THE SENATE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2017 STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 627

JAN 2 0 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONDOMINIUMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the board of 2 directors of each association of apartment owners has broad 3 powers that impact its members, such as adopting and amending 4 budgets for revenues, expenditures, and reserves; hiring and 5 discharging management agents and other independent contractors, 6 agents, and employees; instituting, defending, or intervening in 7 litigation or administrative proceedings affecting the 8 condominium; regulating the use, maintenance, repair, 9 replacement, and modification of common elements; imposing and 10 receiving payments, fees, or charges for the use, rental, or 11 operation of the common elements; imposing charges and 12 penalties, including late fees and interest, for late payment of 13 assessments; and levying fines for violations of the 14 association's declaration, bylaws, and rules and regulations.

15 The legislature further finds that the boards of directors 16 of associations of apartment owners represent the homeowners in 17 managing a condominium, but the homeowners are vested with the



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ultimate decision-making power. Opening the condominium board's
process to scrutiny and participation by association members is
a viable and reasonable method to protect the members'
interests.

5 The purpose of this Act is to provide the members of 6 associations of apartment owners an opportunity to attend and 7 participate in all meetings of the board of directors of their 8 association of apartment owners, including executive sessions 9 with board approval.

10 SECTION 2. Section 514B-125, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 11 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows: 12 "(a) All meetings of the board, other than executive 13 sessions, shall be open to all members of the association, and 14 association members who are not on the board [may] shall be 15 permitted to participate in any deliberation or discussion, 16 other than executive sessions [, unless a majority of a quorum of the board votes otherwise.] unless allowed pursuant to 17 18 subsection (b). During deliberations, the board may limit the 19 time provided to any member of the association in accordance 20 with rules adopted by the board.



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1	(b)	The board, with the approval of a majority of a quorum
2	of its me	mbers, may adjourn a meeting and reconvene in executive
3	session to discuss and vote upon matters:	
4	(1)	Concerning personnel;
5	(2)	Concerning litigation in which the association is or
6		may become involved;
7	(3)	Necessary to protect the attorney-client privilege of
8		the association; or
9	(4)	Necessary to protect the interests of the association
10		while negotiating contracts, leases, and other
11		commercial transactions.
12	The general nature of any business to be considered in executive	
13	session shall first be announced in open session. The board by	
14	a majority vote may allow members of the association to attend	
15	executive session to present personal information. Members of	
16	the association shall not be permitted to attend any portion of	
17	the executive session when the discussion pertains to any of the	
18	matters enumerated under paragraphs (1) through (4)."	
19	SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed	
20	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.	

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SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Condominiums; Condominium Association Members; Board Meetings; Executive Sessions

Description:

Allows association members who are not on the board to participate in any deliberation or discussion, except for executive sessions. Allows the condominium board members pursuant to board rules to limit the time provided to any member of the condominium association to participate in deliberation. Allows members of a condominium association to attend executive sessions with approval by a majority vote of the condominium board members, subject to certain limitations.

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