funds for purposes other 260 than purposes for which the reserves were intended, are the 261 voting interests of the units subject to assessment to fund the 262 reserves in question. Proxy questions relating to waiving or 263 reducing the funding of reserves or using existing reserve funds 264 for purposes other than purposes for which the reserves were 265 intended shall contain the following statement in capitalized, 266 bold letters in a font size larger than any other used on the 267 face of the proxy ballot: WAIVING OF RESERVES, IN WHOLE OR IN 268 PART, OR ALLOWING ALTERNATIVE USES OF EXISTING RESERVES MAY 269 RESULT IN UNIT OWNER LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF UNANTICIPATED 270 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS REGARDING THOSE ITEMS.

271 Section 6. Section 718.114, Florida Statutes, is amended 272 to read:

273 718.114 Association powers. - An association may enter into 274 agreements to acquire leaseholds, memberships, and other 275 possessory or use interests in lands or facilities such as 276 country clubs, golf courses, marinas, and other recreational 277 facilities, regardless of whether or not the lands or facilities 278 are contiguous to the lands of the condominium, if such lands 279 and facilities are intended to provide enjoyment, recreation, or 280 other use or benefit to the unit owners. All of these

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281 leaseholds, memberships, and other possessory or use interests 282 existing or created at the time of recording the declaration 283 must be stated and fully described in the declaration. 284 Subsequent to the recording of the declaration, agreements 285 acquiring these leaseholds, memberships, or other possessory or 286 use interests which are not entered into within 12 months of the 287 date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor and 288 mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the condominium 289 which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer 290 291 rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs 292 first, are following the recording of the declaration are a 293 material alteration or substantial addition to the real property 294 that is association property, and the association may not 295 acquire or enter into such agreements except upon a vote of, or 296 written consent by, a majority of the total voting interests or 297 as authorized by the declaration as provided in s. 718.113. The 298 declaration may provide that the rental, membership fees, 299 operations, replacements, and other expenses are common expenses 300 and may impose covenants and restrictions concerning their use 301 and may contain other provisions not inconsistent with this 302 chapter. A condominium association may conduct bingo games as 303 provided in s. 849.0931. Section 7. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 718.301, 304

305 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

306 718.301 Transfer of association control; claims of defect 307 by association.-

308

(1) If unit owners other than the developer own 15 percent

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or more of the units in a condominium that will be operated 309 310 ultimately by an association, the unit owners other than the 311 developer are entitled to elect at least one-third of the 312 members of the board of administration of the association. Unit 313 owners other than the developer are entitled to elect at least a 314 majority of the members of the board of administration of an 315 association, upon the first to occur of any of the following 316 events:

317 (a) Three years after 50 percent of the units that will be
318 operated ultimately by the association have been conveyed to
319 purchasers;

320 (b) Three months after 90 percent of the units that will 321 be operated ultimately by the association have been conveyed to 322 purchasers;

323 (c) When all the units that will be operated ultimately by 324 the association have been completed, some of them have been 325 conveyed to purchasers, and none of the others are being offered 326 for sale by the developer in the ordinary course of business;

(d) When some of the units have been conveyed to purchasers and none of the others are being constructed or offered for sale by the developer in the ordinary course of business;

331 (e) When the developer files a petition seeking protection332 in bankruptcy;

(f) When a receiver for the developer is appointed by a circuit court and is not discharged within 30 days after such appointment, unless the court determines within 30 days after appointment of the receiver that transfer of control would be

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337 detrimental to the association or its members; or 338 (g) Seven years after the date of the recording of the 339 certificate of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s. 340 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an instrument that transfers 341 title to a unit in the condominium which is not accompanied by a 342 recorded assignment of developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs first; recordation of the 343 declaration of condominium; or, in the case of an association 344 345 that may ultimately operate more than one condominium, 7 years 346 after the date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor 347 and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an 348 instrument that transfers title to a unit which is not 349 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 350 favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs first, 351 recordation of the declaration for the first condominium it 352 operates; or, in the case of an association operating a phase 353 condominium created pursuant to s. 718.403, 7 years after the 354 date of the recording of the certificate of a surveyor and 355 mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an 356 instrument that transfers title to a unit which is not 357 accompanied by a recorded assignment of developer rights in 358 favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever occurs first 359 recordation of the declaration creating the initial phase, 360 whichever occurs first. The developer is entitled to elect at 361 least one member of the board of administration of an 362 association as long as the developer holds for sale in the 363 ordinary course of business at least 5 percent, in condominiums 364 with fewer than 500 units, and 2 percent, in condominiums with

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365 more than 500 units, of the units in a condominium operated by 366 the association. After the developer relinquishes control of the 367 association, the developer may exercise the right to vote any 368 developer-owned units in the same manner as any other unit owner 369 except for purposes of reacquiring control of the association or 370 selecting the majority members of the board of administration.

(4) At the time that unit owners other than the developer 371 elect a majority of the members of the board of administration 372 373 of an association, the developer shall relinquish control of the 374 association, and the unit owners shall accept control. 375 Simultaneously, or for the purposes of paragraph (c) not more 376 than 90 days thereafter, the developer shall deliver to the 377 association, at the developer's expense, all property of the unit owners and of the association which is held or controlled 378 379 by the developer, including, but not limited to, the following 380 items, if applicable, as to each condominium operated by the 381 association:

382 The original or a photocopy of the recorded (a)1. declaration of condominium and all amendments thereto. If a 383 384 photocopy is provided, it must shall be certified by affidavit 385 of the developer or an officer or agent of the developer as 386 being a complete copy of the actual recorded declaration.

387 A certified copy of the articles of incorporation of 2. 388 the association or, if the association was created prior to the 389 effective date of this act and it is not incorporated, copies of 390 the documents creating the association.

- 391
- A copy of the bylaws. 3.

392

The minute books, including all minutes, and other 4.

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393 books and records of the association, if any.

394 5. Any house rules and regulations <u>that</u> which have been
395 promulgated.

396 (b) Resignations of officers and members of the board of
397 administration who are required to resign because the developer
398 is required to relinquish control of the association.

399 The financial records, including financial statements (C) of the association, and source documents from the incorporation 400 401 of the association through the date of turnover. The records 402 must shall be audited for the period from the incorporation of 403 the association or from the period covered by the last audit, if 404 an audit has been performed for each fiscal year since 405 incorporation, by an independent certified public accountant. 406 All financial statements must shall be prepared in accordance 407 with generally accepted accounting principles and must shall be 408 audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, as prescribed by the Florida Board of Accountancy, 409 pursuant to chapter 473. The accountant performing the audit 410 411 shall examine to the extent necessary supporting documents and 412 records, including the cash disbursements and related paid 413 invoices to determine if expenditures were for association 414 purposes and the billings, cash receipts, and related records to 415 determine that the developer was charged and paid the proper amounts of assessments. 416

417

(d) Association funds or control thereof.

(e) All tangible personal property that is property of the
association, which is represented by the developer to be part of
the common elements or which is ostensibly part of the common

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421 elements, and an inventory of that property.

422 A copy of the plans and specifications utilized in the (f) 423 construction or remodeling of improvements and the supplying of 424 equipment to the condominium and in the construction and 425 installation of all mechanical components serving the 426 improvements and the site with a certificate in affidavit form 427 of the developer or the developer's agent or an architect or 428 engineer authorized to practice in this state that such plans 429 and specifications represent, to the best of his or her 430 knowledge and belief, the actual plans and specifications 431 utilized in the construction and improvement of the condominium 432 property and for the construction and installation of the 433 mechanical components serving the improvements. If the 434 condominium property has been declared a condominium more than 3 435 years after the completion of construction or remodeling of the 436 improvements, the requirements of this paragraph do not apply.

(g) A list of the names and addresses, of which the developer had knowledge at any time in the development of the condominium, of all contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers utilized in the construction or remodeling of the improvements and in the landscaping of the condominium or association property which the developer had knowledge of at any time in the development of the condominium.

444

(h) Insurance policies.

(i) Copies of any certificates of occupancy <u>that</u> which may
have been issued for the condominium property.

(j) Any other permits applicable to the condominiumproperty which have been issued by governmental bodies and are

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449 in force or were issued within 1 year prior to the date the unit 450 owners other than the developer <u>took</u> take control of the 451 association.

(k) All written warranties of the contractor,
subcontractors, suppliers, and manufacturers, if any, that are
still effective.

(1) A roster of unit owners and their addresses and telephone numbers, if known, as shown on the developer's records.

(m) Leases of the common elements and other leases to which the association is a party.

(n) Employment contracts or service contracts in which the
association is one of the contracting parties or service
contracts in which the association or the unit owners have an
obligation or responsibility, directly or indirectly, to pay
some or all of the fee or charge of the person or persons
performing the service.

466 (o) All other contracts to which the association is a 467 party.

(p) A report included in the official records, under seal of an architect or engineer authorized to practice in this state, attesting to required maintenance, useful life, and replacement costs of the following applicable common elements comprising a turnover inspection report:

473 1. Roof.

474 2. Structure.

475 3. Fireproofing and fire protection systems.

476 4. Elevators.

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477	5.	Heating and cooling systems.
478	6.	Plumbing.
479	7.	Electrical systems.
480	8.	Swimming pool or spa and equipment.
481	9.	Seawalls.
482	10.	Pavement and parking areas.
483	11.	Drainage systems.
484	12.	Painting.
485	13.	Irrigation systems.
486	(q)	A copy of the certificate of a surveyor and mapper
487	recorded	pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the recorded instrument
488	that tran	nsfers title to a unit in the condominium which is not
489	<u>accompani</u>	ed by a recorded assignment of developer rights in
490	favor of	the grantee of such unit, whichever occurred first.
491	Sect	tion 8. Subsection (1) of section 718.403, Florida
492	Statutes,	is amended to read:
493	718.	403 Phase condominiums
494	(1)	Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 718.110, a
495	developer	may develop a condominium in phases, if the original
496	declarati	on of condominium submitting the initial phase to
497	condomini	um ownership or an amendment to the declaration which
498	has been	approved by all of the unit owners and unit mortgagees
499	provides	for and describes in detail all anticipated phases; the
500	impact, i	f any, which the completion of subsequent phases would
501	have upor	n the initial phase; and the time period (which may not
502	exceed 7	years from the date of recording the declaration of
503	condomini	.um) within which all phases must be added to the
504	condomini	um and comply with the requirements of this section and

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505	at the end of which the right to add additional phases expires.
506	(a) All phases must be added to the condominium within 7
507	years after the date of the recording of the certificate of a
508	surveyor and mapper pursuant to s. 718.104(4)(e) or the
509	recording of an instrument that transfers title to a unit in the
510	condominium which is not accompanied by a recorded assignment of
511	developer rights in favor of the grantee of such unit, whichever
512	occurs first, unless the unit owners vote to approve an
513	amendment extending the 7-year period pursuant to paragraph (b).
514	(b) An amendment to extend the 7-year period shall require
515	the approval of the owners necessary to amend the declaration of
516	condominium pursuant to s. 718.110(1)(a). An extension of the 7-
517	year period may be submitted for approval only during the last 3
518	years of the 7-year period.
519	(c) An amendment must describe the period within which all
520	phases must be added to the condominium and such period may not
521	exceed 10 years from the date of the recording of the
522	certificate of a surveyor and mapper pursuant to s.
523	718.104(4)(e) or the recording of an instrument that transfers
524	title to a unit in the condominium which is not accompanied by a
525	recorded assignment of developer rights in favor of the grantee
526	of such unit, whichever occurs first.
527	(d) An amendment that extends the 7-year period pursuant
528	to this section is not subject to the requirements of s.
529	718.110(4).
530	Section 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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