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HOUSE BILL NO. 348

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 12, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2349 and 55-79.93:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to common interest communities; annual assessment by Common Interest Community Board.

Patron—Watts

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

That §§ 54.1-2349 and 55-79.93:1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as 11 1. 12 follows: 13

§ 54.1-2349. Powers and duties of the Board.

A. The Board shall administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter. In addition to the 14 15 provisions of § 54.1-201, the Board shall:

16 1. Promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the requirements of this chapter in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) to include but not be limited to the 17 prescription of fees, procedures, and qualifications for the issuance and renewal of common interest 18 19 community manager licenses. The Board shall annually assess each common interest community manager an amount equal to the lesser of (i) \$1,0002,000, or such other amount as the Board may 20 21 establish by regulation, or (ii) five two hundredths of one percent (0.05%0.02 percent) of the gross 22 receipts from common interest community management during the preceding calendar year. For the purposes of clause (ii), no minimum payment shall be less than \$10.00. The annual payment shall be 23 remitted to the State Treasurer and shall be placed to the credit of the Common Interest Community 24 25 Management Fund established pursuant to § 55-529;

2. Establish criteria for the licensure of common interest community managers to ensure the 26 27 appropriate training and educational credentials for the provision of management services to common 28 interest communities. Such criteria may include experiential requirements and shall include designation 29 as an Accredited Association Management Company by the Community Associations Institute. As an 30 additional alternative to such designation, the Board shall have authority, by regulation, to include one 31 of the following: (i) successful completion of another Board-approved training program and certifying examination, or (ii) successful completion of a Virginia testing program to determine the quality of the 32 33 training and educational credentials for and competence of common interest community managers;

34 3. Establish criteria for the certification of the employees of common interest community managers 35 who have principal responsibility for management services provided to a common interest community or 36 who have supervisory responsibility for employees who participate directly in the provision of 37 management services to a common interest community to ensure the person possesses the character and 38 minimum skills to engage properly in the provision of management services to a common interest 39 community. Such criteria shall include designation as a Certified Manager of Community Associations 40 by the National Board of Certification for Community Association Managers, designation as an Association Management Specialist by the Community Associations Institute, or designation as a 41 Professional Community Association Manager by the Community Associations Institute. As an additional 42 alternative to such designations, the Board shall have authority, by regulation, to include one of the 43 following: (i) successful completion of another Board-approved training program and certifying 44 45 examination, or (ii) successful completion of a Virginia testing program to determine the quality of the training and educational credentials for and competence of the employees of common interest 46 47 community managers who participate directly in the provision of management services to a common interest community. The fee paid to the Board for the issuance of such certificate shall be paid to the 48 49 Common Interest Community Management Information Fund established pursuant to § 55-529;

4. Approve the criteria for accredited common interest community manager training programs;

5. Approve accredited common interest community manager training programs;

52 6. Establish, by regulation, standards of conduct for common interest community managers and for 53 employees of common interest community managers certified in accordance with the provisions of this 54 chapter; and

55 7. Establish, by regulation, an education-based certification program for persons who are involved in 56 the business or activity of providing management services to common interest communities. The Board 57 shall have the authority to approve training courses and instructors in furtherance of the provisions of 58 this chapter.

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59 B. The Board shall have the sole responsibility for the administration of this chapter and for the promulgation of regulations to carry out the requirements thereof. The Board shall also be responsible 60 for the enforcement of this chapter, provided that the Real Estate Board shall have the sole responsibility 61 62 for the enforcement of this chapter with respect to a real estate broker, real estate salesperson, or real estate brokerage firm licensed in accordance with Chapter 21 (§ 54.1-2100 et seq.) who is also licensed 63 64 as a common interest community manager.

65 C. The Board is authorized to obtain criminal history record information from any state or federal law-enforcement agency relating to an applicant for licensure or certification. Any information so 66 obtained is for the exclusive use of the Board and shall not be released to any other person or agency 67 except in furtherance of the investigation of the applicant or with the authorization of the applicant or 68 69 upon court order. 70

§ 55-79.93:1. Annual report by unit owners' association.

A. The unit owners' association shall file an annual report in a form and at such time as prescribed 71 by regulations of the agency. The filing of the annual report required by this section shall commence 72 upon the termination of the declarant control period pursuant to § 55-79.74. The annual report shall be 73 accompanied by a fixed fee in an amount established by the agency. 74

75 B. The agency may accept copies of forms submitted to other state agencies to satisfy the requirements of this section if such forms contain substantially the same information required by the 76 77 agency.

78 C. The unit owners association shall also remit to the agency an annual payment as follows:

79 1. The lesser of:

80 a. \$1,0002,000 or such other amount as established by agency regulation; or

81 b. Five Two hundredths of one percent (0.05%0.02 percent) of the unit owners' association's gross assessment income during the preceding calendar year. 82

2. For the purposes of clause b of subsection C, no minimum payment shall be less than \$10.00. 83

D. The annual payment shall be remitted to the State Treasurer and shall be placed to the credit of 84 85 the Common Interest Community Management Fund established pursuant to § 55-529.