House Bill 3406

Sponsored by Representative VEGA PEDERSON (at the request of Marilyn McManus)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Authorizes owners, unit owners and residents of planned communities or condominiums to place political signs or flags on units and to hold certain public meetings in units or in common areas.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to communities governed by declaration.

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- 3 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
 - SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 4 of this 2013 Act are added to and made a part of ORS 94.550 to 94.783.
 - SECTION 2. An owner or a resident in a planned community who is prevented from exercising a right described in section 3 or 4 of this 2013 Act may bring an action in the appropriate court having jurisdiction in the county in which the alleged infringement occurred and, upon favorable adjudication, the court shall enjoin the enforcement of a provision in a governing document of the planned community that operates to deprive the owner or resident of the right.
 - SECTION 3. (1) A provision in a governing document of a planned community may not:
 - (a) Infringe upon the right of owners or residents in the planned community to peaceably assemble in an open public meeting for a lawful purpose, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, in or on common property of the planned community. Reasonable times include the hours between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., seven days per week.
 - (b) Infringe upon the right of owners or residents to communicate or assemble among themselves, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, for the purpose of discussing any matter, including but not limited to any matter relating to the planned community. A discussion under this paragraph may be held in or on common property or in a unit. A homeowners association may enforce reasonable rules and regulations relating to issues, including but not limited to place, scheduling, occupancy densities and use of utilities.
 - (c) Prohibit an owner or resident from canvassing other owners or residents for purposes described in this section.
 - (2) This section does not require a homeowners association to permit an owner or resident to:
 - (a) Solicit money.
 - (b) Disregard a request by an owner or resident not to be canvassed.
 - (3) As used in this section, "canvass" includes making contact with other persons door-to-door, making an oral or written request or distributing, circulating, posting or publishing a notice, a newsletter, a general announcement or any other informational material relevant

to the owners or residents of the planned community.

SECTION 4. (1) A provision in a governing document of a planned community may not infringe upon the right of an owner or resident in a planned community to invite public officers or candidates for public office to appear and speak upon matters of public interest in or on common property at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner in an open public meeting. A homeowners association may enforce reasonable rules and regulations relating to the time, place and scheduling of the speakers to protect the interests of the majority of owners and residents.

- (2) The homeowners association shall allow the owner or resident to place political signs in a window of a unit or on an exterior portion of a building that is clearly and specifically identified to the unit. The size of the political signs and the period during which the signs may be displayed are subject to the reasonable rules of the homeowners association.
- (3) The homeowners association shall allow the owner or resident to place a flag in a window of a unit or on an exterior portion of a building that is clearly and specifically identified to the unit, and to install a flagpole on the lot of the owner or resident. The size of the flag and flagpole and the period during which the flag may be displayed are subject to the reasonable rules of the homeowners association.
- (4) For purposes of this section, an exterior portion of a building is "clearly and specifically identified to the unit" if the unit is a separate building or if a building containing multiple units is constructed, painted or otherwise marked in a manner that readily allows identification from external cues of the limits of specific units.

SECTION 5. Sections 6 to 8 of this 2013 Act are added to and made a part of ORS chapter 100.

SECTION 6. A unit owner or a resident of a condominium unit in a condominium who is prevented from exercising a right described in section 7 or 8 of this 2013 Act may bring an action in the appropriate court having jurisdiction in the county in which the alleged infringement occurred and, upon favorable adjudication, the court shall enjoin the enforcement of a provision in a governing document of the condominium that operates to deprive the unit owner or resident of the right.

SECTION 7. (1) A provision in a governing document of a condominium may not:

- (a) Infringe upon the right of unit owners or residents of the condominium to peaceably assemble in an open public meeting for a lawful purpose, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, in or on common elements of the condominium. Reasonable times include the hours between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m., seven days per week.
- (b) Infringe upon the right of unit owners or residents to communicate or assemble among themselves, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, for the purpose of discussing any matter, including but not limited to any matter relating to the condominium. A discussion under this paragraph may be held in or on common elements or in a condominium unit. An association of unit owners may enforce reasonable rules and regulations relating to issues, including but not limited to place, scheduling, occupancy densities and use of utilities.
- (c) Prohibit a unit owner or resident from canvassing other unit owners or residents for purposes described in this section.
- (2) This section does not require an association of unit owners to permit a unit owner or resident to:

(a) Solicit money.

- (b) Disregard a request by a unit owner or resident not to be canvassed.
- (3) As used in this section, "canvass" includes making contact with other persons door-to-door, making an oral or written request or distributing, circulating, posting or publishing a notice, a newsletter, a general announcement or any other informational material relevant to the unit owners or residents of the condominium.
- SECTION 8. (1) A provision in a governing document of a condominium may not infringe upon the right of a unit owner or resident of the condominium to invite public officers or candidates for public office to appear and speak upon matters of public interest in or on common elements at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner in an open public meeting. An association of unit owners may enforce reasonable rules and regulations relating to the time, place and scheduling of the speakers to protect the interests of the majority of unit owners and residents.
- (2) The association of unit owners shall allow the unit owner or resident to place political signs in a window of a condominium unit or on an exterior portion of a building that is clearly and specifically identified to the unit. The size of the political signs and the period during which the signs may be displayed are subject to the reasonable rules of the association of unit owners.
- (3) The association of unit owners shall allow the unit owner or resident to place a flag in a window of a condominium unit, on an exterior portion of a building that is clearly and specifically identified to the unit and, subject to the approval of all unit owners to whom a limited common element is reserved, to install a flagpole with a flag in a limited common element. The size of the flag and flagpole and the period during which the flag may be displayed are subject to the reasonable rules of the association of unit owners.
- (4) For purposes of this section, an exterior portion of a building is "clearly and specifically identified to the unit" if the condominium unit is a separate building or if a building containing multiple condominium units is constructed, painted or otherwise marked in a manner that readily allows identification from external cues of the limits of specific units.
- SECTION 9. Sections 2 to 4 of this 2013 Act apply to the conduct of owners or residents in a planned community occurring on or after the effective date of this 2013 Act.
- SECTION 10. Sections 6 to 8 of this 2013 Act apply to the conduct of unit owners or residents in a condominium occurring on or after the effective date of this 2013 Act.