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## **Jordan D. Teuscher** proposes the following substitute bill:

## **Homeowners Association Modifications**

## 2025 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jordan D. Teuscher

_	Senate Sponsor:
2 3	LONG TITLE
4	General Description:
5	This bill amends provisions relating to homeowners' and condominium owners' associations.
6	Highlighted Provisions:
7	This bill:
8	requires an association to notify an owner in writing of a denied unit or lot plan;
9	prohibits a homeowners' association from impeding or denying a plan due to the plan's
10	inclusion of a fire-resistant material in an area with heightened risk of wildfire;
11	<ul> <li>places limitations on an association's ability to impose certain rules; and</li> </ul>
12	<ul> <li>makes technical and conforming changes.</li> </ul>
13	Money Appropriated in this Bill:
14	None
15	Other Special Clauses:
16	None
17	<b>Utah Code Sections Affected:</b>
18	AMENDS:
19	57-8-6.7, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 152
20	57-8-8.1, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 115, 519
21	57-8a-109, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 152
22	57-8a-218, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 115, 519

25 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

**57-8a-231**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 56, 519

- Section 1. Section **57-8-6.7** is amended to read:
- 27 **57-8-6.7** . Approval of plans.
- 28 (1) As used in this section:

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29	(a) "Plan fee" means a fee that an association of unit owners charges for review and
30	approval of unit plans.
31	(b) "Unit plans" means plans:
32	(i) for the construction or improvement of a unit; and
33	(ii) that are required to be approved by the association of unit owners before the unit
34	construction or improvement may occur.
35	(2) An association of unit owners may not charge a plan fee that exceeds the actual cost of
36	reviewing and approving the unit plans.
37	(3) If the association denies a unit plan, the association shall provide written notice to the
38	unit owner specifying:
39	(a) each governing document provision on which the association relied when denying
40	the plan; and
41	(b) the specific aspect of the proposed plan that does not conform to the specified
42	governing document provision.
43	Section 2. Section <b>57-8-8.1</b> is amended to read:
44	57-8-8.1 . Equal treatment by rules required Limits on rules.
45	(1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a rule shall treat similarly situated unit
46	owners similarly.
47	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), a] A rule may:
48	(i) vary according to the level and type of service that the association of unit owners
49	provides to unit owners;
50	(ii) differ between residential and nonresidential uses; or
51	(iii) for a unit that a unit owner leases for a term of less than 30 days, impose a
52	reasonable limit on the number of individuals that may use the common areas and
53	facilities as the rental unit tenant's guest or as the unit owner's guest.
54	(2)(a) [H] Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), if a unit owner owns a rental unit and
55	is in compliance with the association of unit owners' governing documents and any
56	rule that the association of unit owners adopts under Subsection (5), a rule may not
57	treat the unit owner differently because the unit owner owns a rental unit.
58	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection $(2)(a)$ , a] $\underline{A}$ rule may:
59	(i) limit or prohibit a rental unit owner from using the common areas and facilities for
60	purposes other than attending an association meeting or managing the rental unit;
61	(ii) if the rental unit owner retains the right to use the association of unit owners'
62	common areas and facilities, even occasionally:

63	(A) charge a rental unit owner a fee to use the common areas and facilities; and
64	(B) for a unit that a unit owner leases for a term of less than 30 days, impose a
65	reasonable limit on the number of individuals that may use the common areas
66	and facilities as the rental unit tenant's guest or as the unit owner's guest; or
67	(iii) include a provision in the association of unit owners' governing documents that:
68	(A) requires each tenant of a rental unit to abide by the terms of the governing
69	documents; and
70	(B) holds the tenant and the rental unit owner jointly and severally liable for a
71	violation of a provision of the governing documents.
72	(3)(a) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), a rule may not interfere with the
73	freedom of a unit owner to determine the composition of the unit owner's household.
74	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), an] An association of unit owners may:
75	(i) require that all occupants of a dwelling be members of a single housekeeping unit;
76	or
77	(ii) limit the total number of occupants permitted in each residential dwelling on the
78	basis of the residential dwelling's:
79	(A) size and facilities; and
80	(B) fair use of the common areas and facilities.
81	(4) Unless contrary to a declaration, a rule may require a minimum lease term.
82	(5) Unless otherwise provided in the declaration, an association of unit owners may by rule:
83	(a) regulate the use, maintenance, repair, replacement, and modification of common
84	areas and facilities;
85	(b) impose and receive any payment, fee, or charge for:
86	(i) the use, rental, or operation of the common areas, except limited common areas
87	and facilities; and
88	(ii) a service provided to a unit owner;
89	(c) impose a charge for a late payment of an assessment; or
90	(d) provide for the indemnification of the association of unit owners' officers and
91	management committee consistent with Title 16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit
92	Corporation Act.
93	(6)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), a rule may not prohibit a unit owner from
94	installing a personal security camera immediately adjacent to the entryway, window,
95	or other outside entry point of the owner's condominium unit.
96	(b) A rule may prohibit a unit owner from installing a personal security camera in a

97	common area not physically connected to the owner's unit.
98	(7)(a) A rule may not abridge the right of a unit owner to display a religious or holiday
99	sign, symbol, or decoration inside the owner's condominium unit.
100	(b) An association may adopt a reasonable time, place, and manner restriction with
101	respect to a display that is visible from the exterior of a unit.
102	(8)(a) A rule may not:
103	(i) prohibit a unit owner from displaying in a window of the owner's condominium
104	unit:
105	(A) a for-sale sign;[-or]
106	(B) a political sign; or
107	(C) a flag; or
108	(ii) except as provided in Subsection (8)(b), regulate the content or establish specific
109	design criteria for the content of a political sign[; or ] or flag.
110	[(iii) establish design criteria for a political sign.]
111	(b) A rule may restrict a political sign or flag that contains obscene, profane, or
112	commercial content.
113	[(b)] (c) [Notwithstanding Subsection (8)(a), a] A rule may reasonably regulate the size
114	and time, place, and manner of posting a for-sale sign[-or], a political sign, or a flag.
115	(9) For any area for which one or more unit owners are responsible for landscape
116	maintenance, the association of unit owners:
117	(a) shall adopt rules supporting water wise landscaping, including:
118	(i) low water use requirements on lawns during drought conditions;
119	(ii) design criterion for water wise landscaping; and
120	(iii) limiting permissible plant material to specific water wise plant material;
121	(b) may not prohibit low water use on lawns during drought conditions; and
122	(c) may not prohibit or restrict the conversion of a grass park strip to water-efficient
123	landscaping.
124	(10) A rule may restrict a sex offender from accessing a protected area that is maintained,
125	operated, or owned by the association, subject to the exceptions described in Subsection
126	77-27-21.7(3).
127	(11)(a) Except as provided in this Subsection (11), a rule may not prohibit a unit owner
128	from making modifications, consistent with industry standards, for radon mitigation.
129	(b) Subsection (11)(a) does not apply if the modifications would violate:
130	(i) a local land use ordinance;

131	(ii) a building code;
132	(iii) a health code; or
133	(iv) a fire code.
134	(c) A rule governing the placement or external appearance of modifications may apply to
135	modifications for radon mitigation unless the rule would:
136	(i) unreasonably interfere with the modifications' functionality; or
137	(ii) add more than 40% of the modifications' original cost to the cost of installing the
138	modifications.
139	(d) A rule may require that a unit owner making modifications related to radon
140	mitigation:
141	(i) demonstrate or provide proof of radon contamination; and
142	(ii) provide proof that the modifications and any related construction will be
143	performed by a licensed person.
144	(12)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (12)(b), a rule may not restrict an individual
145	from parking an operable vehicle in a driveway where the vehicle has a legal right to
146	park, unless the vehicle is:
147	(i) a commercial vehicle, as defined in Section 72-9-102;
148	(ii) a motor home, as defined in Section 13-20-2; or
149	(iii) a recreational vehicle trailer, as defined in Section 13-20-2.
150	(b) A rule may require that an individual park in a garage appurtenant to a unit before
151	parking elsewhere.
152	(13)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (13)(b), a rule may not restrict an individual
153	from operating a vehicle that is not a commercial vehicle, as defined in Section
154	72-9-102, in conformance with state traffic laws.
155	(b) A rule may enforce a reduced speed limit on a private roadway.
156	(14) A rule may not:
157	(a) impose a requirement or restriction on the use of a public street, as defined in Section
158	<u>10-9a-103; or</u>
159	(b) restrict an individual from:
160	(i) installing, displaying, or storing an item that the individual has a legal right to
161	store if the item is not visible to an individual standing outside the unit;
162	(ii) hiring a contractor or worker solely because the contractor or worker:
163	(A) is not on the association's preferred vendor list; or
164	(B) does not have a professional or occupational license, unless the license is

165	required by law.
166	[(12)] (15) A rule shall be reasonable.
167	[(13)] (16) A declaration, or an amendment to a declaration, may vary any of the
168	requirements of Subsections (1) through (5), except Subsection (1)(b)(ii).
169	[(14)] (17) This section applies to an association of unit owners regardless of when the
170	association of unit owners is created.
171	Section 3. Section 57-8a-109 is amended to read:
172	57-8a-109 . Approval of plans.
173	(1) As used in this section:
174	(a) "Fire-resistant material" means a material designed and tested to resist ignition, slow
175	the spread of fire, or withstand high temperatures, including:
176	(i) Class A roofing;
177	(ii) non-combustible siding;
178	(iii) a fiber cement product;
179	(iv) metal roofing; or
180	(v) fire-rated gypsum board.
181	[(a)] (b) "Lot plans" means plans:
182	(i) for the construction or improvement of a lot; and
183	(ii) that are required to be approved by the association before the lot construction or
184	improvement may occur.
185	[(b)] (c) "Plan fee" means a fee that an association charges for review and approval of lot
186	plans.
187	(2) An association may not charge a plan fee that exceeds the actual cost of reviewing and
188	approving the lot plans.
189	(3) An association may not prohibit, unreasonably restrict, deny, or delay a plan due to the
190	plan's inclusion of a fire-resistant material in an area with heightened risk of wildfire.
191	(4) If the association denies a lot plan, the association shall provide written notice to the lot
192	owner specifying:
193	(a) each governing document provision on which the association relied when denying
194	the plan; and
195	(b) the specific aspect of the proposed plan that does not conform to the specified
196	governing document provision.
197	Section 4. Section <b>57-8a-218</b> is amended to read:
198	57-8a-218. Equal treatment by rules required Limits on association rules and

199	design criteria.
200	(1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a rule shall treat similarly situated lot
201	owners similarly.
202	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), a] A rule may:
203	(i) vary according to the level and type of service that the association provides to lot
204	owners;
205	(ii) differ between residential and nonresidential uses; and
206	(iii) for a lot that an owner leases for a term of less than 30 days, impose a reasonable
207	limit on the number of individuals who may use the common areas and facilities
208	as guests of the lot tenant or lot owner.
209	(2)(a) [Hf] Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), if a lot owner owns a rental lot and is
210	in compliance with the association's governing documents and any rule that the
211	association adopts under Subsection (4), a rule may not treat the lot owner differently
212	because the lot owner owns a rental lot.
213	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), a] $\underline{A}$ rule may:
214	(i) limit or prohibit a rental lot owner from using the common areas for purposes
215	other than attending an association meeting or managing the rental lot;
216	(ii) if the rental lot owner retains the right to use the association's common areas,
217	even occasionally:
218	(A) charge a rental lot owner a fee to use the common areas; or
219	(B) for a lot that an owner leases for a term of less than 30 days, impose a
220	reasonable limit on the number of individuals who may use the common areas
221	and facilities as guests of the lot tenant or lot owner; or
222	(iii) include a provision in the association's governing documents that:
223	(A) requires each tenant of a rental lot to abide by the terms of the governing
224	documents; and
225	(B) holds the tenant and the rental lot owner jointly and severally liable for a
226	violation of a provision of the governing documents.
227	(3)(a) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), a rule [eriterion-] may not abridge the
228	rights of a lot owner to display a religious or holiday sign, symbol, or decoration <u>on</u> :
229	[(i) inside a dwelling on a lot; or]
230	[(ii) outside a dwelling on:]
231	[ <del>(A)</del> ] <u>(i)</u> a lot;
232	[(B)] (ii) the exterior of the dwelling, unless the association has an ownership interest

233	in, or a maintenance, repair, or replacement obligation for, the exterior; or
234	[(C)] (iii) the front yard of the dwelling, unless the association has an ownership
235	interest in, or a maintenance, repair, or replacement obligation for, the yard.
236	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), the] The association may adopt a reasonable
237	time, place, and manner restriction with respect to a display that is:
238	(i) outside a dwelling on:
239	(A) a lot;
240	(B) the exterior of the dwelling; or
241	(C) the front yard of the dwelling; and
242	(ii) visible from outside the lot.
243	(4)(a) A rule may not prohibit a lot owner from displaying a political sign or flag on:
244	[(i) inside a dwelling on a lot; or]
245	[(ii) outside a dwelling on:]
246	[ <del>(A)</del> ] <u>(i)</u> a lot;
247	[(B)] (ii) the exterior of the dwelling, regardless of whether the association has an
248	ownership interest in the exterior; or
249	[(C)] (iii) the front yard of the dwelling, regardless of whether the association has ar
250	ownership interest in the yard.
251	(b) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), a rule may not regulate the content of a
252	political sign <u>or flag.</u>
253	(c) A rule may restrict a political sign or flag that contains obscene, profane, or
254	commercial content.
255	[(e)] (d) [Notwithstanding Subsection (4)(a), a] $\underline{A}$ rule may reasonably regulate the time
256	place, and manner of posting a political sign or flag.
257	[(d)] (e) An association design provision may not establish design criteria for a political
258	sign <u>or flag</u> .
259	(5)(a) A rule may not prohibit a lot owner from displaying a for-sale sign <u>on</u> :
260	[(i) inside a dwelling on a lot; or]
261	[(ii) outside a dwelling on:]
262	[ <del>(A)</del> ] <u>(i)</u> a lot;
263	[(B)] (ii) the exterior of the dwelling, regardless of whether the association has an
264	ownership interest in the exterior; or
265	[(C)] (iii) the front yard of the dwelling, regardless of whether the association has ar
266	ownership interest in the yard.

267	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection $(5)(a)$ , a] $\underline{A}$ rule may reasonably regulate the time,
268	place, and manner of posting a for-sale sign.
269	(6)(a) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), a rule may not interfere with the
270	freedom of a lot owner to determine the composition of the lot owner's household.
271	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (6)(a), an] An association may:
272	(i) require that all occupants of a dwelling be members of a single housekeeping unit;
273	or
274	(ii) limit the total number of occupants permitted in each residential dwelling on the
275	basis of the residential dwelling's:
276	(A) size and facilities; and
277	(B) fair use of the common areas.
278	(7)(a) [A] Except as provided in Subsection (7)(b), a rule may not interfere with a
279	reasonable activity of a lot owner within the confines of a dwelling or lot, including
280	backyard landscaping or amenities, to the extent that the activity is in compliance
281	with local laws and ordinances, including nuisance laws and ordinances.
282	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection $(7)(a)$ , a] $\underline{A}$ rule may prohibit an activity within the
283	confines of a dwelling or lot, including backyard landscaping or amenities, if the
284	activity:
285	(i) is not normally associated with a project restricted to residential use; or
286	(ii)(A) creates monetary costs for the association or other lot owners;
287	(B) creates a danger to the health or safety of occupants of other lots;
288	(C) generates excessive noise or traffic;
289	(D) creates unsightly conditions visible [from] to an individual standing outside the
290	dwelling;
291	(E) creates an unreasonable source of annoyance to persons outside the lot; or
292	(F) if there are attached dwellings, creates the potential for smoke to enter another
293	lot owner's dwelling, the common areas, or limited common areas.
294	(c) If permitted by law, an association may adopt rules described in Subsection (7)(b)
295	that affect the use of or behavior inside the dwelling.
296	(8)(a) A rule may not, to the detriment of a lot owner and over the lot owner's written
297	objection to the board, alter the allocation of financial burdens among the various lots.
298	(b) [Notwithstanding Subsection (7)(b), an] An association may:
299	(i) change the common areas available to a lot owner;
300	(ii) adopt generally applicable rules for the use of common areas; or

301	(iii) deny use privileges to a lot owner who:
302	(A) is delinquent in paying assessments;
303	(B) abuses the common areas; or
304	(C) violates the governing documents.
305	(c) This Subsection (8) does not permit a rule that:
306	(i) alters the method of levying assessments; or
307	(ii) increases the amount of assessments as provided in the declaration.
308	(9)(a) Subject to Subsection (9)(b), a rule may not:
309	(i) prohibit the transfer of a lot; or
310	(ii) require the consent of the association or board to transfer a lot.
311	(b) Unless contrary to a declaration, a rule may require a minimum lease term.
312	(10)(a) A rule may not require a lot owner to dispose of personal property that was in or
313	on a lot before the adoption of the rule or design criteria if the personal property was
314	in compliance with all rules and other governing documents previously in force.
315	(b) The exemption in Subsection (10)(a):
316	(i) applies during the period of the lot owner's ownership of the lot; and
317	(ii) does not apply to a subsequent lot owner who takes title to the lot after adoption
318	of the rule described in Subsection (10)(a).
319	(11) A rule or action by the association or action by the board may not unreasonably
320	impede a declarant's ability to satisfy existing development financing for community
321	improvements and right to develop:
322	(a) the project; or
323	(b) other properties in the vicinity of the project.
324	(12) A rule or association or board action may not interfere with:
325	(a) the use or operation of an amenity that the association does not own or control; or
326	(b) the exercise of a right associated with an easement.
327	(13) A rule may not divest a lot owner of the right to proceed in accordance with a
328	completed application for design review, or to proceed in accordance with another
329	approval process, under the terms of the governing documents in existence at the time
330	the completed application was submitted by the owner for review.
331	(14) Unless otherwise provided in the declaration, an association may by rule:
332	(a) regulate the use, maintenance, repair, replacement, and modification of common
333	areas;
334	(b) impose and receive any payment, fee, or charge for:

335	(i) the use, rental, or operation of the common areas, except limited common areas;
336	and
337	(ii) a service provided to a lot owner;
338	(c) impose a charge for a late payment of an assessment; or
339	(d) provide for the indemnification of the association's officers and board consistent with
340	Title 16, Chapter 6a, Utah Revised Nonprofit Corporation Act.
341	[(15) A rule may not prohibit a lot owner from installing a personal security camera
342	immediately adjacent to the entryway, window, or other outside entry point of the
343	owner's dwelling unit.]
344	[(16)] (15)(a) For any area for which one or more lot owners are responsible for
345	landscape maintenance of any landscaping within the lot owner's lot or the common
346	areas, the association shall adopt rules supporting water wise landscaping as defined
347	in Section 57-8a-231 including:
348	(i) low water use requirements on lawns during drought conditions;
349	(ii) design criterion for water wise landscaping; and
350	(iii) limiting permissible plant material to specific water wise plant material.
351	(b) A rule may not:
352	(i) prohibit or restrict the conversion of a grass park strip to water wise landscaping
353	as defined in Section 57-8a-231; or
354	(ii) prohibit low water use on lawns during drought conditions.
355	[(17)] (16)(a) Except as provided in Subsection $[(17)(b)]$ (16)(b), a rule may not prohibit
356	the owner of a residential lot from constructing an internal accessory dwelling unit,
357	as defined in Section 10-9a-530 or 17-27a-526, within the owner's residential lot.
358	(b) Subsection $[(17)(a)]$ (16)(a) does not apply if the construction would violate:
359	(i) a local land use ordinance;
360	(ii) a building code;
361	(iii) a health code; or
362	(iv) a fire code.
363	[(18)] $(17)$ (a) Except as provided in Subsection $[(18)(b)]$ $(17)(b)$ , a rule may not prohibit
364	the owner of a residential lot from making modifications, consistent with industry
365	standards, for radon mitigation.
366	(b) Subsection $[(18)(a)]$ $(17)(a)$ does not apply if the modifications would violate:
367	(i) a local land use ordinance;
368	(ii) a building code;

369	(iii) a health code; or
370	(iv) a fire code.
371	(c) A rule governing the placement or external appearance of modifications for radon
372	mitigation does not apply to a lot owner's modifications if the rule would:
373	(i) unreasonably interfere with the modifications' functionality; or
374	(ii) add more than 40% of the modifications' original cost to the cost of installing the
375	modifications.
376	(d) A rule may require that a lot owner making modifications related to radon mitigation:
377	(i) demonstrate or provide proof of radon contamination; and
378	(ii) provide proof that the modifications and any related construction will be
379	performed by a licensed person.
380	[(19)] (18) A rule may restrict a sex offender from accessing a protected area that is
381	maintained, operated, or owned by the association, subject to the exceptions described in
382	Subsection 77-27-21.7(3).
383	(19)(a) As used in this Subsection (19), "vegetable garden" means a plot of ground or
384	elevated soil bed where vegetables, herbs, fruits, flowers, pollinator plants, leafy
385	greens, or other edible plants are cultivated.
386	(b) A rule may not prohibit a vegetable garden on the rear yard of a lot on which the
387	association does not have an ownership interest or a maintenance responsibility.
388	(c) A rule may:
389	(i) impose reasonable regulations that do not significantly increase the cost of
390	cultivating a vegetable garden or significantly decrease the efficiency of
391	cultivating a vegetable garden, including reasonable regulations on plant height,
392	water use, fertilizer use, and weed maintenance; and
393	(ii) prohibit the cultivation of invasive or unlawful species.
394	(20)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (20)(b), a rule may not restrict an individual
395	from parking an operable vehicle in a driveway where the vehicle has a legal right to
396	park, unless the vehicle is:
397	(i) a commercial vehicle, as defined in Section 72-9-102;
398	(ii) a motor home, as defined in Section 13-20-2; or
399	(iii) a recreational vehicle trailer, as defined in Section 13-20-2.
400	(b) A rule may require that an individual park in a garage appurtenant to a dwelling
401	before parking elsewhere.
402	(21)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (21)(b), a rule may not restrict an individual

403	from operating a vehicle that is not a commercial vehicle, as defined in Section
404	72-9-102, in conformance with state traffic laws.
405	(b) A rule may enforce a reduced speed limit on a private roadway.
406	(22) A rule may not:
407	(a) prohibit a lot owner from installing a personal security camera immediately adjacent
408	to the entryway, window, or other outside entry point of the owner's dwelling unit;
409	(b) impose a requirement or restriction on:
410	(i) a dwelling's interior, except as reasonably necessary for the safety of adjacent lots
411	and the occupants of those lots; or
412	(ii) the use of a public street, as defined in Section 10-9a-103;
413	(c) restrict an individual from:
414	(i) installing, displaying, or storing an item that the individual has a legal right to
415	store if the item is not visible to an individual standing outside the lot;
416	(ii) installing or keeping a properly maintained basketball standard on the individual's
417	driveway or property if the driveway or property where the basketball standard is
418	<u>located is:</u>
419	(A) privately owned and maintained; and
420	(B) abutting a public street; or
421	(iii) hiring a contractor or worker solely because the contractor or worker:
422	(A) is not on the association's preferred vendor list; or
423	(B) does not have a professional or occupational license, unless the license is
424	required by law; or
425	(d) be inconsistent with a provision of the association's declaration, bylaws, or articles of
426	incorporation.
427	[(20)] (23) A rule shall be reasonable.
428	[(21)] (24) A declaration, or an amendment to a declaration, may vary any of the
429	requirements of Subsections (1), (2), (6), and (8) through (14), except Subsection
430	(1)(b)(ii).
431	[(22) A rule may not be inconsistent with a provision of the association's declaration,
432	bylaws, or articles of incorporation.]
433	[(23)] (25) This section applies to an association regardless of when the association is
434	created.
435	Section 5. Section <b>57-8a-231</b> is amended to read:
436	57-8a-231 Water wise landscaning

437	(1) As used in this section:
438	(a) "Lawn or turf" means nonagricultural land planted in closely mowed, managed
439	grasses.
440	(b) "Mulch" means material such as rock, bark, wood chips, or other materials left loose
441	and applied to the soil.
442	(c) "Overhead spray irrigation" means above ground irrigation heads that spray water
443	through a nozzle.
444	(d)(i) "Vegetative coverage" means the ground level surface area covered by the
445	exposed leaf area of a plant or group of plants at full maturity.
446	(ii) "Vegetative coverage" does not mean the ground level surface area covered by
447	the exposed leaf area of a tree or trees.
448	(e) "Water wise landscaping" means any or all of the following:
449	(i) installation of plant materials suited to the microclimate and soil conditions that
450	can:
451	(A) remain healthy with minimal irrigation once established; or
452	(B) be maintained without the use of overhead spray irrigation;
453	(ii) use of water for outdoor irrigation through proper and efficient irrigation design
454	and water application; or
455	(iii) the use of other landscape design features that:
456	(A) minimize the need of the landscape for supplemental water from irrigation;
457	(B) reduce the landscape area dedicated to lawn or turf; or
458	(C) encourage vegetative coverage.
459	(f) "Water wise plant material" means a plant material suited to water wise landscaping
460	as defined in this section.
461	(2) An association may not enact or enforce a governing document that prohibits, or has the
462	effect of prohibiting, a lot owner of a detached dwelling from incorporating water wise
463	landscaping on the lot owner's lot.
464	(3)(a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), Subsection (2) does not prohibit an association from
465	requiring a property owner to:
466	(i) comply with a site plan review or other review process before installing water
467	wise landscaping;
468	(ii) maintain plant material in a healthy condition; and
469	(iii) follow specific water wise landscaping design requirements adopted by the
470	association including a requirement that:

4/1	(A) restricts or clarifies the use of mulches considered detrimental to the
472	association's operations; and
473	(B) restricts or prohibits the use of specific plant materials other than water wise
474	plant materials.
475	(b) An association may not require a lot owner to install or keep in place lawn or turf in
476	an area.
477	(4)(a) Subject to Subsection (4)(b), if an association does not adopt rules as required by
478	Subsection $[57-8a-218(16)]$ $57-8a-218(15)$ and fails to remedy the noncompliance
479	within the time specified in Subsection (4)(c), a lot owner may file an action in state
480	court for:
481	(i) injunctive relief requiring the association to comply with the requirements of
482	Subsection [57-8a-218(16)] 57-8a-218(15);
483	(ii) \$500, or the lot owner's actual damages, whichever is greater;
484	(iii) any other remedy provided by law; and
485	(iv) reasonable costs and attorney fees.
486	(b) No fewer than 90 days before the day on which a lot owner files a complaint under
487	Subsection (4)(a), the lot owner shall deliver written notice described in Subsection
488	(4)(c) to the association.
489	(c) The lot owner shall include in a notice described in Subsection (4)(b):
490	(i) the requirements in Subsection [57-8a-218(16)] 57-8a-218(15) for adopting water
491	wise landscaping rules with which the association has failed to comply;
492	(ii) a demand that the association come into compliance with the requirements; and
493	(iii) a date, no fewer than 90 days after the day on which the lot owner delivers the
494	notice, by which the association must remedy the association's noncompliance.
495	Section 6. Effective Date.
496	This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.