Homeowners' Association Requirements

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2025 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Walt Brooks 2 3 **LONG TITLE** 4 **General Description:** 5 This bill amends provisions relating to homeowners' associations. 6 **Highlighted Provisions:** 7 This bill: 8 • increases the monetary amount a unit or lot owner may request if an association fails to 9 properly make records available for examination; 10 amends provisions relating to the period of administrative control for associations of lot 11 owners; and 12 makes technical and conforming changes. 13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:** 14 None 15 **Other Special Clauses:** 16 None 17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:** 18 AMENDS: 19 **57-8-17**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 439 20 **57-8a-227**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 439 21 **57-8a-502**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 210 22 23 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:* 24 Section 1. Section **57-8-17** is amended to read: 25 57-8-17. Records -- Availability for examination. 26 (1)(a) Subject to Subsection (1)(b) and regardless of whether the association of unit 27 owners is incorporated under Title 16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit 28 Corporation Act, an association of unit owners shall keep and make available to unit 29 owners: (i) each record identified in Subsections 16-6a-1601(1) through (5), [in accordance 30 31 with] in the manner described in Sections 16-6a-1601, 16-6a-1602, 16-6a-1603,

32	16-6a-1605, 16-6a-1606, and 16-6a-1610; and
33	(ii) a copy of the association's:
34	(A) governing documents;
35	(B) most recent approved minutes;
36	(C) most recent budget and financial statement;
37	(D) most recent reserve analysis; and
38	(E) certificate of insurance for each insurance policy the association of unit
39	owners holds.
40	(b) An association of unit owners may redact the following information from any
41	document the association of unit owners produces for inspection or copying:
42	(i) a Social Security number;
43	(ii) a bank account number; or
44	(iii) any communication subject to attorney-client privilege.
45	(2)(a) In addition to the requirements described in Subsection (1), an association of unit
46	owners shall:
47	(i) make documents available to unit owners in accordance with the association of
48	unit owners' governing documents; and
49	(ii)(A) if the association of unit owners has an active website, make the
50	documents described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C) available to unit
51	owners, free of charge, through the website; or
52	(B) if the association of unit owners does not have an active website, make
53	physical copies of the documents described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A)
54	through (C) available to unit owners during regular business hours at the
55	association of unit owners' address registered with the Department of
56	Commerce under Section 57-8-13.1.
57	(b) Subsection (2)(a)(ii) does not apply to an association as defined in Section 57-19-2.
58	(c) If a provision of an association of unit owners' governing documents conflicts with a
59	provision of this section, the provision of this section governs.
60	(3) In a written request to inspect or copy documents:
61	(a) a unit owner shall include:
62	(i) the association of unit owners' name;
63	(ii) the unit owner's name;
64	(iii) the unit owner's property address;
65	(iv) the unit owner's email address;

66	(v) a description of the documents requested; and
67	(vi) any election or request described in Subsection (3)(b); and
68	(b) a unit owner may:
69	(i) elect whether to inspect or copy the documents;
70	(ii) if the unit owner elects to copy the documents, request hard copies or electronic
71	scans of the documents; or
72	(iii) subject to Subsection (4), request that:
73	(A) the association of unit owners make the copies or electronic scans of the
74	requested documents;
75	(B) a recognized third party duplicating service make the copies or electronic
76	scans of the requested documents;
77	(C) the unit owner be allowed to bring any necessary imaging equipment to the
78	place of inspection and make copies or electronic scans of the documents while
79	inspecting the documents; or
80	(D) the association of unit owners email the requested documents to an email
81	address provided in the request.
82	(4)(a) An association of unit owners shall comply with a request described in
83	Subsection (3).
84	(b) If an association of unit owners produces the copies or electronic scans:
85	(i) the copies or electronic scans shall be legible and accurate; and
86	(ii) the unit owner shall pay the association of unit owners the reasonable cost of the
87	copies or electronic scans and for time spent meeting with the unit owner, which
88	may not exceed:
89	(A) the actual cost that the association of unit owners paid to a recognized third
90	party duplicating service to make the copies or electronic scans; or
91	(B) 10 cents per page and \$15 per hour for the employee's, manager's, or other
92	agent's time making the copies or electronic scans.
93	(c) If a unit owner requests a recognized third party duplicating service make the copies
94	or electronic scans:
95	(i) the association of unit owners shall arrange for the delivery and pick up of the
96	original documents; and
97	(ii) the unit owner shall pay the duplicating service directly.
98	(d) Subject to Subsection (9), if a unit owner requests to bring imaging equipment to the
99	inspection, the association of unit owners shall provide the necessary space, light, and

100	power for the imaging equipment.
101	(5) If, in response to a unit owner's request to inspect or copy documents, an association of
102	unit owners fails to comply with a provision of this section, the association of unit
103	owners shall pay:
104	(a) the reasonable costs of inspecting and copying the requested documents;
105	(b) for items described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C), \$25 to the unit owner
106	who made the request for each day the request continues unfulfilled, beginning the
107	sixth day after the day on which the unit owner made the request; and
108	(c) reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred by the unit owner in obtaining the
109	inspection and copies of the requested documents.
110	(6)(a) In addition to any remedy in the association of unit owners' governing documents
111	or as otherwise provided by law, a unit owner may file an action in court under this
112	section if:
113	(i) subject to Subsection (9), an association of unit owners fails to make documents
114	available to the unit owner in accordance with this section, the association of unit
115	owners' governing documents, or as otherwise provided by law; and
116	(ii) the association of unit owners fails to timely comply with a notice described in
117	Subsection (6)(d).
118	(b) In an action described in Subsection (6)(a):
119	(i) the unit owner may request:
120	(A) injunctive relief requiring the association of unit owners to comply with the
121	provisions of this section;
122	(B) [\$500-] \$1,000 or actual damage, whichever is greater; or
123	(C) any other relief provided by law; and
124	(ii) the court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees to the prevailing party,
125	including any reasonable attorney fees incurred before the action was filed that
126	relate to the request that is the subject of the action.
127	(c)(i) In an action described in Subsection (6)(a), upon motion by the unit owner
128	made in accordance with Subsection (6)(b), notice to the association of unit
129	owners, and a hearing in which the court finds a likelihood that the association of
130	unit owners failed to comply with a provision of this section, the court shall order
131	the association of unit owners to immediately comply with the provision.
132	(ii) The court shall hold a hearing described in Subsection (6)(c)(i) within 30 days
133	after the day on which the unit owner files the motion.

134	(d) At least 10 days before the day on which a unit owner files an action described in
135	Subsection (6)(a), the unit owner shall deliver a written notice to the association of
136	unit owners that states:
137	(i) the unit owner's name, address, telephone number, and email address;
138	(ii) each requirement of this section with which the association of unit owners has
139	failed to comply;
140	(iii) a demand that the association of unit owners comply with each requirement with
141	which the association of unit owners has failed to comply; and
142	(iv) a date by which the association of unit owners shall remedy the association of
143	unit owners' noncompliance that is at least 10 days after the day on which the unit
144	owner delivers the notice to the association of unit owners.
145	(7)(a) The provisions of Section 16-6a-1604 do not apply to an association of unit
146	owners.
147	(b) The provisions of this section apply regardless of any conflicting provision in Title
148	16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act.
149	(8) A unit owner's agent may, on the unit owner's behalf, exercise or assert any right that
150	the unit owner has under this section.
151	(9) An association of unit owners is not liable for identifying or providing a document in
152	error, if the association of unit owners identified or provided the erroneous document in
153	good faith.
154	Section 2. Section 57-8a-227 is amended to read:
155	57-8a-227 . Records Availability for examination.
156	(1)(a) Subject to Subsection (1)(b) and regardless of whether the association is
157	incorporated under Title 16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act, an
158	association shall keep and make available to lot owners:
159	(i) each record identified in Subsections 16-6a-1601(1) through (5), [in accordance
160	with] in the manner described in Sections 16-6a-1601, 16-6a-1602, 16-6a-1603,
161	16-6a-1605, 16-6a-1606, and 16-6a-1610; and
162	(ii) a copy of the association's:
163	(A) governing documents;
164	(B) most recent approved minutes;
165	(C) most recent budget and financial statement;
166	(D) most recent reserve analysis; and
167	(E) certificate of insurance for each insurance policy the association holds.

168	(b) An association may redact the following information from any document the
169	association produces for inspection or copying:
170	(i) a Social Security number;
171	(ii) a bank account number; or
172	(iii) any communication subject to attorney-client privilege.
173	(2)(a) In addition to the requirements described in Subsection (1), an association shall:
174	(i) make documents available to lot owners in accordance with the association's
175	governing documents; and
176	(ii)(A) if the association has an active website, make the documents described in
177	Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C) available to lot owners, free of charge,
178	through the website; or
179	(B) if the association does not have an active website, make physical copies of the
180	documents described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C) available to lot
181	owners during regular business hours at the association's address registered
182	with the Department of Commerce under Section 57-8a-105.
183	(b) Subsection (2)(a)(ii) does not apply to an association as defined in Section 57-19-2.
184	(c) If a provision of an association's governing documents conflicts with a provision of
185	this section, the provision of this section governs.
186	(3) In a written request to inspect or copy documents:
187	(a) a lot owner shall include:
188	(i) the association's name;
189	(ii) the lot owner's name;
190	(iii) the lot owner's property address;
191	(iv) the lot owner's email address;
192	(v) a description of the documents requested; and
193	(vi) any election or request described in Subsection (3)(b); and
194	(b) a lot owner may:
195	(i) elect whether to inspect or copy the documents;
196	(ii) if the lot owner elects to copy the documents, request hard copies or electronic
197	scans of the documents; or
198	(iii) subject to Subsection (4), request that:
199	(A) the association make the copies or electronic scans of the requested
200	documents;
201	(B) a recognized third party duplicating service make the copies or electronic

202	scans of the requested documents;
203	(C) the lot owner be allowed to bring any necessary imaging equipment to the
204	place of inspection and make copies or electronic scans of the documents while
205	inspecting the documents; or
206	(D) the association email the requested documents to an email address provided in
207	the request.
208	(4)(a) An association shall comply with a request described in Subsection (3).
209	(b) If an association produces the copies or electronic scans:
210	(i) the copies or electronic scans shall be legible and accurate; and
211	(ii) the lot owner shall pay the association the reasonable cost of the copies or
212	electronic scans and for time spent meeting with the lot owner, which may not
213	exceed:
214	(A) the actual cost that the association paid to a recognized third party duplicating
215	service to make the copies or electronic scans; or
216	(B) 10 cents per page and \$15 per hour for the employee's, manager's, or other
217	agent's time.
218	(c) If a lot owner requests a recognized third party duplicating service make the copies
219	or electronic scans:
220	(i) the association shall arrange for the delivery and pick up of the original
221	documents; and
222	(ii) the lot owner shall pay the duplicating service directly.
223	(d) If a lot owner requests to bring imaging equipment to the inspection, the association
224	shall provide the necessary space, light, and power for the imaging equipment.
225	(5) Subject to Subsection (9), if, in response to a lot owner's request to inspect or copy
226	documents, an association fails to comply with a provision of this section, the
227	association shall pay:
228	(a) the reasonable costs of inspecting and copying the requested documents;
229	(b) for items described in Subsections (1)(a)(ii)(A) through (C), \$25 to the lot owner
230	who made the request for each day the request continues unfulfilled, beginning the
231	sixth day after the day on which the lot owner made the request; and
232	(c) reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred by the lot owner in obtaining the
233	inspection and copies of the requested documents.
234	(6)(a) In addition to any remedy in the association's governing documents or otherwise
235	provided by law, a lot owner may file an action in court under this section if:

236	(i) subject to Subsection (9), an association fails to make documents available to the
237	lot owner in accordance with this section, the association's governing documents,
238	or as otherwise provided by law; and
239	(ii) the association fails to timely comply with a notice described in Subsection (6)(d).
240	(b) In an action described in Subsection (6)(a):
241	(i) the lot owner may request:
242243	(A) injunctive relief requiring the association to comply with the provisions of this section;
244	(B) [\$500-] \$1,000 or actual damage, whichever is greater; or
245	(C) any other relief provided by law; and
246	(ii) the court shall award costs and reasonable attorney fees to the prevailing party,
247	including any reasonable attorney fees incurred before the action was filed that
248	relate to the request that is the subject of the action.
249	(c)(i) In an action described in Subsection (6)(a), upon motion by the lot owner made
250	in accordance with Subsection (6)(b), notice to the association, and a hearing in
251	which the court finds a likelihood that the association failed to comply with a
252	provision of this section, the court shall order the association to immediately
253	comply with the provision.
254	(ii) The court shall hold a hearing described in Subsection (6)(c)(i) within 30 days
255	after the day on which the lot owner files the motion.
256	(d) At least 10 days before the day on which a lot owner files an action described in
257	Subsection (6)(a), the lot owner shall deliver a written notice to the association that
258	states:
259	(i) the lot owner's name, address, telephone number, and email address;
260	(ii) each requirement of this section with which the association has failed to comply;
261	(iii) a demand that the association comply with each requirement with which the
262	association has failed to comply; and
263	(iv) a date by which the association shall remedy the association's noncompliance
264	that is at least 10 days after the day on which the lot owner delivers the notice to
265	the association.
266	(7)(a) The provisions of Section 16-6a-1604 do not apply to an association.
267	(b) The provisions of this section apply regardless of any conflicting provision in Title
268	16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act.
269	(8) A lot owner's agent may, on the lot owner's behalf, exercise or assert any right that the

270	lot owner has under this section.
271	(9) An association is not liable for identifying or providing a document in error, if the
272	association identified or provided the erroneous document in good faith.
273	Section 3. Section 57-8a-502 is amended to read:
274	57-8a-502 . Period of administrative control.
275	(1) [Unless otherwise provided for in a declaration,] For an association comprised of 300
276	lots or greater a period of administrative control terminates on [-the first to occur of the
277	following]:
278	(a) the date provided in the declaration; or
279	[(a)] (b) the first to occur of the following, if the declaration does not provide a date:
280	(i) 60 days after 75% of the lots that may be created are conveyed to lot owners other
281	than a declarant;
282	[(b)] (ii) seven years after all declarants have ceased to offer lots for sale in the
283	ordinary course of business; or
284	[(e)] (iii) the day the declarant, after giving written notice to the lot owners, records an
285	instrument voluntarily surrendering all rights to control activities of the
286	association.
287	(2) For an association comprised of fewer than 300 lots, a period of administrative control
288	terminates on the first to occur of the following:
289	(a) 60 days after 75% of the lots are conveyed to lot owners other than a declarant;
290	(b) one year after all declarants have ceased to offer lots for sale in the ordinary course
291	of business; or
292	(c) the day the declarant, after giving written notice to the lot owners, records an
293	instrument voluntarily surrendering all rights to control activities of the association.
294	[(2)] (3)(a) A declarant may voluntarily surrender the right to appoint and remove a
295	member of the board before the period of administrative control terminates under
296	Subsection (1).
297	(b) Subject to Subsection $[(2)(a)]$ $(3)(a)$, the declarant may require, for the duration of the
298	period of administrative control, that actions of the association or board, as specified
299	in a recorded instrument executed by the declarant, be approved by the declarant
300	before they become effective.
301	(c) During a period of administrative control, except as provided in Subsection $[(2)(a),]$
302	(3)(a), a declarant may appoint the declarant's officers, employees, or agents as
303	members of the board

304	[(3)] (4)(a) Upon termination of the period of administrative control, the lot owners shall
305	elect a board consisting of an odd number of at least three members, a majority of
306	whom shall be lot owners.
307	(b) Unless the declaration provides for the election of officers by the lot owners, the
308	board shall elect officers of the association.
309	(c) The board members and officers shall take office upon election or appointment.
310	Section 4. Effective date.
311	This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.