A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many condominium
3	unit owners lack familiarity with the laws pertaining to
4	condominium ownership. This puts unit owners at a disadvantage
5	in adversarial proceedings against a condominium's board of
6	directors, which is often represented by an attorney. The
7	legislature further finds that some individuals are losing their
8	homes in these proceedings.
9	The purpose of this part is to establish a condominium unit
10	owner hotline to provide unit owners with legal information in
11	matters relating to disputes with the board of directors.
12	SECTION 2. Chapter 514B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13	amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
14	designated and to read as follows:
15	"§514B- Condominium unit owner hotline. (a) There is
16	established within the department of commerce and consumer
17	affairs real estate branch a condominium unit owner hotline.

1 The hotline shall be operated by the commission for the purpose 2 of providing condominium unit owners with legal information in 3 matters relating to disputes with a condominium's board of 4 directors. (b) The hotline shall be toll free and available Monday 5 6 through Friday during normal business hours, excluding state and 7 federal holidays. 8 The commission may charge a reasonable fee for 9 individuals requesting assistance from the hotline; provided 10 that the fee shall be waived for low-income individuals. To 11 qualify as low-income, an individual shall have an annual household income (before taxes) that is below the following 12 13 amounts: 14 \$25,290, for a household size of one; (1) \$34,096, for a household size of two; 15 (2) \$42,902, for a household size of three; 16 (3) 17 (4)\$51,708, for a household size of four; 18 \$60,514, for a household size of five; (5) 19 \$69,320, for a household size of six; (6) 20 (7) \$78,126, for a household size of seven; and 21 (8) \$86,968, for a household size of eight.

1	For households with more than eight people, the commission shall
2	adjust the qualifying annual household income amount by adding
3	\$8,843 per additional person to the dollar amount listed in
4	paragraph (8).
5	(d) Attorneys may volunteer to answer calls to the hotline
6	and provide legal information. The supreme court shall adopt
7	rules necessary to qualify this service for pro bono credit.
8	(e) The hotline shall be funded by the condominium
9	education trust fund established pursuant to section 514B-71."
10	SECTION 3. Section 514B-71, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11	amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
12	"(a) The commission shall establish a condominium
13	education trust fund that the commission shall use for
14	[educational] the following purposes[-]:
15	(1) Educational purposes, which shall include financing or
16	promoting:
17	$\left[\frac{(1)}{(1)}\right]$ Education and research in the field of
18	condominium management, condominium project
19	registration, and real estate, for the benefit of the
20	public and those required to be registered under this
21	chapter;

1	[-(2)] (B) The improvement and more effi	cient	administration	
2	of associations;			
3	$[\frac{(3)}{(C)}]$ Expeditious and inexpensive p	roced	ures for	
4	resolving association disputes; [a	ınd		
5	$\frac{(4)}{(D)}$ Support for mediation of cond	lomini	um related	
6	disputes [+] ; and			
7	(2) To fund the condominium unit owner	hotl	ine pursuant to	
8	section 514B"			
9	SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of	of the	condominium	
10	education trust fund established pursuant to	sect	ion 514B-71,	
11	Hawaii Revised Statutes, the sum of \$ or so much			
12	thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year	2017-	2018 and the	
13	same sum or so much thereof as may be necess	ary f	or fiscal year	
14	2018-2019 for the purposes of this part.			
15	The sums appropriated shall be expended	l by t	he department	
16	of commerce and consumer affairs for the pu	rposes	of this part.	
17	PART II			
18	SECTION 5. The purpose of this part is	s to r	require	
19	directors of residential projects or associa	ations	with twenty or	
20	more dwelling units to complete an online e	thics	course offered	
21	through the real estate commission.			

1	SECTION 6. Chapter 514B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended by adding a new section to part IV to be appropriately
3	designated and to read as follows:
4	"§514B- Condominium education trust fund; ethics
5	training course; board of directors. (a) The real estate
6	commission shall establish, design, supervise, and administer an
7	online ethics training course and examination that is designed
8	specifically for the members of the board of directors of a
9	residential project or association of twenty or more residential
10	units, including any residential project or association of
11	twenty or more residential units that is subject to chapter
12	514A.
13	(b) The ethics training course shall include:
14	(1) Explanations and discussions of applicable ethics
15	laws;
16	(2) Specific technical and legal requirements;
17	(3) The underlying purposes and principles of ethics laws;
18	(4) Examples of practical application of the laws and
19	principles; and
20	(5) A question-and-answer participatory segment regarding
21	common problems and situations.

1	The real	estate commission shall be responsible for developing
2	the method	ds and preparing any materials necessary to implement
3	the cours	e; provided that any online videos used shall include
4	codes or	questions to be randomly inserted in order to maintain
5	the viewe	r's ongoing attention.
6	(c)	The real estate commission shall:
7	(1)	Procure the services of a third party provider,
8		through the procurement code, to administer the ethics
9		training course and examination;
10	(2)	Reimburse the third party provider through funds in
11		the condominium education trust fund; and
12	(3)	Obtain from each resident manager or managing agent,
13		the names and addresses, including e-mail addresses,
14		of the members of a board of directors to whom this
15		chapter applies and notify the members, through the
16		Internet and regular mail, that they are required to
17		take the online course and pass its examination.
18	(d)	Each member of the board of directors of a residential
19	project c	r association of twenty or more residential units,
20	including	any residential project or association of twenty or
21	more resi	dential units that is subject to chapter 514A, shall be

1	required to take and satisfactorily complete the online ethics
2	course as a condition of eligibility to serve on the board of
3	directors."
4	SECTION 7. Section 514A-82, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
6	"(a) The bylaws shall provide for at least the following:
7	(1) Board of directors:
8	(A) The election of a board of directors;
9	(B) The number of persons constituting the board;
10	provided that condominiums with more than one
11	hundred individual apartment units shall have an
12	elected board of not less than nine members
13	unless not less than sixty-five per cent of all
14	apartment owners vote by mail ballot, or at a
15	special or annual meeting, to reduce the minimum
16	number of directors;
17	(C) That for the initial term of office, directors
18	shall serve for a term of three years or the term
19	as specified by the bylaws or until their
20	successors have been elected or appointed;
21	(D) The powers and duties of the board;

1		(E)	The compensation, if any, of the directors; [and]
2		(F)	Whether or not the board may engage the services
3			of a manager or managing agent, or both, and
4			specifying which of the powers and duties granted
5			to the board by this chapter or otherwise may be
6			delegated by the board to either or both of them;
7			and
8		<u>(G)</u>	For a residential condominium of twenty or more
9			residential dwelling units, explanation of the
10			requirement under section 514B- (d) that each
11			member of the board of directors of that
12			residential condominium take and satisfactorily
13			complete the online ethics course offered by the
14			real estate commission;
15	(2)	Meth	od of calling meetings of the apartment owners;
16		what	percentage, if other than a majority of apartment
17		owne	ers, constitutes a quorum; what percentage,
18		cons	sistent with this chapter, is necessary to adopt
19		deci	sions binding on all apartment owners and that
20		vote	es allocated to any area that constitutes a common
21		elem	ment under section 514A-13(h) shall not be cast at

1		any association meeting, regardless of whether it is
2		so designated in the declaration;
3	(3)	Election of a president from among the board of
4		directors who shall preside over the meetings of the
5		board of directors and of the association of apartment
6		owners;
7	(4)	Election of a secretary who shall keep the minute book
8		wherein resolutions shall be recorded;
9	(5)	Election of a treasurer who shall keep the financial
10		records and books of account;
11	(6)	Operation of the property, payment of the common
12		expenses, and determination and collection of the
13		common charges;
14	(7)	Manner of collecting common expenses, expenses, costs,
15		and fees recoverable by the association under section
16		514A-94, and any penalties and late charges;
17	(8)	Designation and removal of personnel necessary for the
18		maintenance, repair, and replacement of the common
19		elements;

1	(9)	Method of adopting and amending administrative rules
2		governing the details of the operation and use of the
3		common elements;
4	(10)	The restrictions on and requirements respecting the
5		use and maintenance of the apartments and the use of
6		the common elements, not set forth in the declaration,
7		as are designed to prevent unreasonable interference
8		with the use of their respective apartments and of the
9		common elements by the several apartment owners;
10	(11)	The first meeting of the association of apartment
11		owners shall be held not later than one hundred eighty
12		days after recordation of the first apartment
13		conveyance; provided forty per cent or more of the
14		project has been sold and recorded. If forty per cent
15		of the project is not sold and recorded at the end of
16		one year, an annual meeting shall be called; provided
17		ten per cent of the apartment owners so request;
18	(12)	All members of the board of directors shall be owners,
19		co-owners, vendees under an agreement of sale, or an
20		officer of any corporate owner of an apartment. The
21		partners in a general partnership and the general

1		partners of a limited partnership shall be deemed to
2		be the owners of an apartment for this purpose. There
3		shall not be more than one representative on the board
4		of directors from any one apartment;
5	(13)	A director shall not cast any proxy vote at any board
6		meeting, nor shall a director vote at any board
7		meeting on any issue in which the director has a
8		conflict of interest;
9	(14)	No resident manager of a condominium shall serve on
10		its board of directors;
11	(15)	The board of directors shall meet at least once a
12		year;
13	(16)	All association and board of directors meetings shall
14		be conducted in accordance with the most current
15		edition of Robert's Rules of Order;
16	(17)	All meetings of the association of apartment owners
17		shall be held at the address of the condominium
18		project or elsewhere within the State as determined by
19		the board of directors; and
20	(18)	Penalties chargeable against persons for violation of
21		the covenants, conditions, or restrictions set forth

1	in the declaration, or of the bylaws and
2	administrative rules adopted pursuant thereto, method
3	of determination of violations, and manner of
4	enforcing penalties, if any."
5	SECTION 8. Section 514B-71, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6	amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:
7	"(a) The commission shall establish a condominium
8	education trust fund that the commission shall use for
9	educational purposes. Educational purposes shall include
10	financing or promoting:
11	(1) Education and research in the field of condominium
12	management, condominium project registration, and real
13	estate, for the benefit of the public and those
14	required to be registered under this chapter;
15	(2) The improvement and more efficient administration of
16	associations;
17	(3) Expeditious and inexpensive procedures for resolving
18	association disputes; [and]
19	(4) Support for mediation of condominium related
20	disputes [-] ; and

1	(5)	Ethics training courses for members of the boards of
2		directors of residential condominiums of twenty or
3		more residential units."
4	SECT	ION 9. Section 514B-108, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	amended by	amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
6	"(b)	The bylaws shall provide for at least the following:
7	(1)	The number of members of the board and the titles of
8		the officers of the association;
9	(2)	Election by the board of a president, treasurer,
10		secretary, and any other officers of the association
11		the bylaws specify;
12	(3)	The qualifications, powers and duties, terms of
13		office, and manner of electing and removing directors
14		and officers and the filling of vacancies; provided
15		that for a residential condominium of twenty or more
16		residential dwelling units, an explanation of the
17		requirement under section 514B- (d) that each member
18		of the board of directors of that residential
19		condominium take and satisfactorily complete the
20		online ethics course offered by the real estate
21		commission;

1	(4)	Designation of the powers the board or officers may
2		delegate to other persons or to a managing agent;
3	(5)	Designation of the officers who may prepare, execute,
4		certify, and record amendments to the declaration on
5		behalf of the association;
6	(6)	The compensation, if any, of the directors;
7	(7)	Subject to subsection (e), a method for amending the
8		bylaws; and
9	(8)	The percentage, consistent with this chapter, that is
10	required	to adopt decisions binding on all unit owners; provided
11	that votes allocated to lobby areas, swimming pools, recreation	
12	areas, sa	unas, storage areas, hallways, trash chutes, laundry
13	chutes, a	and other similar common areas not located inside units
14	shall not	be cast at any association meeting, regardless of
15	their des	signation in the declaration."
16		PART III
17	SECT	TION 10. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18	and stric	ken. New statutory material is underscored.
19	SECT	TION 11. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
20	provided	that the statutory amendments in sections 6 through 9
21	chall ann	oly to all new or reelected board members of residential

- 1 projects or associations that are subject to this Act and who
- 2 are elected or reelected to their respective board of directors

3 after December 31, 2017.

4

INTRODUCED BY:

Shirt War

JAN 2 0 2017

Report Title:

Condominiums; Hotline; Directors; Ethics Course

Description:

Establishes a condominium unit owner hotline to provide unit owners with legal information relating to disputes with a condominium's board of directors. Requires directors of associations with 20 or more dwelling units to complete an online ethics course offered through the Real Estate Commission.

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