SENATE BILL NO. 260–SENATORS HARRIS, HAMMOND, FARLEY, HARDY; AND KIHUEN

MARCH 12, 2015

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYWOMAN SEAMAN

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing common-interest communities. (BDR 10-726)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material; is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to common-interest communities; requiring the establishment of an impound account for the payment of certain assessments under certain circumstances; providing for the payment of assessments for common expenses from the impound account; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Under existing law, a unit-owners' association has a lien on a unit for certain amounts due to the association and may foreclose its lien through a nonjudicial foreclosure sale. (NRS 116.3116.3116.31168) Generally, the association's lien is not prior to a first security interest on the unit recorded before the date on which the amount sought to be enforced became delinquent. However, the association's lien is not prior to the first security interest on the unit to the extent of certain maintenance and abatement charges and a certain amount of assessments for common expenses. The portion of the association's lien that is prior to the first security interest on the unit is commonly referred to as the "super-priority lien."

Under existing law, the holder of the first security interest on the unit may

Under existing law, the holder of the first security interest on the unit may establish an impound account for advance contributions for the payment of assessments, if the unit's owner and the holder of the first security interest consent to the establishment of such an account. (NRS 116.3116) **Section 1** of this bill requires the holder of the first security interest to establish such an impound account for advance contributions for the payment of certain assessments, and requires payments to be made from the account for assessments for common expenses in accordance with the same due dates as apply to the payment of assessments by a unit's owner or in quarterly installments that are due on the first





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19 day of each calendar quarter. Under section 1, if the assessments for common 20 expenses are paid in quarterly installments from the impound account, the due date 21 22 23 24 of the assessments is deemed to be the first day of the calendar quarter.

Section 2 of this bill provides that the requirement to establish an impound account and to make payments of assessments for common expenses from the impound account becomes effective on January 1, 2016.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 116.3116 is hereby amended to read as follows:

116.3116 1. The association has a lien on a unit for any construction penalty that is imposed against the unit's owner pursuant to NRS 116.310305, any assessment levied against that unit or any fines imposed against the unit's owner from the time the construction penalty, assessment or fine becomes due. Unless the declaration otherwise provides, any penalties, fees, charges, late charges, fines and interest charged pursuant to paragraphs (j) to (n), inclusive, of subsection 1 of NRS 116.3102 are enforceable as assessments under this section. If an assessment is payable in installments, the full amount of the assessment is a lien from the time the first installment thereof becomes due.

- 2. A lien under this section is prior to all other liens and encumbrances on a unit except:
- (a) Liens and encumbrances recorded before the recordation of the declaration and, in a cooperative, liens and encumbrances which the association creates, assumes or takes subject to;
- (b) A first security interest on the unit recorded before the date on which the assessment sought to be enforced became delinquent or, in a cooperative, the first security interest encumbering only the unit's owner's interest and perfected before the date on which the assessment sought to be enforced became delinquent; and
- (c) Liens for real estate taxes and other governmental assessments or charges against the unit or cooperative.
- The lien is also prior to all security interests described in paragraph (b) to the extent of any charges incurred by the association on a unit pursuant to NRS 116.310312 and to the extent of the assessments for common expenses based on the periodic budget adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 116.3115 which would have become due in the absence of acceleration during the 9 months immediately preceding institution of an action to enforce the lien, unless federal regulations adopted by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or the Federal National Mortgage Association require a shorter period of priority for the lien. If federal



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regulations adopted by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or the Federal National Mortgage Association require a shorter period of priority for the lien, the period during which the lien is prior to all security interests described in paragraph (b) must be determined in accordance with those federal regulations, except that notwithstanding the provisions of the federal regulations, the period of priority for the lien must not be less than the 6 months immediately preceding institution of an action to enforce the lien. This subsection does not affect the priority of mechanics' or materialmen's liens, or the priority of liens for other assessments made by the association.

- 3. The holder of the security interest described in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 or the holder's authorized agent [may] shall establish an escrow account, loan trust account or other impound account for advance contributions for the payment of [assessments].
- (a) Assessments for common expenses based on the periodic budget adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 116.3115 [if the unit's owner and the holder of that security interest consent to the establishment of such an account. If such an account is established, payments];
- (b) Special assessments to establish adequate reserves for the association pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2; and
- (c) Contributions for capital expenditures based on the periodic budget adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 116.3115.
- *4. Payments* from the account for assessments for common expenses must be made in [accordance]:
- (a) Accordance with the same due dates as apply to payments of such assessments by a unit's owner
 - 4.]; or
 (b) Quarterly installments that are due the first day of each calendar quarter. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or the governing documents to the contrary, if assessments for common expenses are paid in quarterly installments pursuant to this paragraph, the due date of the assessments is deemed to be the first day of each calendar quarter.
- 5. Unless the declaration otherwise provides, if two or more associations have liens for assessments created at any time on the same property, those liens have equal priority.
- [5.] 6. Recording of the declaration constitutes record notice and perfection of the lien. No further recordation of any claim of lien for assessment under this section is required.





- [6.] 7. A lien for unpaid assessments is extinguished unless proceedings to enforce the lien are instituted within 3 years after the full amount of the assessments becomes due.
- [7.] 8. This section does not prohibit actions to recover sums for which subsection 1 creates a lien or prohibit an association from taking a deed in lieu of foreclosure.
- [8.] 9. A judgment or decree in any action brought under this section must include costs and reasonable attorney's fees for the prevailing party.
- [9.] 10. The association, upon written request, shall furnish to a unit's owner a statement setting forth the amount of unpaid assessments against the unit. If the interest of the unit's owner is real estate or if a lien for the unpaid assessments may be foreclosed under NRS 116.31162 to 116.31168, inclusive, the statement must be in recordable form. The statement must be furnished within 10 business days after receipt of the request and is binding on the association, the executive board and every unit's owner.
- [10.] 11. In a cooperative, upon nonpayment of an assessment on a unit, the unit's owner may be evicted in the same manner as provided by law in the case of an unlawful holdover by a commercial tenant, and:
- (a) In a cooperative where the owner's interest in a unit is real estate under NRS 116.1105, the association's lien may be foreclosed under NRS 116.31162 to 116.31168, inclusive.
- (b) In a cooperative where the owner's interest in a unit is personal property under NRS 116.1105, the association's lien:
- (1) May be foreclosed as a security interest under NRS 104.9101 to 104.9709, inclusive; or
- (2) If the declaration so provides, may be foreclosed under NRS 116.31162 to 116.31168, inclusive.
- [11.] 12. In an action by an association to collect assessments or to foreclose a lien created under this section, the court may appoint a receiver to collect all rents or other income from the unit alleged to be due and owing to a unit's owner before commencement or during pendency of the action. The receivership is governed by chapter 32 of NRS. The court may order the receiver to pay any sums held by the receiver to the association during pendency of the action to the extent of the association's common expense assessments based on a periodic budget adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 116.3115.
 - **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on January 1, 2016.





