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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2235****AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**(Proposed by the House Committee on General Laws  
on January 31, 2023)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Wampler)

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2130, 54.1-2345.1, 54.1-2349 through 54.1-2352, 55.1-1800, 55.1-1802, 55.1-1805, 55.1-1816, 55.1-1820, 55.1-1820.1, 55.1-1822, 55.1-1823, 55.1-1904, 55.1-1937, 55.1-1951, 55.1-1951.1, 55.1-1972, 55.1-2101, 55.1-2133, 55.1-2133.1, 55.1-2151, and 55.1-2162 of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 55.1 a chapter numbered 23.1, consisting of sections numbered 55.1-2307 through 55.1-2317; and to repeal Article 2 (§§ 55.1-1808 through 55.1-1814) of Chapter 18 and Article 5 (§§ 55.1-1990 through 55.1-1995) of Chapter 19 of Title 55.1 and § 55.1-2161 of the Code of Virginia, relating to common interest communities; Resale Disclosure Act.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 54.1-2130, 54.1-2345.1, 54.1-2349 through 54.1-2352, 55.1-1800, 55.1-1802, 55.1-1805, 55.1-1816, 55.1-1820, 55.1-1820.1, 55.1-1822, 55.1-1823, 55.1-1904, 55.1-1937, 55.1-1951, 55.1-1951.1, 55.1-1972, 55.1-2101, 55.1-2133, 55.1-2133.1, 55.1-2151, and 55.1-2162 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 55.1 a chapter numbered 23.1, consisting of sections numbered 55.1-2307 through 55.1-2317, as follows:**

**§ 54.1-2130. Definitions.**

As used in this article:

"Agency" means every relationship in which a real estate licensee acts for or represents a person as an agent by such person's express authority in a commercial or residential real estate transaction, unless a different legal relationship is intended and is agreed to as part of the brokerage agreement. Nothing in this article shall prohibit a licensee and a client from agreeing in writing to a brokerage relationship under which the licensee acts as an independent contractor or which imposes on a licensee obligations in addition to those provided in this article. If a licensee agrees to additional obligations, however, the licensee shall be responsible for the additional obligations agreed to with the client in the brokerage agreement. A real estate licensee who enters into a brokerage relationship based upon a written brokerage agreement that specifically states that the real estate licensee is acting as an independent contractor and not as an agent shall have the obligations agreed to by the parties in the brokerage agreement, and such real estate licensee and its employees shall comply with the provisions of subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2131; subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2132; subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2133; subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2134; and subdivisions A 2 through 6 and subsections C and D of § 54.1-2135 but otherwise shall have no obligations under §§ 54.1-2131 through 54.1-2135. Any real estate licensee who acts for or represents a client in an agency relationship in a residential real estate transaction shall either represent such client as a standard agent or a limited service agent.

"Agent" means a real estate licensee who is acting as (i) a standard agent in a residential real estate transaction, (ii) a limited service agent in a residential real estate transaction, or (iii) an agent in a commercial real estate transaction.

"Brokerage agreement" means the written agreement creating a brokerage relationship between a client and a licensee. The brokerage agreement shall state whether the real estate licensee will represent the client as an agent or an independent contractor.

"Brokerage relationship" means the contractual relationship between a client and a real estate licensee who has been engaged by such client for the purpose of procuring a seller, buyer, option, tenant, or landlord ready, able, and willing to sell, buy, option, exchange or rent real estate on behalf of a client.

"Client" means a person who has entered into a brokerage relationship with a licensee.

"Commercial real estate" means any real estate other than (i) real estate containing one to four residential units or (ii) real estate classified for assessment purposes under § 58.1-3230. Commercial real estate shall not include single family residential units, including condominiums, townhouses, apartments, or homes in a subdivision when leased on a unit by unit basis even though these units may be part of a larger building or parcel of real estate containing more than four residential units.

"Common source information company" means any person, firm, or corporation that is a source, compiler, or supplier of information regarding real estate for sale or lease and other data and includes, but is not limited to, multiple listing services.

"Customer" means a person who has not entered into a brokerage relationship with a licensee but for whom a licensee performs ministerial acts in a real estate transaction. Unless a licensee enters into a

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60 brokerage relationship with such person, it shall be presumed that such person is a customer of the  
61 licensee rather than a client.

62 "Designated agent" or "designated representative" means a licensee who has been assigned by a  
63 principal or supervising broker to represent a client when a different client is also represented by such  
64 principal or broker in the same transaction. A designated representative shall only act as an independent  
65 contractor.

66 "Dual agent" or "dual representative" means a licensee who has a brokerage relationship with both  
67 seller and buyer, or both landlord and tenant, in the same real estate transaction. A dual agent has an  
68 agency relationship under brokerage agreements with the clients. A dual representative has an  
69 independent contractor relationship under brokerage agreements with the clients. A dual representative  
70 shall only act as an independent contractor.

71 "Independent contractor" means a real estate licensee who (i) enters into a brokerage relationship  
72 based upon a brokerage agreement that specifically states that the real estate licensee is acting as an  
73 independent contractor and not as an agent; (ii) shall have the obligations agreed to by the parties in the  
74 brokerage agreement; and (iii) shall comply with the provisions of subdivisions A 3 through 7 and  
75 subsections B and E of § 54.1-2131; subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2132;  
76 subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2133; subdivisions A 3 through 7 and subsections B and E of § 54.1-2134; and subdivisions A 2 through 6 and subsections C  
77 and D of § 54.1-2135 but otherwise shall have no obligations under §§ 54.1-2131 through 54.1-2135.

78 "Licensee" means real estate brokers and salespersons as defined in Article 1 (§ 54.1-2100 et seq.).

79 "Limited service agent" means a licensee who acts for or represents a client in a residential real  
80 estate transaction pursuant to a brokerage agreement that provides that the limited service agent will not  
81 provide one or more of the duties set forth in subdivision A 2 of §§ 54.1-2131, 54.1-2132, 54.1-2133,  
82 and 54.1-2134, inclusive. A limited service agent shall have the obligations set out in the brokerage  
83 agreement, except that a limited service agent shall provide the client, at the time of entering the  
84 brokerage agreement, copies of any and all disclosures required by federal or state law, or local  
85 disclosures expressly authorized by state law, and shall disclose to the client the following in writing: (i)  
86 the rights and obligations of the client under the Virginia Residential Property Disclosure Act  
87 (§ 55.1-700 et seq.); (ii) if the client is selling a condominium, the rights and obligations of the client to  
88 deliver to the purchasers, or to receive as purchaser, the ~~condominium~~ resale certificate required by §  
89 ~~55.1-1990~~ 55.1-2309; and (iii) if the client is selling a property subject to the Property Owners'  
90 Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the rights and obligations of the client to deliver to the  
91 purchasers, or to receive as purchaser, the ~~association disclosure packet required by § 55.1-1809~~ resale  
92 certificate required by § 55.1-2309.

93 "Ministerial acts" means those routine acts which a licensee can perform for a person which do not  
94 involve discretion or the exercise of the licensee's own judgment.

95 "Property management agreement" means the written agreement between a property manager and the  
96 owner of real estate for the management of the real estate.

97 "Residential real estate" means real property containing from one to four residential dwelling units  
98 and the sale of lots containing one to four residential dwelling units.

100 "Standard agent" means a licensee who acts for or represents a client in an agency relationship in a  
101 residential real estate transaction. A standard agent shall have the obligations as provided in this article  
102 and any additional obligations agreed to by the parties in the brokerage agreement.

103 **§ 54.1-2345.1. Certain real estate arrangements and covenants not deemed to constitute a**  
104 **common interest community.**

105 A. An arrangement between the associations for two or more common interest communities to share  
106 the costs of real estate taxes, insurance premiums, services, maintenance, or improvements of real estate,  
107 or other activities specified in their arrangement or declarations does not create a separate common  
108 interest community, or an arrangement between an association and the owner of real estate that is not  
109 part of a common interest community to share the costs of real estate taxes, insurance premiums,  
110 services, maintenance, or improvements of real estate, or other activities specified in their arrangement  
111 does not create a separate common interest community. Assessments against the lots in the common  
112 interest community required by such arrangement shall be included in the periodic budget for the  
113 common interest community, and the arrangement shall be disclosed in all required public offering  
114 statements and ~~disclosure packets~~ resale certificates.

115 B. A covenant requiring the owners of separately owned parcels of real estate to share costs or other  
116 obligations associated with a party wall, driveway, well, or other similar use does not create a common  
117 interest community unless the owners otherwise agree to create such community.

118 **§ 54.1-2349. Powers and duties of the Board.**

119 A. The Board shall administer and enforce the provisions of this article. In addition to the provisions  
120 of §§ 54.1-201 and 54.1-202, the Board shall:

121 1. Promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the requirements of this article in accordance with

the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), including the prescription of fees, procedures, and qualifications for the issuance and renewal of common interest community manager licenses. Upon application for license and each renewal thereof, the applicant shall pay a fee established by the Board, which shall be placed to the credit of the Common Interest Community Management Information Fund established pursuant to § 54.1-2354.2;

2. Establish criteria for the licensure of common interest community managers to ensure the appropriate training and educational credentials for the provision of management services to common interest communities. Such criteria may include experiential requirements and shall include designation as an Accredited Association Management Company by the Community Associations Institute. As an additional alternative to such designation, the Board shall have authority, by regulation, to include one 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 training and educational credentials for and competence of common interest community managers;

3. Establish criteria for the certification of the employees of common interest community managers who have principal responsibility for management services provided to a common interest community or who have supervisory responsibility for employees who participate directly in the provision of management services to a common interest community to ensure the person possesses the character and minimum skills to engage properly in the provision of management services to a common interest community. Such criteria shall include designation as a Certified Manager of Community Associations by the Community Association Managers International Certification Board, designation as an Association Management Specialist by the Community Associations Institute, or designation as a Professional Community Association Manager by the Community Associations Institute. As an additional alternative to such designations, the Board shall have authority, by regulation, to include one of the following: (i) successful completion of another Board-approved training program as developed by the Virginia Association of Realtors or other organization, and certifying 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 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 Common Interest Community Management Information Fund established pursuant to § 54.1-2354.2;

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

5. Approve accredited common interest community manager training programs;

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

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

8. Issue a certificate of registration to each association that has properly filed in accordance with this chapter; and

9. Develop and publish best practices for the content of declarations consistent with the requirements of the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.).

B. 1. The Board shall have the sole responsibility for the administration of this article and for the promulgation of regulations to carry out the requirements thereof.

2. The Board shall also be responsible for the enforcement of this article, provided that the Real Estate Board shall have the sole responsibility for the enforcement of this article 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 as a common interest community manager.

3. For purposes of enforcement of this article or the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), ~~or~~ the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *or the Resale Disclosure Act (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.)*, any requirement for the conduct of a hearing shall be satisfied by an informal fact-finding proceeding convened and conducted pursuant to § 2.2-4019 of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

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 obtained is for the exclusive use of the Board and shall not be released to any other person or agency except in furtherance of the investigation of the applicant or with the authorization of the applicant or upon court order.

D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of § 54.1-2354.4, the Board may receive a

183 complaint directly from any person aggrieved by an association's failure to deliver a resale certificate or  
184 disclosure packet within the time period required under § 55.1-1809, 55.1-1810, 55.1-1811, 55.1-1900,  
185 55.1-1992, or 55.1-2161 in accordance with Chapter 23.1 (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.) of Title 55.1.

186 **§ 54.1-2350. Annual report; form to accompany resale certificates.**

187 In addition to the provisions of § 54.1-2349, the Board shall:

188 1. Administer the provisions of Article 2 (§ 54.1-2354.1 et seq.);

189 2. Develop and disseminate an association annual report form for use in accordance with  
190 §§ 55.1-1835, 55.1-1980, and 55.1-2182; and

191 3. Develop and disseminate a *standardized resale certificate* form to accompany resale certificates  
192 required pursuant to § 55.1-1990 and association disclosure packets required pursuant to § 55.1-1809,  
193 which form shall summarize the unique characteristics of common interest communities generally that  
194 may affect a prospective purchaser's decision to purchase a lot or unit located in a common interest  
195 community. The form shall include information on the following, which may or may not be applicable  
196 to a particular common interest community: (i) the obligation on the part of an owner to pay regular  
197 annual or special assessments to the association; (ii) the penalty for failure or refusal to pay such  
198 assessments; (iii) the purposes for which such assessments, if any, may be used, including for the  
199 construction or maintenance of stormwater management facilities; (iv) the importance the declaration of  
200 restrictive covenants or condominium instruments, as applicable, and other governing documents play in  
201 association living; (v) limitations on an owner's ability to rent his lot or unit; (vi) limitations on an  
202 owner's ability to park or store certain types of motor vehicles or boats within the common interest  
203 community; (vii) limitations on an owner's ability to maintain an animal as a pet within the lot or unit,  
204 or in common areas or common elements; (viii) architectural guidelines applicable to an owner's lot or  
205 unit; (ix) limitations on an owner's ability to operate a business within a dwelling unit on a lot or within  
206 a unit; (x) the period or length of declarant control; and (xi) that the purchase contract for a lot within  
207 an association is a legally binding document once it is signed by the prospective purchaser where the  
208 purchaser has not elected to cancel the purchase contract in accordance with law contain disclosure  
209 statements in the order listed in § 55.1-2310. The form shall provide for the attachment of reference  
210 documents and contain space for an association to indicate those disclosures that pertain to its  
211 particular community. The form shall also provide that (a) the purchaser remains responsible for his own  
212 examination of the materials that constitute the resale certificate or disclosure packet and of any table of  
213 contents that may be contained therein; (b) the purchaser shall carefully review the entire resale  
214 certificate or disclosure packet; and (c) the contents of the resale certificate or disclosure packet shall  
215 control to the extent that there are any inconsistencies between the form and the resale certificate or  
216 disclosure packet attached reference documents.

217 **§ 54.1-2351. General powers and duties of Board concerning associations.**

218 A. The Board may adopt, amend, and repeal rules and regulations and issue orders consistent with  
219 and in furtherance of the objectives of this article, but the Board may not intervene in the internal  
220 activities of an association except to the extent necessary to prevent or cure violations of this article or  
221 of the chapter pursuant to which the association is created. The Board may prescribe forms and  
222 procedures for submitting information to the Board.

223 B. If it appears that any governing board has engaged, is engaging, or is about to engage in any act  
224 or practice in violation of this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the  
225 Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100  
226 et seq.), or the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act*  
227 (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders, the Board without prior administrative  
228 proceedings may bring an action in the appropriate court to enjoin that act or practice or for other  
229 appropriate relief. The Board is not required to post a bond or prove that no adequate remedy at law  
230 exists.

231 C. The Board may intervene in any action involving a violation by a declarant or a developer of a  
232 time-share project of this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the  
233 Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100  
234 et seq.), or the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act*  
235 (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders.

236 D. The Board may accept grants-in-aid from any governmental source and may contract with  
237 agencies charged with similar functions in this or other jurisdictions in furtherance of the objectives of  
238 this article.

239 E. The Board may cooperate with agencies performing similar functions in this and other  
240 jurisdictions to develop uniform filing procedures and forms, uniform disclosure standards, and uniform  
241 administrative practices, and may develop information that may be useful in the discharge of the Board's  
242 duties.

243 F. In issuing any cease and desist order, the Board shall state the basis for the adverse determination  
244 and the underlying facts.

G. Without limiting the remedies that may be obtained under this article, the Board, without compliance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of this section and may institute proceedings in equity to enjoin any person, partnership, corporation, or any other entity violating this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), ~~or~~ the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act* (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders. Such proceedings shall be brought in the name of the Commonwealth by the Board in the circuit court or general district court of the city or county in which the unlawful act occurred or in which the defendant resides.

H. The Board may assess a monetary penalty to be paid to the Common Interest Community Management Information Fund of not more than \$1,000 per violation against any governing board that violates any provision of this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), ~~or~~ the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act* (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Board shall consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. No monetary penalty may be assessed under this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), ~~or~~ the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act* (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders unless the governing board has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.). The penalty may be sued for and recovered in the name of the Commonwealth.

**§ 54.1-2352. Cease and desist orders.**

A. The Board may issue an order requiring the governing board of the association to cease and desist from the unlawful practice and to take such affirmative action as in the judgment of the Board will carry out the purposes of this article, if the Board determines after notice and hearing that the governing board of an association has:

1. Violated any statute or regulation of the Board governing the association regulated pursuant to this article, including engaging in any act or practice in violation of this article, the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), ~~or~~ the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act (§ 55.1-2200 et seq.), *the Resale Disclosure Act* (§ 55.1-2307 et seq.), or any of the Board's regulations or orders;

2. Failed to register as an association or to file an annual report as required by statute or regulation;

3. Materially misrepresented facts in an application for registration or an annual report; or

4. Willfully refused to furnish the Board information or records required or requested pursuant to statute or regulation.

B. If the Board makes a finding of fact in writing that the public interest will be irreparably harmed by delay in issuing an order, it may issue a temporary order to cease and desist or to take such affirmative action as may be deemed appropriate by the Board. Prior to issuing the temporary order, the Board shall give notice of the proposal to issue a temporary order to the person. Every temporary order shall include in its terms a provision that upon request a hearing will be held promptly to determine whether or not it becomes permanent.

**§ 55.1-1800. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Association" means the property owners' association.

"Board of directors" means the executive body of a property owners' association or a committee that is exercising the power of the executive body by resolution or bylaw.

"Capital components" means those items, whether or not a part of the common area, for which the association has the obligation for repair, replacement, or restoration and for which the board of directors determines funding is necessary.

"Common area" means property within a development which is owned, leased, or required by the declaration to be maintained or operated by a property owners' association for the use of its members and designated as a common area in the declaration.

"Common interest community" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-2345.

"Common interest community manager" means the same as that term is defined in § 54.1-2345.

"Declarant" means the person or entity signing the declaration and its successors or assigns who may submit property to a declaration.

"Declaration" means any instrument, however denominated, recorded among the land records of the county or city in which the development or any part of such development is located, that either (i) imposes on the association maintenance or operational responsibilities for the common area or (ii)

creates the authority in the association to impose on lots, on the owners or occupants of such lots, or on any other entity any mandatory payment of money in connection with the provision of maintenance or services for the benefit of some or all of the lots, the owners or occupants of the lots, or the common area. "Declaration" includes any amendment or supplement to the instruments described in this definition. "Declaration" does not include a declaration of a condominium, real estate cooperative, time-share project, or campground.

"Development" means real property located within the Commonwealth subject to a declaration which contains both lots, at least some of which are residential or are occupied for recreational purposes, and common areas with respect to which any person, by virtue of ownership of a lot, is a member of an association and is obligated to pay assessments provided for in a declaration.

"Disclosure packet update" means an update of the financial information referenced in subdivisions A 2 through 9 of § 55.1-1809. The update shall include a copy of the original disclosure packet.

"Electronic means" means any form of communication, not directly involving the physical transmission of paper, that creates a record that may be retained, retrieved, and reviewed by a recipient of such communication. A meeting conducted by electronic means includes a meeting conducted via teleconference, videoconference, Internet exchange, or other electronic methods. Any term used in this definition that is defined in § 59.1-480 of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act shall have the meaning set forth in such section.

"Financial update" means an update of the financial information referenced in subdivisions A 2 through 7 of § 55.1-1809.

"Lot" means (i) any plot or parcel of land designated for separate ownership or occupancy shown on a recorded subdivision plat for a development or the boundaries of which are described in the declaration or in a recorded instrument referred to or expressly contemplated by the declaration, other than a common area, and (ii) a unit in a condominium association or a unit in a real estate cooperative if the condominium or cooperative is a part of a development.

"Lot owner" means one or more persons who own a lot, including any purchaser of a lot at a foreclosure sale, regardless of whether the deed is recorded in the land records where the lot is located. "Lot owner" does not include any person holding an interest in a lot solely as security for a debt.

"Professionally managed" means a common interest community that has engaged (i) a common interest community manager to provide management services to the community or (ii) a person as an employee for compensation to provide management services to the community, other than a resident of the community who provides bookkeeping, billing, or recordkeeping services for that community.

"Property owners' association" or "association" means an incorporated or unincorporated entity upon which responsibilities are imposed and to which authority is granted in the declaration.

"Resale certificate" means a certificate issued by an association pursuant to §§ 55.1-2309 and 55.1-2310.

"Settlement agent" means the same as that term is defined in § 55.1-1000.

#### **§ 55.1-1802. Developer to register and file annual report; payment of real estate taxes attributable to the common area.**

A. Unless control of the association has been transferred to the members, the developer shall register the association with the Common Interest Community Board within 30 days after recordation of the declaration and thereafter shall ensure that the report required pursuant to § 55.1-1835 and any required update has been filed.

B. Upon the transfer of the common area to the association, the developer shall pay all real estate taxes attributable to the open or common space as defined in § 58.1-3284.1 through the date of the transfer to the association.

#### **§ 55.1-1805. Association charges.**

Except as expressly authorized in this chapter, in the declaration, or otherwise provided by law, no association shall (i) make an assessment or impose a charge against a lot or a lot owner unless the charge is a fee for services provided or related to use of the common area or (ii) charge a fee related to the provisions set out in § 55.1-1810 or 55.1-1811 that is not issuance of a resale certificate pursuant to § 55.1-2309 or 55.1-2311 except as expressly authorized in those sections § 55.1-2316. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize an association or common interest community manager to charge an inspection fee for an unimproved or improved lot except as provided in § 55.1-1810 or 55.1-1811 55.1-2316. The Common Interest Community Board may assess a monetary penalty for a violation of this section against any (a) association pursuant to § 54.1-2351 or (b) common interest community manager pursuant to § 54.1-2349, and may issue a cease and desist order pursuant to § 54.1-2352.

#### **§ 55.1-1816. Meetings of the board of directors.**

A. All meetings of the board of directors, including any subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors, where the business of the association is discussed or transacted shall be open to all members of record. The board of directors shall not use work sessions or other informal gatherings of the board of directors to circumvent the open meeting requirements of this section. Minutes of the

meetings of the board of directors shall be recorded and shall be available as provided in subsection B of § 55.1-1815.

B. Notice of the time, date, and place of each meeting of the board of directors or of any subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors shall be published where it is reasonably calculated to be available to a majority of the lot owners.

A lot owner may make a request to be notified on a continual basis of any such meetings. Such request shall be made at least once a year in writing and include the lot owner's name, address, zip code, and any email address as appropriate. Notice of the time, date, and place shall be sent to any lot owner requesting notice (i) by first-class mail or email in the case of meetings of the board of directors or (ii) by email in the case of meetings of any subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors.

Notice, reasonable under the circumstances, of special or emergency meetings shall be given contemporaneously with the notice provided to members of the association's board of directors or any subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors conducting the meeting.

Unless otherwise exempt as relating to an executive session pursuant to subsection C, at least one copy of all agenda packets and materials furnished to members of an association's board of directors or subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors for a meeting shall be made available for inspection by the membership of the association at the same time such documents are furnished to the members of the board of directors or any subcommittee or committee of the board of directors.

Any member may record any portion of a meeting that is required to be open. The board of directors or subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors conducting the meeting may adopt rules (a) governing the placement and use of equipment necessary for recording a meeting to prevent interference with the proceedings and (b) requiring the member recording the meeting to provide notice that the meeting is being recorded.

Except for the election of officers, voting by secret or written ballot in an open meeting shall be a violation of this chapter.

C. The board of directors or any subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors may (i) convene in executive session to consider personnel matters; (ii) consult with legal counsel; (iii) discuss and consider contracts, pending or probable litigation, and matters involving violations of the declaration or rules and regulations adopted pursuant to such declaration for which a member or his family members, tenants, guests, or other invitees are responsible; or (iv) discuss and consider the personal liability of members to the association, upon the affirmative vote in an open meeting to assemble in executive session. The motion shall state specifically the purpose for the executive session. Reference to the motion and the stated purpose for the executive session shall be included in the minutes. The board of directors shall restrict the consideration of matters during such portions of meetings to only those purposes specifically exempted and stated in the motion. No contract, motion, or other action adopted, passed, or agreed to in executive session shall become effective unless the board of directors or subcommittee or other committee of the board of directors, following the executive session, reconvenes in open meeting and takes a vote on such contract, motion, or other action, which shall have its substance reasonably identified in the open meeting. The requirements of this section shall not require the disclosure of information in violation of law.

D. Subject to reasonable rules adopted by the board of directors, the board of directors shall provide a designated period during each meeting to allow members an opportunity to comment on any matter relating to the association. During a meeting at which the agenda is limited to specific topics or at a special meeting, the board of directors may limit the comments of members to the topics listed on the meeting agenda.

**§ 55.1-1820. Display of the flag of the United States; necessary supporting structures; affirmative defense.**

A. In accordance with the federal Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-243), no association shall prohibit any lot owner from displaying upon property to which the lot owner has a separate ownership interest or a right to exclusive possession or use the flag of the United States whenever such display is in compliance with Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.), or any rule or custom pertaining to the proper display of the flag. The association may, however, establish reasonable restrictions as to the size, place, duration, and manner of placement or display of the flag on such property, provided that such restrictions are necessary to protect a substantial interest of the association.

B. The association may restrict the display of such flag in the common areas.

C. In any action brought by the association under § 55.1-1819 for violation of a flag restriction, the association shall bear the burden of proof that the restrictions as to the size, place, duration, and manner of placement or display of such flag are necessary to protect a substantial interest of the association.

D. In any action brought by the association under § 55.1-1819, the lot owner shall be entitled to

429 assert as an affirmative defense that the required disclosure of any limitations pertaining to the display  
430 of flags or any flagpole or similar structure necessary to display such flags was not contained in the  
431 disclosure packet *resale certificate as required pursuant to by § 55.1-1809 55.1-2310.*

432 **§ 55.1-1820.1. Installation of solar energy collection devices.**

433 A. As used in this section, "solar energy collection device" means any device manufactured and sold  
434 for the sole purpose of facilitating the collection and beneficial use of solar energy, including passive  
435 heating panels or building components and solar photovoltaic apparatus.

436 B. No association shall prohibit an owner from installing a solar energy collection device on that  
437 owner's property unless the recorded declaration for the association establishes such a prohibition.  
438 However, an association may establish reasonable restrictions concerning the size, place, and manner of  
439 placement of such solar energy collection devices on property designated and intended for individual  
440 ownership and use. Any disclosure packet *resale certificate issued pursuant to § 55.1-1809 55.1-2309*  
441 given to a purchaser shall contain a statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on  
442 the right of an owner to install or use solar energy collection devices on his property.

443 C. A restriction shall be deemed not to be reasonable if application of the restriction to a particular  
444 proposal (i) increases the cost of installation of the solar energy collection device by five percent over  
445 the projected cost of the initially proposed installation or (ii) reduces the energy production by the solar  
446 energy collection device by 10 percent below the projected energy production of the initially proposed  
447 installation. The owner shall provide documentation prepared by an independent solar panel design  
448 specialist, who is certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners and is  
449 licensed in Virginia, that is satisfactory to the association to show that the restriction is not reasonable  
450 according to the criteria established in this subsection.

451 D. The association may prohibit or restrict the installation of solar energy collection devices on the  
452 common elements or common area within the real estate development served by the association. An  
453 association may establish reasonable restrictions as to the number, size, place, and manner of placement  
454 or installation of any solar energy collection device installed on the common elements or common area.

455 **§ 55.1-1822. Use of for sale signs in connection with sale.**

456 Except as expressly authorized in this chapter or in the declaration or as otherwise provided by law,  
457 no property owners' association shall require the use of any for sale sign that is (i) an association sign or  
458 (ii) a real estate sign that does not comply with the requirements of the Real Estate Board. An  
459 association may, however, prohibit the placement of signs in the common area and establish reasonable  
460 rules and regulations that regulate (a) the number of real estate signs to be located on real property upon  
461 which the owner has a separate ownership interest or a right of exclusive possession, so long as at least  
462 one real estate sign is permitted; (b) the geographical location of real estate signs on real property in  
463 which the owner has a separate ownership interest or a right of exclusive possession, so long as the  
464 location of the real estate signs complies with the requirements of the Real Estate Board; (c) the manner  
465 in which real estate signs are affixed to real property; and (d) the period of time after settlement when  
466 the real estate signs on such real property shall be removed.

467 **§ 55.1-1823. Designation of authorized representative.**

468 Except as expressly authorized in this chapter or in the declaration or as otherwise provided by law,  
469 no property owners' association shall require any lot owner to execute a formal power of attorney if the  
470 lot owner designates a person licensed under the provisions of § 54.1-2106.1 as the lot owner's  
471 authorized representative, and the association shall recognize such representation without a formal power  
472 of attorney, provided that the association is given a written authorization that includes the designated  
473 representative's name, contact information, and license number and the lot owner's signature.  
474 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the requirements of § 13.1-849 of the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act  
475 (§ 13.1-801 et seq.) and the association's declaration, bylaws, and articles of incorporation shall be  
476 satisfied before any such representative may exercise a vote on behalf of a lot owner as a proxy.

477 **§ 55.1-1904. Association charges.**

478 Except as expressly authorized in this chapter, in the condominium instruments, or as otherwise  
479 provided by law, no unit owners' association may make an assessment or impose a charge against a unit  
480 owner unless the charge is (i) authorized under § 55.1-1964, (ii) a fee for services provided, or (iii)  
481 related to the provisions set out in § 55.1-1992 55.1-2316. The Common Interest Community Board may  
482 assess a monetary penalty for a violation of this section against any (a) unit owners' association pursuant  
483 to § 54.1-2351 or (b) common interest community manager pursuant to § 54.1-2349 and may issue a  
484 cease and desist order pursuant to § 54.1-2352.

485 **§ 55.1-1937. Termination of condominium.**

486 A. If there is no unit owner other than the declarant, the declarant may unilaterally terminate the  
487 condominium. An instrument terminating a condominium signed by the declarant is effective upon  
488 recordation of such instrument. But this section shall not be construed to nullify, limit, or otherwise  
489 affect the validity or enforceability of any agreement renouncing or to renounce, in whole or in part, the  
490 right hereby conferred.



B. Except in the case of a taking of all the units by eminent domain, if any of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use and there is any unit owner other than the declarant, the condominium may be terminated only by the agreement of unit owners of units to which four-fifths of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain, or such larger majority as the condominium instruments may specify. If none of the units in the condominium is restricted exclusively to residential use, the condominium instruments may specify a majority smaller than the minimum specified in this subsection.

C. Agreement of the required majority of unit owners to termination of the condominium shall be evidenced by their execution of a termination agreement, or ratifications of such agreement, and such agreement is effective when a copy of the termination agreement is recorded together with a certification, signed by the principal officer of the unit owners' association or by such other officer as the condominium instruments may specify, that the requisite majority of the unit owners signed the termination agreement or ratifications. Unless the termination agreement otherwise provides, prior to recordation of the termination agreement, a unit owner's prior agreement to terminate the condominium may be revoked only with the approval of unit owners of units to which a majority of the votes in the unit owners' association appertain. Any unit owner acquiring a unit subsequent to approval of a termination agreement but prior to recordation of the termination agreement shall be deemed to have consented to the termination agreement. Upon approval of a termination agreement and until recordation of the termination agreement, a copy of the termination agreement shall be included with the resale certificate required by § 55.1-1990 55.1-2309. The termination agreement shall specify a date after which the termination agreement is void if the termination agreement is not recorded. For the purposes of this section, an instrument terminating a condominium and any ratification of such instrument shall be deemed a condominium instrument subject to the provisions of § 55.1-1911.

D. A termination agreement may provide that all of the common elements and units of the condominium shall be sold or otherwise disposed of following termination. If, pursuant to the termination agreement, any property in the condominium is sold or disposed of following termination, the termination agreement shall set forth the minimum terms of the sale or disposition.

E. In the case of a master condominium that contains a unit that is a part of another condominium, a termination agreement for the master condominium shall not terminate the other condominium.

F. On behalf of the unit owners, the unit owners' association may contract for the disposition of property in the condominium, but the contract shall not be binding on the unit owners until approved pursuant to subsections B and C. If the termination agreement requires that any property in the condominium be sold or otherwise disposed of following termination, title to the property, upon termination, shall vest in the unit owners' association as trustee for the holders of all interest in the units. Thereafter, the unit owners' association shall have powers necessary and appropriate to effect the sale or disposition. Until the termination has been concluded and the proceeds have been distributed, the unit owners' association shall continue in existence with all the powers the unit owners' association had before termination. Proceeds of the sale shall be distributed to unit owners and lien holders as their interests may appear, in proportion to the respective interests of the unit owners as provided in subsection I. Unless otherwise specified in the termination agreement, for as long as the unit owners' association holds title to the property, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall have an exclusive right to occupancy of the portion of the property that formerly constituted his unit. During the period that the unit owner or his successor in interest has the right to occupancy, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall remain liable for any assessment or other obligation imposed on the unit owner by this chapter or the condominium instruments.

G. If the property that constitutes the condominium is not sold or otherwise disposed of following termination, title to all the property in the condominium shall vest in the unit owners, upon termination, as tenants in common in proportion to the unit owners' respective interests as provided in subsection I. In such an event, any liens on a unit shall shift accordingly, and a lien may be enforced only against a unit owner's tenancy in common interest, but the lien shall not encumber the entire property formerly constituting the condominium. While the tenancy in common exists, each unit owner or his successor in interest shall have the exclusive right to occupancy of the portion of the property that formerly constituted the unit owner's unit.

H. Following termination of the condominium, the proceeds of any sale of property, together with the assets of the unit owners' association, shall be held by the unit owners' association as trustee for unit owners or lien holders on the units as their interests may appear. Following termination, any creditor of the unit owners' association who holds a lien on the unit that was recorded before termination may enforce the lien in the same manner as any lien holder. Any other creditor of the unit owners' association shall be treated as if he had perfected a lien on the units immediately before termination.

I. Unless the condominium instruments as originally recorded or as amended by 100 percent of the unit owners provide otherwise, the respective interests of unit owners referred to in subsections F, G,

552 and H shall be as follows:

553 1. Except as provided in subdivision 3, the respective interests of the unit owners shall be as set  
554 forth in the termination agreement.

555 2. Except as provided in subdivision 3, if the respective interests of the unit owners are based on the  
556 respective fair market values of their units, limited common elements, and common element interests  
557 immediately before the termination, the fair market values shall be determined by one or more  
558 independent appraisers selected by the unit owners' association. The decision of the independent  
559 appraisers shall be distributed to the unit owners and become final unless disapproved within 30 days  
560 after distribution by unit owners of units to which one quarter of the votes in the unit owners'  
561 association appertain. The proportion of any unit owner's interest to the interest of all unit owners is  
562 determined by dividing the fair market value of that unit owner's unit and common element interest by  
563 the total fair market values of all the units and their common element interests.

564 3. If the method of determining the respective interests of the unit owners in the proceeds of sale or  
565 disposition is other than the fair market values, then the association shall provide each unit owner with a  
566 notice stating the result of that method for his unit and, no later than 30 days after transmission of that  
567 notice, if 10 percent of the unit owners dispute the interest to be distributed to their units, those unit  
568 owners may require the association to obtain an independent appraisal of the condominium units. If the  
569 fair market value of the units of the objecting unit owners is at least 10 percent more than the amount  
570 that the unit owners would have received using the method agreed upon by the membership, then the  
571 association shall adjust the respective interests of the unit owners so that each unit owner's share is  
572 based on the fair market value for each unit. If the fair market value is less than 10 percent more than  
573 the amount that the objecting unit owners would have received using the agreed-upon method, then the  
574 agreed-upon method shall be implemented and the objecting unit owners shall receive the distribution  
575 less their pro rata share of the cost of their appraisal.

576 4. If the method of determining the respective interests of the unit owners cannot be implemented  
577 because any unit or limited common element is destroyed, the interests of all unit owners are the unit  
578 owners' respective common element interests immediately before the termination.

579 5. Unless the termination agreement provides otherwise, each unit owner shall satisfy and cause the  
580 release of any mortgage, deed of trust, lease, or other lien or encumbrance on his unit at the time  
581 required by the termination agreement.

582 J. Except as provided in subsection K, foreclosure of any mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien, or  
583 enforcement of a mortgage, deed of trust, or other lien or encumbrance against the entire condominium,  
584 shall not alone terminate the condominium, and foreclosure or enforcement of a lien or encumbrance  
585 against a portion of the condominium, other than withdrawable land, shall not withdraw that portion  
586 from the condominium. Foreclosure or enforcement of a lien or encumbrance against withdrawable land  
587 shall not alone withdraw the land from the condominium, but the person who takes title to the  
588 withdrawable land shall have the right to require from the unit owners' association, upon request, an  
589 amendment that excludes the land from the condominium.

590 K. If a lien or encumbrance against a portion of the property that comprises the condominium has  
591 priority over the condominium instruments and the lien or encumbrance has not been partially released,  
592 upon foreclosure, the parties foreclosing the lien or encumbrance may record an instrument that excludes  
593 the property subject to the lien or encumbrance from the condominium.

594 **§ 55.1-1951. Display of the flag of the United States; necessary supporting structures;**  
595 **affirmative defense.**

596 A. In accordance with the federal Freedom to Display the American Flag Act of 2005 (P.L.  
597 109-243), no unit owners' association shall prohibit or otherwise adopt or enforce any policy restricting a  
598 unit owner from displaying upon property to which the unit owner has a separate ownership interest or a  
599 right to exclusive possession or use the flag of the United States whenever such display is in compliance  
600 with Chapter 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C. § 1 et seq.) or any rule or custom  
601 pertaining to the proper display of the flag. A unit owners' association may, however, establish  
602 reasonable restrictions as to the size, place, duration, and manner of placement or display of the flag on  
603 such property, provided that such restrictions are necessary to protect a substantial interest of the unit  
604 owners' association.

605 B. The unit owners' association may restrict the display of such flags in the common elements.

606 C. In any action brought by the unit owners' association under § 55.1-1959 for a violation of a flag  
607 restriction, the unit owners' association shall bear the burden of proof that the restrictions as to the size,  
608 place, duration, and manner of placement or display of such flag are necessary to protect a substantial  
609 interest of the unit owners' association.

610 D. In any action brought by the unit owners' association under § 55.1-1959, the unit owner shall be  
611 entitled to assert as an affirmative defense that the required disclosure of any limitation pertaining to the  
612 flag of the United States or any flagpole or similar structure necessary to display the flag of the United  
613 States was not contained in the public offering statement or resale certificate, as appropriate, required

pursuant to § 55.1-1976 or ~~55.1-1991~~ 55.1-2309.

**§ 55.1-1951.1. Installation of solar energy collection devices.**

A. As used in this section, "solar energy collection device" means any device manufactured and sold for the sole purpose of facilitating the collection and beneficial use of solar energy, including passive heating panels or building components and solar photovoltaic apparatus.

B. No unit owners' association shall prohibit an owner from installing a solar energy collection device on that owner's property unless the recorded declaration for the unit owners' association establishes such a prohibition. However, a unit owners' association may establish reasonable restrictions concerning the size, place, and manner of placement of such solar energy collection devices on property designated and intended for individual ownership and use. Any resale certificate pursuant to § ~~55.1-1990~~ 55.1-2309 given to a purchaser shall contain a statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the right of an owner to install or use solar energy collection devices on his property.

C. A restriction shall be deemed not to be reasonable if application of the restriction to a particular proposal (i) increases the cost of installation of the solar energy collection device by five percent over the projected cost of the initially proposed installation or (ii) reduces the energy production by the solar energy collection device by 10 percent below the projected energy production of the initially proposed installation. The owner shall provide documentation prepared by an independent solar panel design specialist, who is certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners and is licensed in Virginia, that is satisfactory to the unit owners' association to show that the restriction is not reasonable according to the criteria established in this subsection.

D. The unit owners' association may prohibit or restrict the installation of solar energy collection devices on the common elements or common area within the real estate development served by the unit owners' association. A unit owners' association may establish reasonable restrictions as to the number, size, place, and manner of placement or installation of any solar energy collection device installed on the common elements or common area.

**§ 55.1-1972. Exemptions from certain provisions of article.**

A. Unless the method of offer or disposition is adopted for the purpose of evasion of this chapter, the provisions of §§ 55.1-1974 through 55.1-1979, subsections B and D of § 55.1-1982, and §§ ~~55.1-1990 and 55.1-1991~~ 55.1-2308 and 55.1-2309 do not apply to:

1. Dispositions pursuant to court order;
2. Dispositions by any government or government agency;
3. Offers by the declarant on nonbinding reservation agreements;
4. Dispositions in a residential condominium in which there are three or fewer units, so long as the condominium instruments do not reserve to the declarant the right to create additional condominium units; or

5. A disposition of a unit by a sale at an auction where a current public offering statement or resale certificate was made available as part of an auction package for prospective purchasers prior to the auction sale.

B. In cases of dispositions in a condominium where all units are restricted to nonresidential use, the provisions of §§ 55.1-1974 through 55.1-1983 shall not apply, unless the method of offer or disposition is adopted for the purpose of evasion of this chapter.

**§ 55.1-2101. Applicability.**

A. This chapter applies to all cooperatives created within the Commonwealth after July 1, 1982. Unless the declaration provides that the entire chapter is applicable, such a cooperative is subject only to §§ 55.1-2104 and 55.1-2105 if the cooperative contains only units restricted to nonresidential use or contains no more than three units and is not subject to any development rights.

B. Except as provided in subsection C, §§ 55.1-2100, 55.1-2104, 55.1-2105, 55.1-2109, 55.1-2114, and 55.1-2131, subdivisions A 1 through 6 and 11 through 17 of § 55.1-2133, and §§ 55.1-2143, 55.1-2148, 55.1-2151, ~~55.1-2161~~, 55.1-2169, and 55.1-2170, and 55.1-2309 apply to all cooperatives created in the Commonwealth before July 1, 1982. Those sections apply only with respect to events and circumstances occurring after July 1, 1982, and do not invalidate existing provisions of the cooperative documents of those cooperatives. With regard to any cooperative created before July 1, 1982, § 55.1-2104 applies only to real estate acquired by that cooperative's association on or after that date. For the purposes of this section, a cooperative was created before July 1, 1982, if the cooperative was conveyed to the association before that date.

C. If a cooperative created within the Commonwealth before July 1, 1982, contains no more than three units and is not subject to any development rights, it is subject only to §§ 55.1-2104 and 55.1-2105, unless the declaration is amended to make any or all of the sections enumerated in subsection B apply to that cooperative.

D. This chapter does not apply to cooperatives or cooperative interests located outside the Commonwealth, but the public offering statement provisions as given in §§ 55.1-2153 through 55.1-2160

675 apply to all contracts for the disposition of cooperative interests signed in the Commonwealth by any  
676 party, unless exempt under subsection B of § 55.1-2153. The Common Interest Community Board  
677 regulations provisions under Article 5 (§ 55.1-2173 et seq.) apply to any such offering in the  
678 Commonwealth.

679 E. This chapter does not apply to any cooperatives that receive federal funding pursuant to the public  
680 housing or Section 8 program under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended.

681 F. This chapter does not apply to any cooperative that, when acquired by an association, is subject to  
682 a mortgage or deed of trust securing an indebtedness owed to any government or governmental authority  
683 to which the association has contractual obligations in addition to those set forth in such mortgage or  
684 deed of trust.

685 **§ 55.1-2133. Powers of the association.**

686 A. Except as provided in subsection B, and subject to the provisions of the declaration, the  
687 association, even if unincorporated, may:

688 1. Adopt and amend bylaws and rules and regulations;

689 2. Adopt and amend budgets for revenues, expenditures, and reserves and collect assessments for  
690 common expenses from proprietary lessees;

691 3. Hire and discharge managing agents and other employees, agents, and independent contractors;

692 4. Institute, defend, or intervene in litigation or administrative proceedings in its own name on behalf  
693 of itself or two or more proprietary lessees on matters affecting the cooperative;

694 5. Make contracts and incur liabilities;

695 6. Regulate the use, maintenance, repair, replacement, and modification of common elements;

696 7. Cause additional improvements to be made as a part of the common elements;

697 8. Acquire, hold, encumber, and convey in its own name any right, title, or interest to real or  
698 personal property, but part of the cooperative may be conveyed, or all or part of the cooperative may be  
699 subjected to, a security interest only pursuant to § 55.1-2144;

700 9. Grant easements, leases, licenses, and concessions through or over the common elements;

701 10. Impose and receive any payments, fees, or charges for the use, rental, or operation of the  
702 common elements, other than limited common elements described in subdivisions 2 and 4 of  
703 § 55.1-2113, and for services provided to proprietary lessees;

704 11. Impose charges for late payment of assessments and, after notice and an opportunity to be heard,  
705 levy fines not to exceed \$50 for each instance for violations of the declaration, bylaws, and rules and  
706 regulations of the association;

707 12. Impose reasonable charges for the preparation and recordation of amendments to the declaration,  
708 resale certificates required by ~~§ 55.1-2164~~ 55.1-2309, or statements of unpaid assessments;

709 13. Provide for the indemnification of its officers and executive board and maintain directors' and  
710 officers' liability insurance;

711 14. Assign its right to future income, including the right to receive common expense assessments, but  
712 only to the extent the declaration expressly so provides;

713 15. Exercise any other powers conferred by the declaration or bylaws;

714 16. Exercise all other powers that may be exercised in the Commonwealth by legal entities of the  
715 same type as the association; and

716 17. Exercise any other powers necessary and proper for the governance and operation of the  
717 association.

718 B. The declaration shall not impose limitations on the power of the association to deal with the  
719 declarant that are more restrictive than the limitations imposed on the power of the association to deal  
720 with other persons.

721 **§ 55.1-2133.1. Installation of solar energy collection devices.**

722 A. As used in this section, "solar energy collection device" means any device manufactured and sold  
723 for the sole purpose of facilitating the collection and beneficial use of solar energy, including passive  
724 heating panels or building components and solar photovoltaic apparatus.

725 B. No association shall prohibit an owner from installing a solar energy collection device on that  
726 owner's property unless the recorded declaration for the association establishes such a prohibition.  
727 However, an association may establish reasonable restrictions concerning the size, place, and manner of  
728 placement of such solar energy collection devices on property designated and intended for individual  
729 ownership and use. Any resale certificate pursuant to ~~§ 55.1-2164~~ 55.1-2309 given to a purchaser shall  
730 contain a statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the right of an owner to  
731 install or use solar energy collection devices on his property.

732 C. A restriction shall be deemed not to be reasonable if application of the restriction to a particular  
733 proposal (i) increases the cost of installation of the solar energy collection device by five percent over  
734 the projected cost of the initially proposed installation or (ii) reduces the energy production by the solar  
735 energy collection device by 10 percent below the projected energy production of the initially proposed  
736 installation. The owner shall provide documentation prepared by an independent solar panel design

specialist, who is certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners and is licensed in Virginia, that is satisfactory to the association to show that the restriction is not reasonable according to the criteria established in this subsection.

D. The association may prohibit or restrict the installation of solar energy collection devices on the common elements or common area within the real estate development served by the association. An association may establish reasonable restrictions as to the number, size, place, and manner of placement or installation of any solar energy collection device installed on the common elements or common area.

**§ 55.1-2151. Association records.**

The association shall keep financial records sufficiently detailed to enable the association to comply with ~~§ 55.1-2161~~ 55.1-2309. All financial and other records shall be made reasonably available for examination by any proprietary lessee and his authorized agents.

**§ 55.1-2162. Escrow of deposits.**

A. Any deposit made in connection with the purchase or reservation of a cooperative interest from a person required to deliver a public offering statement pursuant to subsection C of § 55.1-2154 shall be placed in escrow and held either in the Commonwealth or in the state in which the unit that is a part of that cooperative interest is located in an account designated solely for that purpose by a title insurance company, attorney, or real estate broker licensed under the laws of the Commonwealth, an independent bonded escrow company, or an institution whose accounts are insured by a governmental agency or instrumentality until (i) delivered to the declarant at closing, (ii) delivered to the declarant because of the purchaser's default under a contract to purchase the cooperative interest, or (iii) refunded to the purchaser.

B. Any deposit made in connection with the purchase of a cooperative interest from a person not required to deliver a public offering statement shall be placed in escrow in the same manner as prescribed in subsection A. Upon receipt of the *resale* certificate called for in ~~§ 55.1-2161~~ 55.1-2309, should the purchaser elect to void the contract, the seller may deduct the actual charges by the association for preparation of the certificate. Otherwise, the deposit shall be promptly returned to the purchaser.

**CHAPTER 23.1.  
RESALE DISCLOSURE ACT.**

**§ 55.1-2307. Definitions.**

*As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

"Agent" means the authorized agent designated by the purchaser or seller in a ratified real estate contract, listing agreement, or other writing designating such agent.

"Association" means an association created pursuant to the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.), the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.), or the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), or a council of co-owners created pursuant to the Horizontal Property Act (§ 55.1-2000 et seq.).

"Board" means the board of directors or executive board, of an association, except that in the case of a horizontal property regime created pursuant to the Horizontal Property Act (§ 55.1-2000 et seq.), "board" means the council of co-owners.

"Common interest community" means a condominium created pursuant to the Virginia Condominium Act (§ 55.1-1900 et seq.) or the Horizontal Property Act (§ 55.1-2000 et seq.), a cooperative created pursuant to the Virginia Real Estate Cooperative Act (§ 55.1-2100 et seq.), or a property owners' association subject to the Property Owners' Association Act (§ 55.1-1800 et seq.).

"Days" means calendar days.

"Declarant" means the same as that term is defined in §§ 55.1-1800 and 55.1-1900.

"Financial update" means updated financial information for the unit, including information required by subdivisions A 4 and 5 of § 55.1-2310.

"Governing documents" means, to the extent applicable, the declaration, bylaws, organizing articles, and any other foundational documents of the association and all amendments to such documents.

"Limited elements" means the limited common elements appurtenant to a condominium unit or cooperative unit or the limited common area appurtenant to a lot.

"Managing agent" means a licensee who performs management services as defined in § 54.1-2345.

"Purchaser" means the person or entity acquiring the unit.

"Ratified real estate contract" or "contract" means the contract to purchase the unit and any addenda to such contract.

"Resale certificate" means the information listed in § 55.1-2310.

"Rules and regulations" means restrictions or limitations adopted by the board or authorized committee addressing the use, operation, appearance, or design of a portion of the common interest community.

"Seller" means the person or entity selling the unit.

798 "Settlement agent" means the same as that term is defined in § 55.1-1000.

799 "Unit" means a condominium unit in a condominium, a cooperative unit in a real estate cooperative,  
800 or a lot in a community governed by an association.

801 "Updated resale certificate" means an update of the resale certificate referenced in § 55.1-2311.

802 **§ 55.1-2308. Contract for resale; disclosures.**

803 Unless exempt pursuant to § 55.1-2317, any contract for the resale of a unit in a common interest  
804 community shall disclose (i) that the unit is located in a common interest community; (ii) that the seller  
805 is required to obtain from the association a resale certificate and provide it to the purchaser; (iii) the  
806 purchaser's right to cancel the contract pursuant to § 55.1-2312; (iv) that the purchaser may request an  
807 updated resale certificate pursuant to § 55.1-2311; and (v) that the purchaser's right to receive the  
808 resale certificate and the right to cancel the contract are waived conclusively if not exercised before  
809 settlement. If the contract does not contain the disclosures required by this section, the purchaser's sole  
810 remedy is to cancel the contract prior to settlement.

811 **§ 55.1-2309. Resale certificate; delivery.**

812 A. The seller shall be required to obtain the resale certificate from the association and provide such  
813 resale certificate to the purchaser.

814 B. Unless exempt pursuant to § 55.1-2317, the association, the association's managing agent, or any  
815 third party preparing the resale certificate on behalf of the association shall deliver such resale  
816 certificate within 14 days after a written request by a seller or seller's agent.

817 C. The association, association's managing agent, or any third party preparing the resale certificate  
818 on behalf of the association shall deliver the resale certificate to the seller, or to such person as the  
819 seller may direct, either printed or in a generally accepted electronic format as the seller may request.

820 D. The information contained in the resale certificate shall be current as of a date specified on the  
821 resale certificate. The seller or purchaser may request an updated resale certificate as provided in  
822 § 55.1-2311.

823 **§ 55.1-2310. Resale certificate; form and contents.**

824 A. The association shall include the completed resale certificate form, developed by the common  
825 interest community board pursuant to subdivision 3 of § 54.1-2350, with supporting documentation set  
826 out in the following order:

827 1. The name, address, and phone numbers of the preparer of the resale certificate and any managing  
828 agent of the association;

829 2. A copy of the governing documents and any rules and regulations of the association;

830 3. A statement disclosing any restraint on the alienability of the unit for which the resale certificate  
831 is being issued;

832 4. A statement of the amount and payment schedules of assessments and any unpaid assessments  
833 currently due and payable to the association;

834 5. A statement of any other fees due and payable by an owner of the unit;

835 6. A statement of any other entity or facility to which the owner of the unit being sold may be liable  
836 for assessments, fees, or other charges due to the ownership of the unit;

837 7. A statement of the amount and payment schedule of any approved additional or special assessment  
838 and any unpaid additional or special assessment currently due and payable;

839 8. A statement of any capital expenditures approved by the association for the current and  
840 succeeding fiscal years;

841 9. A statement of the amount of any reserves for capital expenditures and of any portions of those  
842 reserves designated by the association for any specified projects;

843 10. The most recent balance sheet and income and expense statement, if any, of the association;

844 11. The current operating budget of the association;

845 12. The current reserve study, or a summary of such study;

846 13. A statement of any unsatisfied judgments against the association and the nature and status of any  
847 pending actions in which the association is a party and that could have a material impact on the  
848 association, the owners, or the unit being sold;

849 14. A statement describing any insurance coverage provided by the association for the benefit of the  
850 owners, including fidelity coverage, and any insurance coverage recommended or required to be  
851 obtained by the owners;

852 15. A statement as to whether the board has given or received written notice that any existing uses,  
853 occupancies, alterations, or improvements in or to the unit being sold or to the limited elements  
854 assigned thereto violate any provision of the governing documents or rules and regulations together with  
855 copies of any notices provided;

856 16. A statement as to whether the board has received written notice from a governmental agency of  
857 any violation of environmental, health, or building codes with respect to the unit being sold, the limited  
858 elements assigned thereto, or any other portion of the common interest community that has not been  
859 cured;

17. A copy of any approved minutes of meetings of the board held during the last six months;
18. A copy of any approved or draft minutes of the most recent association meeting;
19. A statement of the remaining term of any leasehold estate affecting the common interest community and the provisions governing any extension or renewal of such leasehold;
20. A statement of any limitation in the governing documents on the number or age of persons who may occupy a unit as a dwelling;
21. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the right of an owner to display the flag of the United States, including reasonable restrictions as to the size, time, place, and manner of placement or display of such flag;
22. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the right of an owner to install or use solar energy collection devices on the owner's unit or limited element;
23. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation or prohibition on the size, placement, or duration of display of political, for sale, or any other signs on the property;
24. A statement identifying any parking or vehicle restriction, limitation, or prohibition in the governing documents or rules and regulations;
25. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on the operation of a home-based business that otherwise complies with all applicable local ordinances;
26. A statement setting forth any restriction, limitation, or prohibition on an owner's ability to rent the unit;
27. In a cooperative, an accountant's statement, if any was prepared, as to the deductibility for federal income tax purposes by the owner of real estate taxes and interest paid by the association;
28. A statement describing any pending sale or encumbrance of common elements;
29. A statement indicating any known project approvals currently in effect issued by secondary mortgage market agencies; and
30. Certification that the association has filed with the Common Interest Community Board the annual report required by law, which certification shall indicate the filing number assigned by the Common Interest Community Board and the expiration date of such filing.
- § 55.1-2311. Updated resale certificate.**
- A. If a resale certificate was issued more than 30 days but less than 12 months before settlement, the seller or the purchaser, upon proof of being the contract purchaser of the unit, may request an updated resale certificate. The updated resale certificate shall be delivered to the person requesting it, or as such person may direct, in the format requested. The updated resale certificate shall be delivered within 10 days after the written request.
- B. The updated resale certificate shall contain current information for all items that may have changed from the original resale certificate or a statement that there are no changes.
- C. A settlement agent authorized by the seller or purchaser may request a financial update and the association shall provide such information within three business days after the written request.
- § 55.1-2312. Cancellation of contract by purchaser.**
- A. The purchaser may cancel the contract:
1. Within three days, or up to seven days if extended by the ratified real estate contract, after the ratification date of the contract if the purchaser receives the resale certificate, whether or not complete pursuant to § 55.1-2310, or a notice that the resale certificate is unavailable on or before the date that the contract is ratified;
2. Within three days, or up to seven days if extended by the ratified real estate contract, from the date the purchaser receives the resale certificate, whether or not complete pursuant to § 55.1-2310, or a notice that the resale certificate is unavailable if delivery occurs after the contract is ratified; or
3. At any time prior to settlement if the resale certificate is not delivered to the purchaser.
- B. Written notice of cancellation shall be provided to the seller in accordance with the terms of the contract. The purchaser shall have the burden to demonstrate delivery of the notice of cancellation.
- C. If the unit is governed by more than one association, the timeframe for the purchaser's right of cancellation shall run from the date of delivery of the last resale certificate.
- D. Cancellation shall be without penalty, and the seller shall cause any deposit or escrowed funds to be returned promptly to the purchaser.
- § 55.1-2313. Liability for resale certificate.**
- A. A seller providing a resale certificate pursuant to § 55.1-2310 or 55.1-2311 shall not be liable to the purchaser for any erroneous information provided by the association and included in the certificate or for the failure or delay of the association to provide the resale certificate in a timely manner.
- B. A purchaser shall not be liable for any unpaid assessment or fee greater than the amount set forth in the resale certificate, updated resale certificate, or financial updated. The association shall, as to the purchaser, be bound by the information provided in the resale certificate or updated resale certificate as to the amounts of current assessments, including any approved special or additional

assessments, and any violation of the governing documents or rules and regulations as of the date of the resale certificate, updated resale certificate, or financial update unless the purchaser had actual knowledge that the contents of the resale certificate were in error.

**§ 55.1-2314. Failure to provide resale certificate; no waiver.**

A. If an association, the association's managing agent, or any third party preparing a resale certificate fails to comply with § 55.1-2310 or 55.1-2311, the purchaser shall not be required to pay any delinquent assessments or remedy any violation of the governing documents or rules and regulations existing as of the date of the resale certificate or updated resale certificate. The association may only enforce a violation incurred by a previous owner against a purchaser if (i) such violation has been properly noted in the resale certificate or updated resale certificate or (ii) the seller failed to provide the resale certificate to the purchaser as required by § 55.1-2309.

B. The purchaser shall abide by the governing documents and rules and regulations as to all matters arising after acquiring the unit regardless of whether such purchaser received a resale certificate.

C. The preparer of the resale certificate or updated resale certificate shall be liable to the seller in an amount equal to the actual damages sustained by the seller in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.

D. The Common Interest Community Board may assess a monetary penalty for failure to deliver the resale certificate or updated resale certificate as required against any (i) association pursuant to § 54.1-2351 or (ii) common interest community manager pursuant to § 54.1-2349 and regulations promulgated thereto, and may issue a cease and desist order pursuant to § 54.1-2349 or 54.1-2352.

**§ 55.1-2315. Properties subject to more than one declaration.**

If the unit is subject to more than one common interest community, each association, the association's managing agent, or any third party preparing a resale certificate on behalf of an association shall provide a resale certificate for that association and may charge the appropriate fees.

**§ 55.1-2316. Resale certificate; fees.**

A. An association may charge fees for preparation, delivery, and expedited delivery of a resale certificate, an updated resale certificate, or financial update and for the inspection of a unit performed to prepare the resale certificate or updated resale certificate. Unless provided otherwise by the association, the appropriate fees shall be paid when the resale certificate, updated resale certificate, or financial update is requested. The seller shall be responsible for all fees associated with the preparation and delivery of the resale certificate, including any fees for inspection of the unit. The requesting party shall pay any fees for the preparation and delivery of the updated resale certificate or financial update.

B. The Common Interest Community Board shall establish the maximum fees that the association may charge for such preparation, delivery, and inspection; such maximum fees shall be commercially reasonable and consistent with the effort required to comply with the resale certificate requirements. The maximum allowable fees shall be adjusted no less than every five years, as of January 1 of that year, in an amount not less than the annual increases for that five-year period in the United States Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor or an equivalent successor index.

C. The association shall publish and make available a schedule of the applicable fees (i) for preparation and delivery of the resale certificate, updated resale certificate, and financial update; (ii) for the inspection of a unit; and (iii) related to any post-closing costs.

D. A post-closing fee to be collected at settlement, may be imposed on the purchaser of the property for the purpose of establishing the purchaser as the owner of the property in the records of the association. Any such post-closing fee shall not exceed \$50.

E. No association may collect fees authorized by this section unless the association (i) is registered with the Common Interest Community Board; (ii) is current in filing the most recent annual report and fee with the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § 55.1-1835; (iii) is current in paying any assessment made by the Common Interest Community Board pursuant to § 54.1-2354.5; and (iv) provides the option to receive the disclosure packet electronically.

**§ 55.1-2317. Exemptions**

A. The resale certificate required by this chapter need not be provided in the case of:

1. An initial disposition by a declarant;
2. A disposition of a unit by gift;
3. A disposition of a unit pursuant to court order if the court so directs;
4. A disposition of a unit by foreclosure or deed in lieu of foreclosure;
5. A disposition of a unit by a sale at auction, when the resale certificate was made available as part of the auction package for prospective purchasers prior to the auction; or
6. A disposition of a unit in a common interest community containing no residential units.

B. In any transaction in which a resale certificate is required and a trustee acts as the seller in the sale or resale of a unit, the trustee shall obtain the resale certificate from the association and provide the resale certificate to the purchaser.

2. That Article 2 (§§ 55.1-1808 through 55.1-1814) of Chapter 18 and Article 5 (§§ 55.1-1990



983 through 55.1-1995) of Chapter 19 of Title 55.1 and § 55.1-2161 of the Code of Virginia are  
984 repealed.