

MOBILE HOME REVISIONS

2010 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies a provision of the Mobile Home Park Residency Act.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ modifies provisions relating to the formation and operation of a resident association in a mobile home park;
- ▶ modifies rights of residents in a mobile home park;
- ▶ limits what a mobile home park operator, as defined, may do with respect to a mobile home park resident association; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

57-16-16, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2001, Chapter 256

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

Section 1. Section **57-16-16** is amended to read:



28 **57-16-16. Mobile home park residents' associations.**

29 (1) As used in this section:

30 (a) "Park operator" means an owner, operator, or manager of a mobile home park,
31 including an employee, agent, or independent contractor of the owner, operator, or manager.

32 (b) "Resident association" means an organization of mobile home park residents to
33 address their common interests and concerns related to the mobile home park.

34 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) (a) Residents in a mobile home [parks shall have the right to form associations
35 comprised of residents of the mobile home park in which they reside.] park may:

36 (i) form a resident association; and

37 (ii) participate in a regional, state, or national resident association or advocacy group.

38 (b) A resident association may limit membership in a resident association to owners of
39 manufactured homes within a mobile home park if the purpose of the resident association is to
40 purchase some or all of the mobile home park.

41 ~~[(2) The membership of the]~~ (3) At a meeting at which a majority of members are
42 present, resident association members may:

43 (a) elect officers of the resident association [at a meeting where a majority of the
44 members are present.]; and

45 (b) adopt bylaws of the resident association.

46 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) (a) Except in an emergency [situations, there shall be], a resident association
47 shall provide seven days' notice of [an] a resident association meeting to all residents of the
48 mobile home park. [All residents of the park, even if not members of the association, may
49 attend association meetings. The park operator and non-resident employees shall not:]

50 (b) A resident of a mobile home park may attend a meeting of a resident association,
51 whether or not the resident is a member of the resident association.

52 (5) An officer or member of a resident association may not be held personally
53 responsible or liable for an act or omission of the resident association or of another officer or
54 member of the resident association.

55 (6) A park operator may not:

56 (a) be [members of the] a member of a resident association;

57 (b) attend [meetings unless invited by the] a meeting of the resident association unless
58 given a written invitation to the meeting by an officer of the resident association;

59 (c) unlawfully interfere with the resident association's operation [~~of the association;~~
60 ~~or~~];

61 (d) interfere with a resident's right to contact a state or local health department, a
62 municipality, or other group to complain about the health and safety conditions of the mobile
63 home park[-];

64 (e) harass or threaten a resident association; or

65 (f) engage in unfair or deceptive conduct to inhibit or interfere with the creation or
66 operation of a resident association.

67 [~~(4)~~] (7) A resident association may not impose fees, dues, or assessments, upon its
68 members unless a majority of the members agree to the [~~assessment~~] imposition of fees, dues,
69 or assessments.

70 [~~(5) The park~~] (8) A park operator shall permit meetings by any resident association
71 located within the park relating to manufactured home living or social or education purposes,
72 including forums for or speeches by public officials or candidates for public office.

73 (9) Except for reasonable time, place, and manner limitations, a park operator may not
74 prohibit or adopt a rule prohibiting a mobile home park resident or a noncommercial entity
75 from exercising within the mobile home park the right of free expression for noncommercial
76 purposes, including peacefully organizing, assembling, canvassing, petitioning, leafleting, or
77 distributing written, noncommercial material within the mobile home park.

78 [~~(6) Resident associations~~] (10) (a) A resident association may schedule with the park
79 operator the use of the mobile home park's common facilities [~~of the park~~], if any, free of
80 charge. [~~However, the~~]

81 (b) A resident association [~~shall be~~] is responsible for any damage to the mobile home
82 park's common facilities caused by a member of the resident association while the resident
83 association uses a common facility [~~is in use by the resident association~~].

84 (c) A park owner may not:

85 (i) charge a resident or resident association a security deposit to use a common facility
86 of the mobile home park that exceeds the amount normally and uniformly charged as a security
87 deposit for use of the common facility; or

88 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (10)(d), require a resident or resident association
89 to obtain liability insurance in order to use a common facility.

90 (d) A park owner may require liability insurance if:
91 (i) the rules of the mobile home park permit the consumption of alcoholic beverages in
92 a common facility; and

93 (ii) alcoholic beverages are to be served at a meeting or private function of the resident
94 association in the common facility.

95 (11) (a) A park operator may not alter or refuse to renew an existing rental agreement,
96 change a rule of the mobile home park, enforce a mobile home park rule in an unreasonable or
97 nonuniform way, bring or threaten to bring an eviction action or other civil action, or take any
98 other action in retaliation based on a resident:

99 (i) expressing an intention to complain or having complained to a governmental agency
100 about a matter relating to the mobile home park;

101 (ii) making a complaint in good faith to the park operator;

102 (iii) filing or expressing an intention to file a lawsuit or administrative action against
103 the park operator; or

104 (iv) testifying in a judicial or administrative proceeding or before a public body.

105 (b) Subsection (11)(a) does not limit a defense available under the law to a resident in
106 an eviction action.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-15-10 12:10 PM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

H.B. 388 - Mobile Home Revisions

Fiscal Note

2010 General Session

State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.
