SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1043

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2023 Regular Session

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.
- 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 6 to read as follows:
- 7 ((The manager or board of directors, as the case may be, shall keep complete and accurate books and records of the receipts and
- 9 expenditures affecting the common areas and facilities, specifying
- 10 and itemizing the maintenance and repair expenses of the common areas
- 11 and facilities and any other expenses incurred. Such books and
- 12 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.)) (1) An association of apartment
- 15 owners must retain the following:
- 16 <u>(a) The current budget, detailed records of receipts and</u>
- 17 <u>expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the</u>
- 18 <u>association</u>, and other appropriate accounting records within the last
- 19 <u>seven years;</u>
- 20 (b) Minutes of all meetings of its apartment owners and board
- 21 other than executive sessions, a record of all actions taken by the

p. 1 SHB 1043.PL

- 1 apartment owners or board without a meeting, and a record of all
 2 actions taken by a committee in place of the board on behalf of the
 3 association;
- (c) The names of current apartment owners, addresses used by the association to communicate with them, and the number of votes allocated to each apartment;
 - (d) Its original or restated declaration, organizational documents, all amendments to the declaration and organizational documents, and all rules currently in effect;
- 10 <u>(e) All financial statements and tax returns of the association</u>
 11 <u>for the past seven years;</u>

8

26

- 12 <u>(f) A list of the names and addresses of its current board</u> 13 <u>members and officers;</u>
- 14 <u>(g) Its most recent annual report delivered to the secretary of</u> 15 <u>state, if any;</u>
- 16 (h) Copies of contracts to which it is or was a party within the last seven years;
- (i) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee to
 approve or deny any requests for design or architectural approval for
 a period of seven years after the decision is made;
- 21 <u>(j) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee</u>
 22 <u>concerning a decision to enforce the governing documents for a period</u>
 23 of seven years after the decision is made;
- 24 <u>(k) Copies of insurance policies under which the association is a</u> 25 <u>named insured;</u>
 - (1) Any current warranties provided to the association;
- 27 <u>(m) Copies of all notices provided to apartment owners or the</u>
 28 <u>association in accordance with this chapter or the governing</u>
 29 <u>documents; and</u>
- 30 <u>(n) Ballots, proxies, absentee ballots, and other records related</u>
 31 <u>to voting by apartment owners for one year after the election,</u>
 32 action, or vote to which they relate.
- 33 (2) (a) Subject to subsections (3) through (5) of this section,
 34 and except as provided in (b) of this subsection, all records
 35 required to be retained by an association of apartment owners must be
 36 made available for examination and copying by all apartment owners,
 37 holders of mortgages on the apartments, and their respective
 38 authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:
- (i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient time and location; and

p. 2 SHB 1043.PL

- 1 (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.
- (b) The list of apartment owners required to be retained by an 2
- 3 association under subsection (1)(c) of this section is not required
- to be made available for examination and copying by holders of 4
- mortgages on the apartments. 5
- 6 (3) Records retained by an association of apartment owners must
- 7 have the following information redacted or otherwise removed prior to
- disclosure: 8

- (a) Personnel and medical records relating to specific 9 10 individuals;
- (b) Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to 11 12 purchase or provide goods or services currently being negotiated;
- (c) Existing or potential litigation or mediation, arbitration, 13 14 or administrative proceedings;
- (d) Existing or potential matters involving federal, state, or 15 local administrative or other formal proceedings before a 16 17 governmental tribunal for enforcement of the governing documents;
- (e) Legal advice or communications that are otherwise protected 18 by the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product 19 20 doctrine, including communications with the managing agent or other 21 agent of the association;
- 22 (f) Information the disclosure of which would violate a court 23 order or law;
 - (g) Records of an executive session of the board;
- 25 (h) Individual apartment files other than those of the requesting 26 apartment owner;
- 27 (i) Unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any 28 apartment owner or resident;
- 29 (j) Security access information provided to the association for 30 emergency purposes; or
- 31 (k) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure to the 32 members.
- 33 (4) In addition to the requirements in subsection (3) of this section, an association of apartment owners must, prior to disclosure 34 of the list of apartment owners required to be retained by an 35 association under subsection (1)(c) of this section, redact or 36 otherwise remove the address of any apartment owner or resident who 37
- is known to the association to be a participant in the address 38
- 39 confidentiality program described in chapter 40.24 RCW or any similar
- 40 program established by law.

- 1 (5) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, an 2 association of apartment owners may charge a reasonable fee for 3 producing and providing copies of any records under this section and 4 for supervising the apartment owner's inspection.
- 5 (b) An apartment owner is entitled to receive a free annual
 6 electronic or paper copy of the list retained under subsection (1)(c)
 7 of this section from the association.

9

11

16

17

18 19

20

21

2223

24

- (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 apartment owner.
- 12 <u>(7) An association of apartment owners is not obligated to</u> 13 <u>compile or synthesize information.</u>
- 14 (8) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be used 15 for commercial purposes.
 - (9) An association of apartment owner'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.
 - (10) 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.
- 25 (11) This section applies to records in the possession of the 26 association on the effective date of this section, and to records 27 created or maintained after the effective date of this section. An 28 association has no liability under this section for records disposed 29 of prior to the effective date of this section.
- 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 the 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

p. 4 SHB 1043.PL

- 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 ((sixty)) 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) An association must retain the following:

- (a) The current budget, detailed records of receipts and expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the association, and other appropriate accounting records within the last 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;
- 30 (d) Its original or restated declaration, organizational
 31 documents, all amendments to the declaration and organizational
 32 documents, and all rules currently in effect;
- (e) All financial statements and tax returns of the association
 for the past seven years;
- 35 <u>(f) A list of the names and addresses of its current board</u> 36 members and officers;
- 37 (g) Its most recent annual report delivered to the secretary of 38 state, if any;
- 39 <u>(h) Copies of contracts to which it is or was a party within the</u> 40 last seven years;

p. 5 SHB 1043.PL

- 1 (i) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee to 2 approve or deny any requests for design or architectural approval for 3 a period of seven years after the decision is made;
 - (j) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee concerning a decision to enforce the governing documents for a period of seven years after the decision is made;
 - (k) Copies of insurance policies under which the association is a named insured;
 - (1) Any current warranties provided to the association;

5

7

8

1617

18

19

2021

24

25

2627

28

- 10 (m) Copies of all notices provided to unit owners or the
 11 association in accordance with this chapter or the governing
 12 documents; and
- (n) 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.
 - (4) (a) Subject to subsections (5) through (7) 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:
- 22 <u>(i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient</u>
 23 time and location; and
 - (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.
 - (b) The list of unit owners required to be retained by an association under subsection (3)(c) of this section is not required to be made available for examination and copying by holders of mortgages on the units.
- 29 <u>(5) Records retained by an association must have the following</u> 30 information redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:
- 31 <u>(a) Personnel and medical records relating to specific</u> 32 individuals;
- 33 (b) Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to 34 purchase or provide goods or services currently being negotiated;
- 35 (c) Existing or potential litigation or mediation, arbitration,
 36 or administrative proceedings;
- 37 <u>(d) Existing or potential matters involving federal, state, or</u>
 38 <u>local administrative or other formal proceedings before a</u>
 39 governmental tribunal for enforcement of the governing documents;

p. 6 SHB 1043.PL

- (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;
- 5 <u>(f) Information the disclosure of which would violate a court</u> 6 <u>order or law;</u>
 - (g) Records of an executive session of the board;

16

17

18 19

20

2122

- 8 (h) Individual unit files other than those of the requesting unit 9 owner;
- 10 <u>(i) Unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any unit</u> 11 <u>owner or resident;</u>
- 12 <u>(j) Security access information provided to the association for</u> 13 <u>emergency purposes; or</u>
- 14 <u>(k) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure to the</u> 15 <u>members.</u>
 - (6) In addition to the requirements in subsection (5) of this section, an association must, prior to disclosure of the list of unit owners required to be retained by an association under subsection (3)(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.
- 23 (7) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, an 24 association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing 25 copies of any records under this section and for supervising the unit 26 owner's inspection.
- 27 <u>(b) A unit owner is entitled to receive a free annual electronic</u>
 28 <u>or paper copy of the list retained under subsection (3)(c) of this</u>
 29 section from the association.
- 30 (8) A right to copy records under this section includes the right
 31 to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through
 32 an electronic transmission if available upon request by the unit
 33 owner.
- 34 <u>(9) An association is not obligated to compile or synthesize</u> 35 <u>information.</u>
- 36 (10) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be used for commercial purposes.
- 38 <u>(11) An association's managing agent must deliver all of the</u> 39 <u>association's original books and records to the association</u> 40 <u>immediately upon termination of its management relationship with the</u>

p. 7 SHB 1043.PL

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.

- (12) This section applies to records in the possession of the association on the effective date of this section, and to records created or maintained after the effective date of this section. An association has no liability under this section for records disposed of prior to the effective date of this section.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 64.38.045 and 1995 c 283 s 9 are each amended to 10 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, 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 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 $((fifty\ thousand\ dollars))$ and $(fifty\ thousand\ dollars)$ percent of the votes cast by

p. 8 SHB 1043.PL

- 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.
 - ((4))) (3) 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.
 - (4) An association must retain the following:

2

4

5

7

8

13

1415

16

39

- 9 <u>(a) The current budget, detailed records of receipts and</u>
 10 <u>expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the</u>
 11 <u>association, and other appropriate accounting records within the last</u>
 12 seven years;
 - (b) Minutes of all meetings of its owners and board other than executive sessions, a record of all actions taken by the 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;
- 17 <u>(c) The names of current owners, addresses used by the</u>
 18 <u>association to communicate with them, and the number of votes</u>
 19 <u>allocated to each lot;</u>
- 20 <u>(d) Its original or restated declaration, organizational</u>
 21 <u>documents, all amendments to the declaration and organizational</u>
 22 documents, and all rules currently in effect;
- (e) All financial statements and tax returns of the association for the past seven years;
- 25 <u>(f) A list of the names and addresses of its current board</u> 26 <u>members and officers;</u>
- 27 (g) Its most recent annual report delivered to the secretary of 28 state, if any;
- 29 <u>(h) Copies of contracts to which it is or was a party within the</u> 30 last seven years;
- (i) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee to approve or deny any requests for design or architectural approval for a period of seven years after the decision is made;
- (j) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee
 concerning a decision to enforce the governing documents for a period
 of seven years after the decision is made;
- 37 <u>(k) Copies of insurance policies under which the association is a</u> 38 named insured;
 - (1) Any current warranties provided to the association;

p. 9 SHB 1043.PL

- 1 (m) Copies of all notices provided to owners or the association 2 in accordance with this chapter or the governing documents; and
- (n) Ballots, proxies, absentee ballots, and other records related to voting by owners for one year after the election, action, or vote to which they relate.

7

8

9

10 11

14

27

2829

- (5) (a) Subject to subsections (6) through (8) 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 owners, holders of mortgages on the lots, and their respective authorized agents as follows, unless agreed otherwise:
- 12 <u>(i) During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient</u>
 13 <u>time and location; and</u>
 - (ii) At the offices of the association or its managing agent.
- 15 (b) The list of owners required to be retained by an association 16 under subsection (4)(c) of this section is not required to be made 17 available for examination and copying by holders of mortgages on the 18 lots.
- 19 <u>(6) Records retained by an association must have the following</u> 20 <u>information redacted or otherwise removed prior to disclosure:</u>
- 21 <u>(a) Personnel and medical records relating to specific</u> 22 individuals;
- 23 <u>(b) Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to</u> 24 purchase or provide goods or services currently being negotiated;
- 25 <u>(c) Existing or potential litigation or mediation, arbitration,</u>
 26 <u>or administrative proceedings;</u>
 - (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;
- 30 (e) Legal advice or communications that are otherwise protected
 31 by the attorney-client privilege or the attorney work product
 32 doctrine, including communications with the managing agent or other
 33 agent of the association;
- 34 <u>(f) Information the disclosure of which would violate a court</u> 35 <u>order or law;</u>
- 36 (q) Records of an executive session of the board;
- 37 <u>(h) Individual lot files other than those of the requesting</u> 38 owner;
- (i) Unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any owner
 or resident;

p. 10 SHB 1043.PL

- 1 (j) Security access information provided to the association for 2 emergency purposes; or
- 3 (k) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure to the 4 members.
- (7) In addition to the requirements in subsection (6) of this 5 6 section, an association must, prior to disclosure of the list of 7 owners required to be retained by an association under subsection (4) (c) of this section, redact or otherwise remove the address of any 8 owner or resident who is known to the association to be a participant 9 in the address confidentiality program described in chapter 40.24 RCW 10 11 or any similar program established by law.
 - (8) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, an association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing copies of any records under this section and for supervising the owner's inspection.

13

14 15

16 17

18

19 20

26

27

28

29

30

31

39

- (b) An owner is entitled to receive a free annual electronic or paper copy of the list retained under subsection (4)(c) of this section from the association.
- (9) A right to copy records under this section includes the right to receive copies by photocopying or other means, including through 21 an electronic transmission if available upon request by the owner.
- 22 (10) An association is not obligated to compile or synthesize 23 information.
- 24 (11) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be 25 used for commercial purposes.
 - (12) 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.
- 32 (13) This section applies to records in the possession of the association on the effective date of this section, and to records 33 created or maintained after the effective date of this section. An 34 association has no liability under this section for records disposed 35 36 of prior to the effective date of this section.
- **Sec. 4.** RCW 64.90.495 and 2018 c 277 s 320 are each amended to 37 read as follows: 38
 - (1) An association must retain the following:

- 1 (a) The current budget, detailed records of receipts and 2 expenditures affecting the operation and administration of the 3 association, and other appropriate accounting records within the last 4 seven years;
- 5 (b) Minutes of all meetings of its unit owners and board other 6 than executive sessions, a record of all actions taken by the unit 7 owners or board without a meeting, and a record of all actions taken 8 by a committee in place of the board on behalf of the association;
- 9 (c) The names of current unit owners, addresses used by the 10 association to communicate with them, and the number of votes 11 allocated to each unit;
- 12 (d) Its original or restated declaration, organizational 13 documents, all amendments to the declaration and organizational 14 documents, and all rules currently in effect;
- 15 (e) All financial statements and tax returns of the association 16 for the past seven years;
- 17 (f) A list of the names and addresses of its current board 18 members and officers;
- 19 (g) Its most recent annual report delivered to the secretary of 20 state, if any;
- 21 (h) Financial and other records sufficiently detailed to enable 22 the association to comply with RCW 64.90.640;
- 23 (i) Copies of contracts to which it is or was a party within the last seven years;

26

27

28

29

30

33

- (j) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee to approve or deny any requests for design or architectural approval for a period of seven years after the decision is made;
- (k) Materials relied upon by the board or any committee concerning a decision to enforce the governing documents for a period of seven years after the decision is made;
- 31 (1) Copies of insurance policies under which the association is a 32 named insured;
 - (m) Any current warranties provided to the association;
- 34 (n) Copies of all notices provided to unit owners or the 35 association in accordance with this chapter or the governing 36 documents; and
- 37 (o) Ballots, proxies, absentee ballots, and other records related 38 to voting by unit owners for one year after the election, action, or 39 vote to which they relate.

p. 12 SHB 1043.PL

(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:

1

2

3

4

5

7

8

25

26

2728

29

30 31

34

- $((\frac{1}{2}))$ <u>(i)</u> During reasonable business hours or at a mutually convenient time and location; and
- 9 $((\frac{b}{b}))$ <u>(ii)</u> At the offices of the association or its managing 10 agent.
- 11 (b) The list of unit owners required to be retained by an
 12 association under subsection (1)(c) of this section is not required
 13 to be made available for examination and copying by holders of
 14 mortgages on the units.
- 15 (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:
- 19 (a) Personnel and medical records relating to specific 20 individuals;
- 21 (b) Contracts, leases, and other commercial transactions to 22 purchase or provide goods or services currently being negotiated;
- 23 (c) Existing or potential litigation or mediation, arbitration, 24 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;
- 32 (f) Information the disclosure of which would violate a court 33 order or law:
 - (g) Records of an executive session of the board;
- 35 (h) Individual unit files other than those of the requesting unit 36 owner;
- 37 (i) Unlisted telephone number or electronic address of any unit 38 owner or resident;
- (j) Security access information provided to the association for emergency purposes; or

p. 13 SHB 1043.PL

1 (k) Agreements that for good cause prohibit disclosure to the 2 members.

3

4

5

7

8

9

2526

27

28

29

30

- (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.
- 10 ((An)) (5)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, an 11 association may charge a reasonable fee for producing and providing 12 copies of any records under this section and for supervising the unit 13 owner's inspection.
- 14 <u>(b) A unit owner is entitled to receive a free annual electronic</u> 15 <u>or paper copy of the list retained under subsection (1)(c) of this</u> 16 <u>section from the association.</u>
- $((\frac{(5)}{(5)}))$ (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.
- 21 (((+6))) An association is not obligated to compile or 22 synthesize information.
- $((\frac{(7)}{(7)}))$ (8) Information provided pursuant to this section may not be used for commercial purposes.
 - (((8))) <u>(9)</u> 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.

--- END ---