

Chapter 59.20 RCW
MANUFACTURED/MOBILE HOME LANDLORD-TENANT ACT

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Office of mobile/manufactured home relocation assistance: Chapter 59.22 RCW.

Smoke detection devices required in dwelling units: RCW 43.44.110.

RCW 59.20.010 Short title. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Manufactured/Mobile Home Landlord-Tenant Act". [1999 c 359 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 1.]

RCW 59.20.020 Rights and remedies—Obligation of good faith required. Every duty under this chapter and every act which must be

performed as a condition precedent to the exercise of a right or remedy under this chapter imposes an obligation of good faith in its performance or enforcement. [1977 ex.s. c 279 § 2.]

RCW 59.20.030 Definitions. For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Abandoned" as it relates to a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model owned by a tenant in a mobile home park, mobile home park cooperative, or mobile home park subdivision or tenancy in a mobile home lot means the tenant has defaulted in rent and by absence and by words or actions reasonably indicates the intention not to continue tenancy;

(2) "Active duty" means service authorized by the president of the United States, the secretary of defense, or the governor for a period of more than thirty consecutive days;

(3) "Community land trust" means a private, nonprofit, community-governed, and/or membership corporation whose mission is to acquire, hold, develop, lease, and steward land for making homes, farmland, gardens, businesses, and other community assets permanently affordable for current and future generations. A community land trust's bylaws prescribe that the governing board is comprised of individuals who reside in the community land trust's service area, one-third of whom are currently, or could be, community land trust leaseholders;

(4) "Eligible organization" includes community land trusts, resident nonprofit cooperatives, local governments, local housing authorities, nonprofit community or neighborhood-based organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes in the state of Washington, and regional or statewide nonprofit housing assistance organizations;

(5) "Housing and low-income assistance organization" means an organization that provides tenants living in mobile home parks, manufactured housing communities, and manufactured/mobile home communities with information about their rights and other pertinent information;

(6) "Housing authority" or "authority" means any of the public body corporate and politic created in RCW 35.82.030;

(7) "Landlord" or "owner" means the owner of a mobile home park and includes the agents of the owner;

(8) "Local government" means a town government, city government, code city government, or county government in the state of Washington;

(9) "Manufactured home" means a single-family dwelling built according to the United States department of housing and urban development manufactured home construction and safety standards act, which is a national preemptive building code. A manufactured home also: (a) Includes plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems; (b) is built on a permanent chassis; and (c) can be transported in one or more sections with each section at least eight feet wide and 40 feet long when transported, or when installed on the site is three hundred twenty square feet or greater;

(10) "Manufactured/mobile home" means either a manufactured home or a mobile home;

(11) "Mobile home" means a factory-built dwelling built prior to June 15, 1976, to standards other than the United States department of housing and urban development code, and acceptable under applicable state codes in effect at the time of construction or introduction of the home into the state. Mobile homes have not been built since the introduction of the United States department of housing and urban development manufactured home construction and safety act;

(12) "Mobile home lot" means a portion of a mobile home park or manufactured housing community designated as the location of one mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and its accessory buildings, and intended for the exclusive use as a primary residence by the occupants of that mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;

(13) "Mobile home park cooperative" or "manufactured housing cooperative" means real property consisting of common areas and two or more lots held out for placement of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models in which both the individual lots and the common areas are owned by an association of shareholders which leases or otherwise extends the right to occupy individual lots to its own members;

(14) "Mobile home park subdivision" or "manufactured housing subdivision" means real property, whether it is called a subdivision, condominium, or planned unit development, consisting of common areas and two or more lots held for placement of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models in which there is private ownership of the individual lots and common, undivided ownership of the common areas by owners of the individual lots;

(15) "Mobile home park," "manufactured housing community," or "manufactured/mobile home community" means any real property which is rented or held out for rent to others for the placement of two or more mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models for the primary purpose of production of income, except where such real property is rented or held out for rent for seasonal recreational purpose only and is not intended for year-round occupancy;

(16) "Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase" means a notice required under RCW 59.20.325;

(17) "Notice of sale" means a notice required under RCW 59.20.300 to be delivered to all tenants of a manufactured/mobile home community and other specified parties within 14 days after the date on which any advertisement, listing, or public or private notice is first made advertising that a manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits is for sale or lease. A delivered notice of opportunity to compete to purchase acts as a notice of sale;

(18) "Occupant" means any person, including a live-in care provider, other than a tenant, who occupies a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and mobile home lot;

(19) "Orders" means written official military orders, or any written notification, certification, or verification from the service member's commanding officer, with respect to the service member's current or future military status;

(20) "Park model" means a recreational vehicle intended for permanent or semi-permanent installation and is used as a primary residence;

(21) "Permanent change of station" means: (a) Transfer to a unit located at another port or duty station; (b) change of a unit's home port or permanent duty station; (c) call to active duty for a period not less than 90 days; (d) separation; or (e) retirement;

(22) "Qualified sale of manufactured/mobile home community" means the sale, as defined in RCW 82.45.010, of land and improvements comprising a manufactured/mobile home community that is transferred in a single purchase to a qualified tenant organization or to an eligible organization for the purpose of preserving the property as a manufactured/mobile home community;

(23) "Qualified tenant organization" means a formal organization of tenants within a manufactured/mobile home community, with the only

requirement for membership consisting of being a tenant. If a majority of the tenants, based on home sites within the manufactured/mobile home community, agree that they want to preserve the manufactured/mobile home community then they will appoint a spokesperson to represent the wishes of the qualified tenant organization to the landlord and the landlord's representative;

(24) "Recreational vehicle" means a travel trailer, motor home, truck camper, or camping trailer that is primarily designed and used as temporary living quarters, is either self-propelled or mounted on or drawn by another vehicle, is transient, is not occupied as a primary residence, and is not immobilized or permanently affixed to a mobile home lot;

(25) "Resident nonprofit cooperative" means a nonprofit cooperative corporation formed by a group of manufactured/mobile home community residents for the purpose of acquiring the manufactured/mobile home community in which they reside and converting the manufactured/mobile home community to a mobile home park cooperative or manufactured housing cooperative;

(26) "Service member" means an active member of the United States armed forces, a member of a military reserve component, or a member of the national guard who is either stationed in or a resident of Washington state;

(27) "Tenant" means any person, except a transient, who rents a mobile home lot;

(28) "Transient" means a person who rents a mobile home lot for a period of less than one month for purposes other than as a primary residence. [2023 c 40 § 2. Prior: 2019 c 342 § 1; 2019 c 23 § 4; 2008 c 116 § 2; 2003 c 127 § 1; 1999 c 359 § 2; 1998 c 118 § 1; 1993 c 66 § 15; 1981 c 304 § 4; 1980 c 152 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 3.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: "(1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Manufactured/mobile homes provide a significant source of homeownership opportunities for Washington state residents. However, the increasing number of closures and conversions to other uses of manufactured housing communities and mobile home parks, combined with low vacancy rates in existing parks and communities and the extremely high cost of moving homes when these parks and communities close, make this type of affordable housing option increasingly insecure for the tenants who reside in these parks and communities.

(b) Many tenants who reside in these parks and communities are senior citizens or low-income households and are, therefore, the residents most in need of reasonable security or permanency in the siting of their home because of the adverse impacts on the health, safety, and welfare of tenants forced to move due to closure or conversion to another use of the manufactured housing community or mobile home park.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature to encourage and facilitate the preservation of existing manufactured/mobile home communities in the event of voluntary sales of the manufactured/mobile home communities and, to the extent necessary and possible, involve manufactured/mobile home community tenants or an eligible organization, such as a nonprofit organization, housing authority, community land trust, resident nonprofit cooperative, or local government, in the preservation of manufactured/mobile home communities.

(3) The legislature further finds that when the sale of a manufactured/mobile home park to the community tenants or an eligible organization is not possible, a minimum notification period of two years before the closure or conversion of a community or park is a reasonable balancing of the rights and interests of both community and park owners and the manufactured/mobile home owners, unless the owners justly compensate the homeowners for the loss of their homes." [2023 c 40 § 1.]

Findings—Intent—Severability—2008 c 116: See notes following RCW 59.20.300.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 186 § 30.]

RCW 59.20.040 Chapter applies to rental agreements regarding mobile home lots, cooperatives, or subdivisions—Applicability of and construction with provisions of chapters 59.12 and 59.18 RCW. This chapter shall regulate and determine legal rights, remedies, and obligations arising from any rental agreement between a landlord and a tenant regarding a mobile home lot and including specified amenities within the mobile home park, mobile home park cooperative, or mobile home park subdivision, where the tenant has no ownership interest in the property or in the association which owns the property, whose uses are referred to as a part of the rent structure paid by the tenant. All such rental agreements shall be unenforceable to the extent of any conflict with any provision of this chapter. Chapter 59.12 RCW shall be applicable only in implementation of the provisions of this chapter and not as an alternative remedy to this chapter which shall be exclusive where applicable: PROVIDED, That the provision of RCW 59.12.090, 59.12.100, and 59.12.170 shall not apply to any rental agreement included under the provisions of this chapter. RCW 59.18.055, 59.18.640, 59.18.365, 59.18.370, and 59.18.380 through 59.18.410 shall be applicable to any action of forcible entry or detainer or unlawful detainer arising from a tenancy under the provisions of this chapter, except when a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model or a tenancy in a mobile home lot is abandoned. Rentals of mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models themselves are governed by the residential landlord-tenant act, chapter 59.18 RCW. [2021 c 115 § 16; 1999 c 359 § 3; 1997 c 86 § 2; 1981 c 304 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 4.]

Finding—Intent—Application—Effective date—2021 c 115: See notes following RCW 59.18.620.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.045 Enforceability of rules against a tenant. Rules are enforceable against a tenant only if:

(1) Their purpose is to promote the convenience, health, safety, or welfare of the residents, protect and preserve the premises from abusive use, or make a fair distribution of services and facilities made available for the tenants generally;

(2) They are reasonably related to the purpose for which they are adopted;

(3) They apply to all tenants in a fair manner;

(4) They are not for the purpose of evading an obligation of the landlord;

(5) They are not retaliatory or discriminatory in nature; and

(6) With respect to any new or amended rules not contained within the rental agreement, the tenant was provided at least thirty days' written notice of the new or amended rule. The tenant must be provided with at least three months to comply with the new or amended rule after the thirty-day notice period. Within the three-month grace period, any violation of the new or amended rule must result in a warning only. After expiration of the three-month grace period, any violation of the new or amended rule subjects the tenant to termination of the tenancy as authorized under RCW 59.20.080(1)(a).

[2019 c 342 § 2; 1993 c 66 § 18.]

RCW 59.20.050 Written rental agreement for term of one year or more required—Waiver—Exceptions—Application of section.

(1) No landlord may offer a mobile home lot for rent to anyone without offering a written rental agreement for a term of one year or more. No landlord may offer to anyone any rental agreement for a term of one year or more for which the monthly rental is greater, or the terms of payment or other material conditions more burdensome to the tenant, than any month-to-month rental agreement also offered to such tenant or prospective tenant. Anyone who desires to occupy a mobile home lot for other than a term of one year or more may have the option to be on a month-to-month basis but must waive, in writing, the right to such one year or more term: PROVIDED, That annually, at any anniversary date of the tenancy the tenant may require that the landlord provide a written rental agreement for a term of one year. No landlord shall allow a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model to be moved into a mobile home park in this state until a written rental agreement has been signed by and is in the possession of the parties: PROVIDED, That if the landlord allows the tenant to move a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model into a mobile home park without obtaining a written rental agreement for a term of one year or more, or a written waiver of the right to a one-year term or more, the term of the tenancy shall be deemed to be for one year from the date of occupancy of the mobile home lot;

(2) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply if:

(a) The mobile home park or part thereof has been acquired or is under imminent threat of condemnation for a public works project, or

(b) An employer-employee relationship exists between a landlord and tenant;

(3) The provisions of this section shall apply to any tenancy upon expiration of the term of any oral or written rental agreement

governing such tenancy. [1999 c 359 § 4; 1981 c 304 § 37; 1980 c 152 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 5.]

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.060 Rental agreements—Required contents—Prohibited provisions. (1) Any mobile home space tenancy regardless of the term, shall be based upon a written rental agreement, signed by the parties, which shall contain:

(a) The terms for the payment of rent, including time and place, and any additional charges to be paid by the tenant. Additional charges that occur less frequently than monthly shall be itemized in a billing to the tenant;

(b) Reasonable rules for guest parking which shall be clearly stated;

(c) The rules and regulations of the park;

(d) The name and address of the person who is the landlord, and if such person does not reside in the state there shall also be designated by name and address a person who resides in the county where the mobile home park is located who is authorized to act as agent for the purposes of service of notices and process. If no designation is made of a person to act as agent, then the person to whom rental payments are to be made shall be considered the agent;

(e) The name and address of any party who has a secured interest in the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;

(f) A forwarding address of the tenant or the name and address of a person who would likely know the whereabouts of the tenant in the event of an emergency or an abandonment of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model;

(g) A statement that: "The park may be sold or otherwise transferred at any time with the result that subsequent owners may close the mobile home park, or that the landlord may close the park at any time after the required closure notice as provided in RCW 59.20.080." The statement required by this subsection must: (i) Appear in print that is in boldface and is larger than the other text of the rental agreement; (ii) be set off by means of a box, blank space, or comparable visual device; and (iii) be located directly above the tenant's signature on the rental agreement;

(h) A copy of a closure notice, as required in RCW 59.20.080, if such notice is in effect;

(i) The terms and conditions under which any deposit or portion thereof may be withheld by the landlord upon termination of the rental agreement if any moneys are paid to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit or as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a rental agreement;

(j) A listing of the utilities, services, and facilities which will be available to the tenant during the tenancy and the nature of the fees, if any, to be charged together with a statement that, in the event any utilities are changed to be charged independent of the rent during the term of the rental agreement, the landlord agrees to decrease the amount of the rent charged proportionately;

(k) A written description, picture, plan, or map of the boundaries of a mobile home space sufficient to inform the tenant of

the exact location of the tenant's space in relation to other tenants' spaces;

(l) A written description, picture, plan, or map of the location of the tenant's responsibility for utility hook-ups, consistent with RCW 59.20.130(6);

(m) A statement of the current zoning of the land on which the mobile home park is located;

(n) A statement of the expiration date of any conditional use, temporary use, or other land use permit subject to a fixed expiration date that is necessary for the continued use of the land as a mobile home park; and

(o) A written statement containing accurate historical information regarding the past five years' rental amount charged for the lot or space.

(2) Any rental agreement executed between the landlord and tenant shall not contain any provision:

(a) Which allows the landlord to charge a fee for guest parking unless a violation of the rules for guest parking occurs: PROVIDED, That a fee may be charged for guest parking which covers an extended period of time as defined in the rental agreement;

(b) Which authorizes the towing or impounding of a vehicle except upon notice to the owner thereof or the tenant whose guest is the owner of the vehicle;

(c) Which allows the landlord to alter the due date for rent payment or increase the rent: (i) During the term of the rental agreement if the term is less than two years, or (ii) more frequently than annually if the initial term is for two years or more: PROVIDED, That a rental agreement may include an escalation clause for a pro rata share of any increase in the mobile home park's real property taxes or utility assessments or charges, over the base taxes or utility assessments or charges of the year in which the rental agreement took effect, if the clause also provides for a pro rata reduction in rent or other charges in the event of a reduction in real property taxes or utility assessments or charges, below the base year: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a rental agreement for a term exceeding two years may provide for annual increases in rent in specified amounts or by a formula specified in such agreement. Any rent increase authorized under this subsection (2)(c) that occurs within the closure notice period pursuant to RCW 59.20.080(1)(e) may not be more than one percentage point above the United States consumer price index for all urban consumers, housing component, published by the United States bureau of labor statistics in the periodical "Monthly Labor Review and Handbook of Labor Statistics" as established annually by the department of commerce;

(d) By which the tenant agrees to waive or forego rights or remedies under this chapter;

(e) Allowing the landlord to charge an "entrance fee" or an "exit fee." However, an entrance fee may be charged as part of a continuing care contract as defined in RCW 70.38.025;

(f) Which allows the landlord to charge a fee for guests: PROVIDED, That a landlord may establish rules charging for guests who remain on the premises for more than 15 days in any 60-day period;

(g) By which the tenant agrees to waive or forego homestead rights provided by chapter 6.13 RCW. This subsection shall not prohibit such waiver after a default in rent so long as such waiver is in writing signed by the husband and wife or by an unmarried claimant and in consideration of the landlord's agreement not to terminate the

tenancy for a period of time specified in the waiver if the landlord would be otherwise entitled to terminate the tenancy under this chapter;

(h) By which, at the time the rental agreement is entered into, the landlord and tenant agree to the selection of a particular arbitrator; or

(i) By which the tenant agrees to make rent payments through electronic means only.

(3) Any provision prohibited under this section that is included in a rental agreement is unenforceable. [2023 c 40 § 3; 2022 c 95 § 4; 2019 c 390 § 17; 2019 c 342 § 3; 2012 c 213 § 1; 2006 c 296 § 2; 2002 c 63 § 1; 1999 c 359 § 5. Prior: 1990 c 174 § 1; 1990 c 169 § 1; 1989 c 201 § 9; 1984 c 58 § 1; 1981 c 304 § 18; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 6.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Contingent effective date—2019 c 390 §§ 17 and 18: "Sections 17 and 18 of this act take effect only if chapter 342, Laws of 2019 is enacted by August 1, 2019." [2019 c 390 § 19.]

Finding—Intent—2019 c 390: See note following RCW 59.21.005.

Tax preference statement and expiration—2019 c 390: See note following RCW 84.36.560.

Prospective application—2006 c 296 § 2: "With respect to written mobile or manufactured home space rental agreements in effect on June 7, 2006, section 2 of this act applies prospectively when the term of the tenancy under the agreement is renewed." [2006 c 296 § 4.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.070 Prohibited acts by landlord. A landlord shall not:

(1) Deny any tenant the right to sell such tenant's mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park, or prohibit, in any manner, any tenant from posting on the tenant's manufactured/mobile home or park model, or on the rented mobile home lot, a commercially reasonable "for sale" sign or any similar sign designed to advertise the sale of the manufactured/mobile home or park model. In addition, a landlord shall not require the removal of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model from the park because of the sale thereof. Requirements for the transfer of the rental agreement are in RCW 59.20.073. Nothing in this subsection prohibits a landlord from enforcing reasonable rules or restrictions regarding the placement of "for sale" signs on the tenant's manufactured/mobile home or park model, or on the rented mobile home lot, if (a) the main purpose of the rules or restrictions is to protect the safety of park tenants or residents and (b) the rules or restrictions comply with RCW 59.20.045. The landlord may restrict the number of "for sale" signs on the lot to

two and may restrict the size of the signs to conform to those in common use by home sale businesses;

(2) Restrict the tenant's freedom of choice in purchasing goods or services but may reserve the right to approve or disapprove any exterior structural improvements on a mobile home space: PROVIDED, That door-to-door solicitation in the mobile home park may be restricted in the rental agreement. Door-to-door solicitation does not include public officials, housing and low-income assistance organizations, or candidates for public office meeting or distributing information to tenants in accordance with subsection (3) or (4) of this section;

(3) Prohibit the distribution of information or meetings by tenants of the mobile home park to discuss mobile home living and affairs, including political caucuses or forums for or speeches of public officials or candidates for public office, meetings with housing and low-income assistance organizations, or meetings of organizations that represent the interest of tenants in the park, held in a tenant's home or any of the park community or recreation halls if these halls are open for the use of the tenants, conducted at reasonable times and in an orderly manner on the premises, nor penalize any tenant for participation in such activities;

(4) Prohibit a public official, housing and low-income assistance organization, or candidate for public office from meeting with or distributing information to tenants in their individual mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models, nor penalize any tenant for participating in these meetings or receiving this information;

(5) Evict a tenant, terminate a rental agreement, decline to renew a rental agreement, increase rental or other tenant obligations, decrease services, or modify park rules in retaliation for any of the following actions on the part of a tenant taken in good faith:

(a) Filing a complaint with any federal, state, county, or municipal governmental authority relating to any alleged violation by the landlord of an applicable statute, regulation, or ordinance;

(b) Requesting the landlord to comply with the provision of this chapter or other applicable statute, regulation, or ordinance of the state, county, or municipality;

(c) Filing suit against the landlord for any reason;

(d) Participation or membership in any homeowners association or group;

(6) Charge to any tenant a utility fee in excess of actual utility costs or intentionally cause termination or interruption of any tenant's utility services, including water, heat, electricity, or gas, except when an interruption of a reasonable duration is required to make necessary repairs;

(7) (a) Effect an involuntary termination of electric utility or water service due to lack of payment to any tenant on any day for which the national weather service has issued or has announced that it intends to issue a heat-related alert, such as an excessive heat warning, a heat advisory, an excessive heat watch, or a similar alert, for the area in which the tenant's address is located.

(b) (i) A tenant at whose dwelling electric or water utility service has been disconnected for lack of payment may request that the landlord reconnect service on any day for which the national weather service has issued or has announced that it intends to issue a heat-related alert, such as an excessive heat warning, a heat advisory, an excessive heat watch, or a similar alert, for the area in which the tenant's address is located. The landlord shall inform all tenants in

the notice of disconnection of the ability to seek reconnection and provide clear and specific information on how to make that request, including how to contact the landlord.

(ii) Upon receipt of a request made pursuant to (b)(i) of this subsection, the landlord shall promptly make a reasonable attempt to reconnect service to the dwelling. The landlord, in connection with a request made pursuant to (b)(i) of this subsection, may require the tenant to enter into a payment plan prior to reconnecting service to the dwelling. If the landlord requires the tenant to enter into a repayment plan, the repayment plan must comply with (c) of this subsection.

(c) A repayment plan required by a landlord pursuant to (b)(ii) of this subsection will be designed both to pay the past due bill by the following May 15th, or as soon as possible after May 15th if needed to maintain monthly payments that are no greater than six percent of the tenant's monthly income, and to pay for continued utility service. The plan may not require monthly payments in excess of six percent of the tenant's monthly income. A tenant may agree to pay a higher percentage during this period, but will not be in default unless payment during this period is less than six percent of the tenant's monthly income. If assistance payments are received by the tenant subsequent to implementation of the plan, the tenant shall contact the landlord to reformulate the plan;

(8) Remove or exclude a tenant from the premises unless this chapter is complied with or the exclusion or removal is under an appropriate court order; or

(9) Prevent the entry or require the removal of a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model for the sole reason that the mobile home has reached a certain age. Nothing in this subsection shall limit a landlord's right to exclude or expel a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model for any other reason, including but not limited to, failure to comply with fire, safety, and other provisions of local ordinances and state laws relating to mobile homes, manufactured homes, and park models, as long as the action conforms to this chapter or any other relevant statutory provision. [2023 c 105 § 9; 2019 c 342 § 4; 2012 c 213 § 2; 2003 c 127 § 2; 1999 c 359 § 6; 1993 c 66 § 16; 1987 c 253 § 1; 1984 c 58 § 2; 1981 c 304 § 19; 1980 c 152 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 7.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.073 Transfer of rental agreements. (1) Any rental agreement shall be assignable by the tenant to any person to whom he or she sells or transfers title to the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model.

(2) A tenant who sells a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park must provide the buyer with a copy of a closure notice provided by the landlord pursuant to RCW 59.20.080, if such notice is in effect, at least 15 days in advance of the intended sale and transfer.

(3) A tenant who sells a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park shall notify the landlord in writing of the date of the intended sale and transfer of the rental agreement at least 15 days in advance of such intended transfer and shall notify the buyer in writing of the provisions of this section. The tenant shall verify in writing to the landlord payment of all taxes, rent, and reasonable expenses due on the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and mobile home lot. The tenant shall notify the buyer of all taxes, rent, and reasonable expenses due on the manufactured/mobile home or park model and the mobile home lot.

(4) At least seven days in advance of such intended transfer, the landlord shall:

(a) Notify the selling tenant, in writing, of a refusal to permit transfer of the rental agreement; or

(b) If the landlord approves of the transfer, provide the buyer with copies of the written rental agreement, the rules and regulations, and all other documents related to the tenancy. A landlord may not accept payment for rent or deposit from the buyer until the landlord has provided the buyer with these copies.

(5) The landlord may require the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model to meet applicable fire and safety standards if a state or local agency responsible for the enforcement of fire and safety standards has issued a notice of violation of those standards to the tenant and those violations remain uncorrected. Upon correction of the violation to the satisfaction of the state or local agency responsible for the enforcement of that notice of violation, the landlord's refusal to permit the transfer is deemed withdrawn.

(6) The landlord shall approve or disapprove of the assignment of a rental agreement on the same basis that the landlord approves or disapproves of any new tenant, and any disapproval shall be in writing. Consent to an assignment shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(7) Failure to notify the landlord in writing, as required under subsection (3) of this section; or failure of the new tenant to make a good faith attempt to arrange an interview with the landlord to discuss assignment of the rental agreement; or failure of the current or new tenant to obtain written approval of the landlord for assignment of the rental agreement, shall be grounds for disapproval of such transfer. [2023 c 40 § 4; 2019 c 342 § 5; 2012 c 213 § 3; 2003 c 127 § 3; 1999 c 359 § 7; 1993 c 66 § 17; 1981 c 304 § 20.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

RCW 59.20.074 Rent—Liability of secured party with right to possession. (1) A secured party who has a security interest in a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model that is located within a mobile home park and who has a right to possession of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model under *RCW 62A.9-503, shall be liable to the landlord from the date the secured party receives written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, for rent for occupancy of the mobile home space under the same terms the tenant was paying prior to repossession, and any other reasonable expenses incurred after the receipt of the notice, until disposition of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model under *RCW 62A.9-504.

The notice of default by a tenant must state the amount of rent and the amount and nature of any reasonable expenses that the secured party is liable for payment to the landlord. The notice must also state that the secured party will be provided a copy of the rental agreement previously signed by the tenant and the landlord upon request.

(2) This section shall not affect the availability of a landlord's lien as provided in chapter 60.72 RCW.

(3) As used in this section, "security interest" shall have the same meaning as this term is defined in RCW 62A.1-201, and "secured party" shall have the same meaning as this term is defined in *RCW 62A.9-105.

(4) For purposes of this section, "reasonable expenses" means any routine maintenance and utility charges for which the tenant is liable under the rental agreement.

(5) Any rent or other reasonable expenses owed by the secured party to the landlord pursuant to this section shall be paid to the landlord prior to the removal of the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model from the mobile home park.

(6) If a secured party who has a secured interest in a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model that is located in a mobile home park becomes liable to the landlord pursuant to this section, then the relationship between the secured party and the landlord shall be governed by the rental agreement previously signed by the tenant and the landlord unless otherwise agreed, except that the term of the rental agreement shall convert to a month-to-month tenancy. No waiver is required to convert the rental agreement to a month-to-month tenancy. Either the landlord or the secured party may terminate the month-to-month tenancy upon giving written notice of thirty days or more. The secured party and the landlord are not required to execute a new rental agreement. Nothing in this section shall be construed to be a waiver of any rights by the tenant. [1999 c 359 § 8; 1990 c 169 § 2; 1985 c 78 § 1.]

***Reviser's note:** Article 62A.9 RCW was repealed in its entirety by 2000 c 250 § 9A-901, effective July 1, 2001. For later enactment, see Article 62A.9A RCW.

RCW 59.20.075 Presumption of reprisal or retaliatory action.

Initiation by the landlord of any action listed in RCW 59.20.070(5) within one hundred twenty days after a good faith and lawful act by the tenant or within one hundred twenty days after any inspection or proceeding of a governmental agency resulting from such act, shall create a rebuttable presumption affecting the burden of proof, that the action is a reprisal or retaliatory action against the tenant: PROVIDED, That if the court finds that the tenant made a complaint or report to a governmental authority within one hundred twenty days after notice of a proposed increase in rent or other action in good faith by the landlord, there is a rebuttable presumption that the complaint or report was not made in good faith: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no presumption against the landlord shall arise under this section, with respect to an increase in rent, if the landlord, in a notice to the tenant of increase in rent, specifies reasonable grounds for said increase, which grounds may include a substantial increase in market value due to remedial action under this chapter. [1999 c 359 § 9; 1984 c 58 § 3; 1980 c 152 § 6.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.080 Grounds for termination of tenancy or occupancy or failure to renew a tenancy or occupancy—Notice—Mediation. (1) A landlord shall not terminate or fail to renew a tenancy of a tenant or the occupancy of an occupant, of whatever duration except for one or more of the following reasons:

(a) In accordance with RCW 59.20.045(6), substantial violation, or repeated or periodic violations, of an enforceable rule of the mobile home park as established by the landlord at the inception of or during the tenancy or for violation of the tenant's duties as provided in RCW 59.20.140. The tenant shall be given written notice to cease the rule violation immediately. The notice shall state that failure to cease the violation of the rule or any subsequent violation of that or any other rule shall result in termination of the tenancy, and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within twenty days: PROVIDED, That for a periodic violation the notice shall also specify that repetition of the same violation shall result in termination: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the case of a violation of a "material change" in park rules with respect to pets, tenants with minor children living with them, or recreational facilities, the tenant shall be given written notice under this chapter of a six month period in which to comply or vacate;

(b) Nonpayment of rent or other charges specified in the rental agreement, upon 14 days written notice to pay rent and/or other charges or to vacate;

(c) Conviction of the tenant of a crime, commission of which threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the other mobile home park tenants. The tenant shall be given written notice of a 15-day period in which to vacate;

(d) Failure of the tenant to comply with local ordinances and state laws and regulations relating to mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models or mobile home, manufactured homes, or park model living within a reasonable time after the tenant's receipt of notice of such noncompliance from the appropriate governmental agency;

(e) Change of land use of the mobile home park including, but not limited to, closure of the mobile home park or conversion to a use other than for mobile homes, manufactured homes, or park models or conversion of the mobile home park to a mobile home park cooperative or mobile home park subdivision. The landlord shall give the tenants two years' notice, in the form of a closure notice meeting the requirements of RCW 59.21.030, in advance of the effective date of such change. The two-year closure notice requirement does not apply if:

(i) The mobile home park or manufactured housing community has been acquired for or is under imminent threat of condemnation;

(ii) The mobile home park or manufactured housing community is sold or transferred to a county in order to reduce conflicting residential uses near a military installation;

(iii) The mobile home park or manufactured housing community is sold to an eligible organization;

(iv) The landlord provides relocation assistance of at least \$15,000 for a multisection home or of at least \$10,000 for a single section home, establishes a simple, straightforward, and timely process for compensating the tenants for the loss of their homes and

actually compensates the tenants for the loss of their homes, at the greater of 50 percent of their assessed market value in the tax year prior to the notice of closure being issued, or \$5,000, at any point during the closure notice period and prior to a change of use or sale of the property. At such time as the compensation is paid, the tenant shall be given written notice of at least 12 months in which to vacate, and the tenant shall continue to pay rent for as much time as he or she remains in the mobile home park or manufactured housing community. Nothing in this subsection (1)(e)(iv) prevents a tenant from relocating his or her home out of the mobile home park or manufactured housing community pursuant to chapter 59.21 RCW. In the event that a home remains in the mobile home park or manufactured housing community after a tenant vacates, the landlord shall be responsible for its demolition or disposal. A landlord is still eligible for demolition and disposal costs pursuant to RCW 59.21.021. Homeowners who receive payments or financial assistance from landlords as described in this subsection (1)(e)(iv) remain eligible to receive other state assistance for which they may be eligible including, but not limited to, relocation assistance funds pursuant to RCW 59.21.021; or

(v) The landlord provides relocation assistance of at least \$15,000 for a multisection home and of at least \$10,000 for a single section home at any point during the closure notice period and prior to a change of use or sale of the property. At such time as the assistance is paid, the tenant shall be given written notice of at least 18 months in which to vacate, and the tenant shall continue to pay rent for as much time as he or she remains in the mobile home park or manufactured housing community. Nothing in this subsection

(1)(e)(v) prevents a tenant from relocating his or her home out of the mobile home park or manufactured housing community pursuant to chapter 59.21 RCW. In the event that a home remains in the mobile home park or manufactured housing community after a tenant vacates, the landlord shall be responsible for its demolition or disposal. A landlord is still eligible for demolition and disposal costs pursuant to RCW 59.21.021. Homeowners who receive payments or financial assistance from landlords as described in this subsection (1)(e)(v) remain eligible to receive other state assistance for which they may be eligible including, but not limited to, relocation assistance funds pursuant to RCW 59.21.021;

(f) Engaging in "criminal activity." "Criminal activity" means a criminal act defined by statute or ordinance that threatens the health, safety, or welfare of the tenants. A park owner seeking to evict a tenant or occupant under this subsection need not produce evidence of a criminal conviction, even if the alleged misconduct constitutes a criminal offense. Notice from a law enforcement agency of criminal activity constitutes sufficient grounds, but not the only grounds, for an eviction under this subsection. Notification of the seizure of illegal drugs under RCW 59.20.155 is evidence of criminal activity and is grounds for an eviction under this subsection. The requirement that any tenant or occupant register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130 is grounds for eviction of the sex offender under this subsection. If criminal activity is alleged to be a basis of termination, the park owner may proceed directly to an unlawful detainer action;

(g) The tenant's application for tenancy contained a material misstatement that induced the park owner to approve the tenant as a resident of the park, and the park owner discovers and acts upon the

misstatement within one year of the time the resident began paying rent;

(h) If the landlord serves a tenant three 20-day notices, each of which was valid under (a) of this subsection at the time of service, within a 12-month period to comply or vacate for failure to comply with the material terms of the rental agreement or an enforceable park rule, other than failure to pay rent by the due date. The applicable 12-month period shall commence on the date of the first violation;

(i) Failure of the tenant to comply with obligations imposed upon tenants by applicable provisions of municipal, county, and state codes, statutes, ordinances, and regulations, including this chapter. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within 15 days;

(j) The tenant engages in disorderly or substantially annoying conduct upon the park premises that results in the destruction of the rights of others to the peaceful enjoyment and use of the premises. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within 15 days;

(k) The tenant creates a nuisance that materially affects the health, safety, and welfare of other park residents. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to cease the conduct that constitutes a nuisance immediately. The notice must describe the nuisance and state (i) what the tenant must do to cease the nuisance and (ii) that failure to cease the conduct will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises in five days;

(l) Any other substantial just cause that materially affects the health, safety, and welfare of other park residents. The landlord shall give the tenant written notice to comply immediately. The notice must describe the harm caused by the tenant, describe what the tenant must do to comply and to discontinue the harm, and state that failure to comply will result in termination of the tenancy and that the tenant shall vacate the premises within 15 days; or

(m) Failure to pay rent by the due date provided for in the rental agreement three or more times in a 12-month period, commencing with the date of the first violation, after service of a 14-day notice to comply or vacate.

(2) Within five days of a notice of eviction as required by subsection (1)(a) of this section, the landlord and tenant shall submit any dispute to mediation. The parties may agree in writing to mediation by an independent third party or through industry mediation procedures. If the parties cannot agree, then mediation shall be through industry mediation procedures. A duty is imposed upon both parties to participate in the mediation process in good faith for a period of 10 days for an eviction under subsection (1)(a) of this section. It is a defense to an eviction under subsection (1)(a) of this section that a landlord did not participate in the mediation process in good faith.

(3) Except for a tenant evicted under subsection (1)(c) or (f) of this section, a tenant evicted from a mobile home park under this section shall be allowed 120 days within which to sell the tenant's mobile home, manufactured home, or park model in place within the mobile home park: PROVIDED, That the tenant remains current in the

payment of rent incurred after eviction, and pays any past due rent, reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs at the time the rental agreement is assigned. The provisions of RCW 59.20.073 regarding transfer of rental agreements apply.

(4) Chapters 59.12 and 59.18 RCW govern the eviction of recreational vehicles, as defined in RCW 59.20.030, from mobile home parks. This chapter governs the eviction of mobile homes, manufactured homes, park models, and recreational vehicles used as a primary residence from a mobile home park. [2023 c 40 § 5; 2019 c 342 § 6; 2012 c 213 § 4; 2003 c 127 § 4; 1999 c 359 § 10; 1998 c 118 § 2; 1993 c 66 § 19; 1989 c 201 § 12; 1988 c 150 § 5; 1984 c 58 § 4; 1981 c 304 § 21; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 6; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 8.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150: See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.090 Term of rental agreements—Renewal—Nonrenewal—Termination—Armed forces exception—Notices. (1) Unless otherwise agreed rental agreements shall be for a term of one year. Any rental agreement of whatever duration shall be automatically renewed for the term of the original rental agreement, unless a different specified term is agreed upon.

(2) A landlord seeking to increase the rent upon expiration of the term of a rental agreement of any duration shall notify the tenant in writing three months prior to the effective date of any increase in rent.

(3) A tenant shall notify the landlord in writing one month prior to the expiration of a rental agreement of an intention not to renew.

(4) (a) The tenant may terminate the rental agreement upon thirty days written notice whenever a change in the location of the tenant's employment requires a change in his or her residence, and shall not be liable for rental following such termination unless after due diligence and reasonable effort the landlord is not able to rent the mobile home lot at a fair rental. If the landlord is not able to rent the lot, the tenant shall remain liable for the rental specified in the rental agreement until the lot is rented or the original term ends.

(b) Any tenant who is a member of the armed forces, including the national guard and armed forces reserves, or that tenant's spouse or dependent, may terminate a rental agreement with less than thirty days notice if the tenant receives permanent change of station or deployment orders which do not allow greater notice. The service member shall provide the landlord a copy of the official military orders or a signed letter from the service member's commanding officer confirming any of the following criteria are met:

(i) The service member is required, pursuant to permanent change of station orders, to move thirty-five miles or more from the location of the rental premises;

(ii) The service member is prematurely or involuntarily discharged or released from active duty;

(iii) The service member is released from active duty after having leased the rental premises while on active duty status and the rental premises is thirty-five miles or more from the service member's home of record prior to entering active duty;

(iv) After entering into a rental agreement, the commanding officer directs the service member to move into government provided housing;

(v) The service member receives temporary duty orders, temporary change of station orders, or state active duty orders to an area thirty-five miles or more from the location of the rental premises, provided such orders are for a period not less than ninety days; or

(vi) The service member has leased the property, but prior to taking possession of the rental premises, receives change of station orders to an area that is thirty-five miles or more from the location of the rental premises. [2019 c 23 § 5; 2010 c 8 § 19034; 2003 c 7 § 3; 1998 c 118 § 3; 1980 c 152 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 279 § 9.]

Effective date—2003 c 7: See note following RCW 59.18.200.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.095 Short-term rental agreements for recreational vehicles. Any landlord who has complied with the notice requirements under RCW 59.20.080(1)(e) may provide a short-term rental agreement for a recreational vehicle for any mobile home lot or space that is vacant at the time of or becomes vacant after the notice of closure or conversion is provided. The rental agreement term for such recreational vehicles must be for no longer than the date on which the mobile home park is officially closed. Any short-term rental agreement provided under this section is not subject to the provisions of this chapter. For purposes of this section, a "recreational vehicle" does not mean a park model. [2019 c 342 § 7.]

RCW 59.20.100 Improvements. Improvements, except a natural lawn, purchased and installed by a tenant on a mobile home lot shall remain the property of the tenant even though affixed to or in the ground and may be removed or disposed of by the tenant prior to the termination of the tenancy: PROVIDED, That a tenant shall leave the mobile home lot in substantially the same or better condition than upon taking possession. [1977 ex.s. c 279 § 10.]

RCW 59.20.110 Attorney's fees and costs. In any action arising out of this chapter, the prevailing party shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs. [1977 ex.s. c 279 § 11.]

RCW 59.20.120 Venue. Venue for any action arising under this chapter shall be in the district or superior court of the county in which the mobile home lot is located. [1977 ex.s. c 279 § 12.]

RCW 59.20.130 Duties of landlord. It shall be the duty of the landlord to:

(1) Comply with codes, statutes, ordinances, and administrative rules applicable to the mobile home park;

(2) Maintain the common premises and prevent the accumulation of stagnant water and to prevent the detrimental effects of moving water when such condition is not the fault of the tenant;

(3) Keep any shared or common premises reasonably clean, sanitary, and safe from defects to reduce the hazards of fire or accident;

(4) Keep all common premises of the mobile home park, and vacant mobile home lots, not in the possession of tenants, free of weeds or plant growth noxious and detrimental to the health of the tenants and free from potentially injurious or unsightly objects and condition;

(5) Exterminate or make a reasonable effort to exterminate rodents, vermin, or other pests dangerous to the health and safety of the tenant whenever infestation exists on the common premises or whenever infestation occurs in the interior of a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model as a result of infestation existing on the common premises;

(6) Maintain and protect all utilities provided to the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model in good working condition. Maintenance responsibility shall be determined at that point where the normal mobile home, manufactured home, or park model utilities "hook-ups" connect to those provided by the landlord or utility company;

(7) Respect the privacy of the tenants and shall have no right of entry to a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model without the prior written consent of the occupant, except in case of emergency or when the occupant has abandoned the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model. Such consent may be revoked in writing by the occupant at any time. The ownership or management shall have a right of entry upon the land upon which a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model is situated for maintenance of utilities, to insure [ensure] compliance with applicable codes, statutes, ordinances, administrative rules, and the rental agreement and the rules of the park, and protection of the mobile home park at any reasonable time or in an emergency, but not in a manner or at a time which would interfere with the occupant's quiet enjoyment. The ownership or management shall make a reasonable effort to notify the tenant of their intention of entry upon the land which a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model is located prior to entry;

(8) Allow tenants freedom of choice in the purchase of goods and services, and not unreasonably restrict access to the mobile home park for such purposes;

(9) Maintain roads within the mobile home park in good condition; and

(10) Notify each tenant within five days after a petition has been filed by the landlord for a change in the zoning of the land where the mobile home park is located and make a description of the change available to the tenant.

A landlord shall not have a duty to repair a defective condition under this section, nor shall any defense or remedy be available to

the tenant under this chapter, if the defective condition complained of was caused by the conduct of the tenant, the tenant's family, invitee, or other person acting under the tenant's control, or if a tenant unreasonably fails to allow the landlord access to the property for purposes of repair. [1999 c 359 § 11; 1993 c 66 § 20; 1984 c 58 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 8.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Smoke detection devices required in dwelling units: RCW 43.44.110.

RCW 59.20.134 Written receipts for payments made by tenant. (1)

A landlord must accept a personal check, cashier's check, or money order for any payment of rent made by a tenant, except that a landlord is not required to accept a personal check from any tenant that has had a personal check written to the landlord or the landlord's agent that has been returned for nonsufficient funds or account closure within the previous nine months. A landlord must also allow for the tenant to submit a rental payment by mail unless the landlord provides an accessible, on-site location.

(2) A landlord shall provide a written receipt for any payment made by a tenant in the form of cash.

(3) A landlord shall provide, upon the request of a tenant, a written receipt for any payments made by the tenant in a form other than cash. [2022 c 95 § 3; 2011 c 168 § 1.]

RCW 59.20.135 Maintenance of permanent structures—Findings and declarations—Definition. (1) The legislature finds that some mobile home park owners transfer the responsibility for the upkeep of permanent structures within the mobile home park to the park tenants. This transfer sometimes occurs after the permanent structures have been allowed to deteriorate. Many mobile home parks consist entirely of senior citizens who do not have the financial resources or physical capability to make the necessary repairs to these structures once they have fallen into disrepair. The inability of the tenants to maintain permanent structures can lead to significant safety hazards to the tenants as well as to visitors to the mobile home park. The legislature therefore finds and declares that it is in the public interest and necessary for the public health and safety to prohibit mobile home park owners from transferring the duty to maintain permanent structures in mobile home parks to the tenants.

(2) A mobile home park owner is prohibited from transferring responsibility for the maintenance or care of permanent structures within the mobile home park to the tenants of the park. A provision within a rental agreement or other document transferring responsibility for the maintenance or care of permanent structures within the mobile home park to the park tenants is void.

(3) A "permanent structure" for purposes of this section includes the clubhouse, carports, storage sheds, or other permanent structure. A permanent structure does not include structures built or affixed by a tenant. A permanent structure includes only those structures that were provided as amenities to the park tenants.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a park owner from requiring a tenant to maintain his or her mobile home, manufactured home, or park model or yard. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a park owner from transferring responsibility for the maintenance or care of permanent structures within the mobile home park to an organization of park tenants or to an individual park tenant when requested by the tenant organization or individual tenant. [1999 c 359 § 12; 1994 c 30 § 1.]

Effective date—1994 c 30: "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 21, 1994]." [1994 c 30 § 2.]

RCW 59.20.140 Duties of tenant. It shall be the duty of the tenant to pay the rental amount at such times and in such amounts as provided for in the rental agreement or as otherwise provided by law and comply with all obligations imposed upon tenants by applicable provisions of all municipal, county, and state codes, statutes, ordinances, and regulations, and in addition the tenant shall:

(1) Keep the mobile home lot which he or she occupies and uses as clean and sanitary as the conditions of the premises permit;

(2) Properly dispose of all rubbish, garbage, and other organic or flammable waste, in a clean and sanitary manner at reasonable and regular intervals, and assume all costs of extermination and fumigation for infestation caused by the tenant on the tenant's leased premises;

(3) Not intentionally or negligently destroy, deface, damage, impair, or remove any facilities, equipment, furniture, furnishings, fixtures, or appliances provided by the landlord, or permit any member of his or her family, invitee, or licensee, or any person acting under his or her control to do so;

(4) Not permit a nuisance or common waste; and

(5) Not engage in drug-related activities as defined in RCW 59.20.080. [2010 c 8 § 19035; 1988 c 150 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 9.]

Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150: See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.145 Live-in care provider—Not a tenant—Agreements—Guest fee. A tenant in a mobile home park may share his or her mobile home, manufactured home, or park model with any person over eighteen years of age, if that person is providing live-in home health care or live-in hospice care to the tenant under an approved plan of treatment ordered by the tenant's physician. The live-in care provider is not considered a tenant of the park and shall have no rights of tenancy in the park. Any agreement between the tenant and the live-in care provider does not change the terms and conditions of the rental agreement between the landlord and the tenant. The live-in care provider shall comply with the rules of the mobile home park, the rental agreement, and this chapter. The landlord may not charge a

guest fee for the live-in care provider. [1999 c 359 § 13; 1993 c 152 § 1.]

RCW 59.20.150 Service of notice on landlord or tenant. (1) Any notice required by this chapter to be given to a tenant shall be served on behalf of the landlord: (a) By delivering a copy personally to the tenant; or (b) if the tenant is absent from the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model by affixing a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place on the mobile home, manufactured home, or park model and also sending a copy through the mail addressed to the tenant at the tenant's last known address.

(2) Any notice required by this chapter to be given to the landlord shall be served by the tenant in the same manner as provided for in subsection (1) of this section, or by mail to the landlord at such place as shall be expressly provided in the rental agreement.

(3) The landlord shall state in any notice of eviction required by RCW 59.20.080(1) as now or hereafter amended the specific reason for eviction in a clear and concise manner. [1999 c 359 § 14; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 10.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.155 Seizure of illegal drugs—Notification of landlord. Any law enforcement agency which seizes a legend drug pursuant to a violation of chapter 69.41 RCW, a controlled substance pursuant to a violation of chapter 69.50 RCW, or an imitation controlled substance pursuant to a violation of chapter 69.52 RCW, shall make a reasonable attempt to discover the identity of the landlord and shall notify the landlord in writing, at the last address listed in the property tax records and at any other address known to the law enforcement agency, of the seizure and the location of the seizure of the illegal drugs or substances. [1988 c 150 § 12.]

Legislative findings—Severability—1988 c 150: See notes following RCW 59.18.130.

RCW 59.20.160 Moneys paid as deposit or security for performance by tenant—Written rental agreement to specify terms and conditions for retention by landlord. If any moneys are paid to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit or as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a written rental agreement, such rental agreement shall include the terms and conditions under which the deposit or portion thereof may be withheld by the landlord upon termination of the rental agreement. If all or part of the deposit may be withheld to indemnify the landlord for damages to the mobile home space for which the tenant is responsible, the rental agreement shall so specify. It is unlawful to charge or collect a deposit or security for performance if the parties have not entered into a written rental agreement. [1984 c 58 § 17; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 11.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.170 Moneys paid as deposit or security for performance by tenant—Deposit by landlord in trust account—Receipt—Claims. (1)

All moneys paid to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a rental agreement shall promptly be deposited by the landlord in a trust account, maintained by the landlord for the purpose of holding such security deposits for tenants of the landlord, in a financial institution as defined by *RCW 30.22.041 or licensed escrow agent located in Washington. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, unless otherwise agreed in writing, the landlord shall be entitled to receipt of interest paid on such trust account deposits. The landlord shall provide the tenant with a written receipt for the deposit and shall provide written notice of the name and address and location of the depository and any subsequent change thereof. If during a tenancy the status of landlord is transferred to another, any sums in the deposit trust account affected by such transfer shall simultaneously be transferred to an equivalent trust account of the successor landlord, and the successor landlord shall promptly notify the tenant of the transfer and of the name, address and location of the new depository. The tenant's claim to any moneys paid under this section shall be prior to that of any creditor of the landlord, including a trustee in bankruptcy or receiver, even if such moneys are commingled.

(2) All moneys paid, in excess of two months' rent on the mobile home lot, to the landlord by the tenant as a deposit as security for performance of the tenant's obligations in a rental agreement shall be deposited into an interest-bearing trust account for the particular tenant. The interest accruing on the deposit in the account, minus fees charged to administer the account, shall be paid to the tenant on an annual basis. All other provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to deposits under this subsection. [2004 c 136 § 2; 1999 c 359 § 15; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 12.]

***Reviser's note:** RCW 30.22.041 was recodified as RCW 30A.22.041 pursuant to 2014 c 37 § 4, effective January 5, 2015.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.180 Moneys paid as deposit or security for performance by tenant—Statement and notice of basis for retention. Within

fourteen days after the termination of the rental agreement and vacation of the mobile home space, the landlord shall give a full and specific statement of the basis for retaining any of the deposit together with the payment of any refund due the tenant under the terms and conditions of the rental agreement. No portion of any deposit shall be withheld on account of wear resulting from ordinary use of the mobile home space.

The statement shall be delivered to the tenant personally or by mail to the last known address. If the landlord fails to give such statement together with any refund due the tenant within the time limits specified above such landlord shall be liable to the tenant for the full amount of the refund due.

Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the landlord from proceeding against, and the landlord shall have the right to proceed against a tenant to recover sums exceeding the amount of the tenant's damage or security deposit for damage to the property for which the tenant is responsible. [1984 c 58 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 186 § 13.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 186: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.190 Health and sanitation standards—Penalties. All state board of health rules applicable to the health and sanitation of mobile home parks shall be enforced by the city, county, city-county, or district health officer of the jurisdiction in which the mobile home park is located, upon notice of a violation to such health officer. Failure to remedy the violation after enforcement efforts are made may result in a fine being imposed on the park owner, or tenant as may be applicable, by the enforcing governmental body of up to one hundred dollars per day, depending on the degree of risk of injury or illness to persons in or around the park. [2011 c 27 § 2; 1988 c 126 § 1; 1981 c 304 § 22.]

Severability—1981 c 304: See note following RCW 26.16.030.

RCW 59.20.200 Landlord—Failure to carry out duties—Notice from tenant—Time limits for landlord's remedial action. If at any time during the tenancy the landlord fails to carry out the duties required by RCW 59.20.130, the tenant may, in addition to pursuit of remedies otherwise provided the tenant by law, deliver written notice to the landlord, which notice shall specify the property involved, the name of the owner, if known, and the nature of the defective condition. For the purposes of this chapter, a reasonable time for the landlord to commence remedial action after receipt of such notice by the tenant shall be, except where circumstances are beyond the landlord's control;

(1) Not more than twenty-four hours, where the defective condition is imminently hazardous to life;

(2) Not more than forty-eight hours, where the landlord fails to provide water, electricity, or sewer or septic service to the extent required under RCW 59.20.130(6);

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, not more than seven days in the case of a repair under RCW 59.20.130(3);

(4) Not more than thirty days in all other cases.

In each instance the burden shall be on the landlord to see that remedial work under this section is completed with reasonable promptness.

Where circumstances beyond the landlord's control, including the availability of financing, prevent the landlord from complying with the time limitations set forth in this section, the landlord shall endeavor to remedy the defective condition with all reasonable speed. [2012 c 213 § 5; 1984 c 58 § 6.]

Severability—1984 c 58: "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1984 c 58 § 18.]

RCW 59.20.210 Landlord—Failure to carry out duties—Repairs effected by tenant—Bids—Notice—Deduction of cost from rent—Limitations.

(1) (a) If at any time during the tenancy, the landlord fails to carry out any of the duties imposed by RCW 59.20.130, and notice of the defect is given to the landlord pursuant to RCW 59.20.200, the tenant may submit to the landlord or the landlord's designated agent by certified mail or in person at least two bids to perform the repairs necessary to correct the defective condition from licensed or registered persons, or if no licensing or registration requirement applies to the type of work to be performed, from responsible persons capable of performing such repairs. Such bids may be submitted to the landlord at the same time as notice is given pursuant to RCW 59.20.200.

(b) Upon receipt of any such bids, the landlord shall provide the tenant with a copy of the notice regarding the manufactured/mobile home dispute resolution program that the attorney general is required to produce pursuant to RCW 59.30.030(3)(a) and that landlords are required to post pursuant to RCW 59.30.030(3)(b)(i).

(2) If the landlord fails to commence repair of the defective condition within a reasonable time after receipt of notice from the tenant, the tenant may contract with the person submitting the lowest bid to make the repair, and upon the completion of the repair and an opportunity for inspection by the landlord or the landlord's designated agent, the tenant may deduct the cost of repair from the rent in an amount not to exceed the sum expressed in dollars representing one month's rental of the tenant's mobile home space in any calendar year. When, however, the landlord is required to begin remedying the defective condition within thirty days under RCW 59.20.200, the tenant cannot contract for repairs for at least fifteen days following receipt of bids by the landlord. The total costs of repairs deducted by the tenant in any calendar year under this subsection shall not exceed the sum expressed in dollars representing one month's rental of the tenant's mobile home space.

(3) Two or more tenants shall not collectively initiate remedies under this section. Remedial action under this section shall not be initiated for conditions in the design or construction existing in a mobile home park before June 7, 1984.

(4) The provisions of this section shall not:

- (a) Create a relationship of employer and employee between landlord and tenant; or
- (b) Create liability under the worker's compensation act; or
- (c) Constitute the tenant as an agent of the landlord for the purposes of mechanics' and material suppliers' liens under chapter 60.04 RCW.

(5) Any repair work performed under this section shall comply with the requirements imposed by any applicable code, statute, ordinance, or rule. A landlord whose property is damaged because of repairs performed in a negligent manner may recover the actual damages in an action against the tenant.

(6) Nothing in this section shall prevent the tenant from agreeing with the landlord to undertake the repairs in return for cash payment or a reasonable reduction in rent, the agreement to be between the parties, and this agreement does not alter the landlord's obligations under this chapter. [2019 c 342 § 8; 2013 c 23 § 117; 1999 c 359 § 16; 1984 c 58 § 8.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.220 Landlord—Failure to carry out duties—Judgment by court or arbitrator for diminished rental value and repair costs—Enforcement of judgment—Reduction in rent. (1) If a court or an arbitrator determines that:

(a) A landlord has failed to carry out a duty or duties imposed by RCW 59.20.130; and

(b) A reasonable time has passed for the landlord to remedy the defective condition following notice to the landlord under RCW 59.20.200 or such other time as may be allotted by the court or arbitrator; the court or arbitrator may determine the diminution in rental value of the property due to the defective condition and shall render judgment against the landlord for the rent paid in excess of such diminished rental value from the time of notice of such defect to the time of decision and any costs of repair done pursuant to RCW 59.20.210 for which no deduction has been previously made. Such decisions may be enforced as other judgments at law and shall be available to the tenant as a set-off against any existing or subsequent claims of the landlord.

The court or arbitrator may also authorize the tenant to contract to make further corrective repairs. The court or arbitrator shall specify a time period in which the landlord may make such repairs before the tenant may contract for such repairs. Such repairs shall not exceed the sum expressed in dollars representing one month's rental of the tenant's mobile home space in any one calendar year.

(2) The tenant shall not be obligated to pay rent in excess of the diminished rental value of the mobile home space until such defect or defects are corrected by the landlord or until the court or arbitrator determines otherwise. [1999 c 359 § 17; 1984 c 58 § 9.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.230 Defective condition—Unfeasible to remedy defect—Termination of tenancy. If a court or arbitrator determines a defective condition as described in RCW 59.20.130 to be so substantial that it is unfeasible for the landlord to remedy the defect within the time allotted by RCW 59.20.200, and that the tenant should not remain on the mobile home space in its defective condition, the court or arbitrator may authorize the termination of the tenancy. The court or arbitrator shall set a reasonable time for the tenant to vacate the premises. [1984 c 58 § 10.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.240 Payment of rent condition to exercising remedies. The tenant shall be current in the payment of rent including all utilities which the tenant has agreed in the rental agreement to pay before exercising any of the remedies accorded the tenant under the provisions of this chapter: PROVIDED, That this section shall not be construed as limiting the tenant's civil remedies for negligent or intentional damages: PROVIDED FURTHER, That this section shall not be construed as limiting the tenant's right in an unlawful detainer

proceeding to raise the defense that there is no rent due and owing.
[1984 c 58 § 7.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.250 Mediation of disputes by independent third party.

The landlord and tenant may agree in writing to submit any dispute arising under this chapter or under the terms, conditions, or performance of the rental agreement to mediation by an independent third party or to settle the dispute through industry mediation procedures. The parties may agree to submit any dispute to mediation before exercising their right to arbitration under RCW 59.20.260.
[1984 c 58 § 12.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.260 Arbitration—Authorized—Selection of arbitrator—Procedure. (1) The landlord and tenant may agree in writing to submit a controversy arising under this chapter to arbitration. The agreement shall contain the name of the arbitrator agreed upon by the parties or the process for selecting the arbitrator.

(2) The arbitration shall be administered under this chapter and chapter 7.04A RCW. [2005 c 433 § 47; 1984 c 58 § 13.]

Application—Captions not law—Savings—Effective date—2005 c 433: See RCW 7.04A.290 through 7.04A.310 and 7.04A.900.

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.270 Arbitration—Application—Hearings—Decisions. (1)

If the landlord and tenant agree to submit the matter to arbitration, the parties shall complete an application for arbitration and deliver it to the selected arbitrator.

(2) The arbitrator shall schedule a hearing to be held no later than ten days following receipt of the application.

(3) Reasonable notice of the hearings shall be given to the parties, who shall appear and be heard either in person, by counsel, or by other representative. Hearings shall be informal and the rules of evidence prevailing in judicial proceedings shall not be binding. Hearings may be public or private. The proceedings may be recorded. Any oral or documentary evidence and other data deemed relevant by the arbitrator may be received in evidence. The arbitrator may administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and require the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, contracts, agreements, and documents deemed by the arbitrator to be material to a just determination of the issues in dispute. If a person refuses to obey a subpoena or refuses to be sworn to testify, or any witness, party, or attorney is guilty of any contempt while in attendance at any hearing held under this section, the arbitrator may invoke the jurisdiction of any district or superior court, and the court shall have jurisdiction to issue an appropriate order. Failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as contempt.

(4) Within five days after the hearing, the arbitrator shall make a written decision upon the issues presented. A copy of the decision shall be mailed by certified mail or otherwise delivered to the parties or their designated representatives. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding upon all parties.

(5) If a dispute exists affecting more than one tenant in a similar manner, the arbitrator may with the consent of the parties consolidate the cases into a single proceeding.

(6) Decisions of the arbitrator shall be enforced or appealed under chapter 7.04A RCW. [2005 c 433 § 48; 1984 c 58 § 14.]

Application—Captions not law—Savings—Effective date—2005 c 433: See RCW 7.04A.290 through 7.04A.310 and 7.04A.900.

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.280 Arbitration—Fee. The administrative fee for this arbitration procedure shall be established by agreement of the parties and the arbitrator and, unless otherwise allocated by the arbitrator, shall be shared equally by the parties. However, upon either party signing an affidavit to the effect that the party is unable to pay the share of the fee, that portion of the fee may be waived or deferred. [1984 c 58 § 15.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.290 Arbitration—Completion of arbitration after giving notice. When a party gives notice of intent to arbitrate by giving reasonable notice to the other party, that party shall, at the same time, arrange for arbitration of the grievance in the manner provided for in this chapter. The arbitration shall be completed before the rental due date next occurring after the giving of notice under this section, but in no event shall the arbitrator have less than ten days to complete the arbitration process. [1984 c 58 § 16.]

Severability—1984 c 58: See note following RCW 59.20.200.

RCW 59.20.300 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of sale. (1) A landlord must provide a written notice of sale of a manufactured/mobile home community by certified mail or personal delivery to:

- (a) Each tenant of the manufactured/mobile home community;
- (b) The officers of any known qualified tenant organization;
- (c) The office of mobile/manufactured home relocation assistance;
- (d) The local government within whose jurisdiction all or part of the manufactured/mobile home community exists;
- (e) The housing authority within whose jurisdiction all or part of the manufactured/mobile home community exists; and
- (f) The Washington state housing finance commission.

(2) A notice of sale must include:

- (a) A statement that the landlord intends to sell or lease the manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits; and

(b) The contact information of the landlord or landlord's agent who is responsible for communicating with the qualified tenant organization, tenants, or eligible organization regarding the sale of the property. [2023 c 40 § 6; 2011 c 158 § 5; 2008 c 116 § 4.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Transfer of residual funds to manufactured home installation training account—2011 c 158: See note following RCW 43.22A.100.

Findings—Intent—2008 c 116: "(1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Manufactured/mobile home communities provide a significant source of homeownership opportunities for Washington residents. However, the increasing closure and conversion of manufactured/mobile home communities to other uses, combined with increasing mobile home lot rents, low vacancy rates in existing manufactured/mobile home communities, and the extremely high cost of moving homes when manufactured/mobile home communities close, increasingly make manufactured/mobile home community living insecure for manufactured/mobile home tenants.

(b) Many tenants who reside in manufactured/mobile home communities are low-income households and senior citizens and are, therefore, those residents most in need of reasonable security in the siting of their manufactured/mobile homes because of the adverse impacts on the health, safety, and welfare of tenants forced to move due to closure, change of use, or discontinuance of manufactured/mobile home communities.

(c) The preservation of manufactured/mobile home communities:

(i) Is a more economical alternative than providing new replacement housing units for tenants who are displaced from closing manufactured/mobile home communities;

(ii) Is a strategy by which all local governments can meet the affordable housing needs of their residents;

(iii) Is a strategy by which local governments planning under RCW 36.70A.040 may meet the housing element of their comprehensive plans as it relates to the provision of housing affordable to all economic sectors; and

(iv) Should be a goal of all housing authorities and local governments.

(d) The loss of manufactured/mobile home communities should not result in a net loss of affordable housing, thus compromising the ability of local governments to meet the affordable housing needs of its residents and the ability of these local governments planning under RCW 36.70A.040 to meet affordable housing goals under chapter 36.70A RCW.

(e) The closure of manufactured/mobile home communities has serious environmental, safety, and financial impacts, including:

(i) Homes that cannot be moved to other locations add to Washington's landfills;

(ii) Homes that are abandoned might attract crime; and

(iii) Vacant homes that will not be reoccupied need to be tested for asbestos and lead, and these toxic materials need to be removed prior to demolition.

(f) The self-governance aspect of tenants owning manufactured/mobile home communities results in a lesser usage of police resources

as tenants experience fewer societal conflicts when they own the real estate as well as their homes.

(g) Housing authorities, by their creation and purpose, are the public body corporate and politic of the city or county responsible for addressing the availability of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations available to persons of low income, senior citizens, and others.

(2) It is the intent of the legislature to encourage and facilitate the preservation of existing manufactured/mobile home communities in the event of voluntary sales of manufactured/mobile home communities and, to the extent necessary and possible, to involve manufactured/mobile home community tenants or an eligible organization representing the interests of tenants, such as a nonprofit organization, housing authority, or local government, in the preservation of manufactured/mobile home communities." [2008 c 116 § 1.]

Severability—2008 c 116: "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2008 c 116 § 8.]

RCW 59.20.305 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Good faith negotiations—Notice of intent to purchase or lease. A landlord intending to sell or lease a manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits is required to negotiate in good faith with qualified tenant organizations and eligible organizations. Any qualified tenant organization or eligible organization that submits a notice of intent to purchase or lease a manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits pursuant to RCW 59.20.320 and 59.20.325 is required to negotiate in good faith with the landlord intending to sell or lease the manufactured/mobile home community or property on which it sits, including notifying the owner promptly if conditions change and there is no longer any intent to purchase or lease the manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits. [2023 c 40 § 13; 2008 c 116 § 5.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

Findings—Intent—Severability—2008 c 116: See notes following RCW 59.20.300.

RCW 59.20.310 Unlawful detainer action—Limited dissemination.

(1) A court may order an unlawful detainer action to be of limited dissemination for one or more persons if: (a) The court finds that the plaintiff's case was sufficiently without basis in fact or law; (b) the tenancy was reinstated by the court; or (c) other good cause exists for limiting dissemination of the unlawful detainer action.

(2) An order to limit dissemination of an unlawful detainer action must be in writing.

(3) When an order for limited dissemination of an unlawful detainer action has been entered with respect to a person, a tenant screening service provider must not: (a) Disclose the existence of that unlawful detainer action in a tenant screening report pertaining

to the person for whom dissemination has been limited, or (b) use the unlawful detainer action as a factor in determining any score or recommendation to be included in a tenant screening report pertaining to the person for whom dissemination has been limited. [2019 c 390 § 18; 2019 c 342 § 9.]

Contingent effective date—2019 c 390 §§ 17 and 18: See note following RCW 59.20.060.

Finding—Intent—2019 c 390: See note following RCW 59.21.005.

Tax preference performance statement and expiration—2019 c 390: See note following RCW 84.36.560.

RCW 59.20.320 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Prohibited. No county, city, town, or municipality of any class may enact, maintain, or enforce ordinances or other provisions that regulate the same matters in RCW 59.20.325 through 59.20.345. Local laws and ordinances that regulate the same matters as in RCW 59.20.325 through 59.20.345 shall not be enacted and are preempted and repealed, regardless of the nature of the code, charter, or home rule status of such city, town, county, or municipality, except for those local laws already in effect before May 1, 2023. [2023 c 40 § 7.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.325 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase. (1) An owner shall give written notice of an opportunity to compete to purchase indicating the owner's interest in selling the manufactured/mobile home community before the owner markets the manufactured/mobile home community for sale or includes the sale of the manufactured/mobile home community in a multiple listing, and when the owner receives an offer to purchase that the owner intends to consider.

(2) The owner shall give the notice in subsection (1) of this section by certified mail or personal delivery to:

- (a) All tenants of the manufactured/mobile home community;
- (b) A qualified tenant organization, if there is an existing qualified tenant organization within the manufactured/mobile home community;

(c) The department of commerce; and

(d) The Washington state housing finance commission.

(3) The notice required in subsection (1) of this section must include:

(a) A statement that the owner is considering selling the manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits;

(b) A statement that the tenants, through a qualified tenant organization representing a majority of the tenants in the community, based on home sites, or an eligible organization, have an opportunity to compete to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community;

(c) A statement that in order to compete to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community, within 70 days after delivery of the notice of the owner's interest in selling the manufactured/mobile

home community, the tenants must form or identify a single qualified tenant organization for the purpose of purchasing the manufactured/mobile home community and notify the owner in writing of:

(i) The tenants' interest in competing to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community; and

(ii) The name and contact information of the representative or representatives of the qualified tenant organization with whom the owner may communicate about the purchase; and

(d) A statement that information about purchasing a manufactured/mobile home community is available from the department of commerce.

(4) The representative or representatives of the tenants committee will be able to request park operating expenses described in RCW 59.20.330 from the owner within a 15-day information period following delivery of the qualified tenant organization's notice to the owner indicating interest in competing to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community.

(5) An eligible organization may also compete to purchase and is subject to the same time constraints and applicable conditions as a qualified tenant organization. [2023 c 40 § 8.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.330 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Delivery of notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Tenant duties—Timelines.

(1) Within 70 days after delivery of the notice of the opportunity to compete to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community described in RCW 59.20.325, if the tenants choose to compete to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community in which the tenants reside, the tenants must notify the owner in writing of:

(a) The tenants' interest in competing to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community;

(b) Their formation or identification of a single qualified tenant organization made up of a majority of the tenants in the community, based on home sites, formed for the purpose of purchasing the manufactured/mobile home community; and

(c) The name and contact information of the representative or representatives of the qualified tenant organization with whom the owner may communicate about the purchase.

(2) The tenants may only have one qualified tenant organization for the purpose of purchasing the manufactured/mobile home community, but they may partner with a nonprofit or a housing authority to act with or for them subject to the same timelines, duties, and obligations that would apply to tenants and qualified tenant organizations under chapter 40, Laws of 2023.

(3) Within 15 days following delivery of the notice in subsection (1) of this section from the tenants to the owner:

(a) The designated representative or representatives of the qualified tenant organization may make a written request to the owner for:

(i) The asking price for the manufactured/mobile home community, if any; and

(ii) Financial information relating to the operating expenses of the manufactured/mobile home community in order to assist them in making an offer to purchase the park;

(b) The owner may make a written request to the designated representative or representatives of the qualified tenant organization for proof of intent to fund a sale;

(c) All written requests made pursuant to this subsection must be fulfilled within 21 days from receipt unless otherwise agreed by the qualified tenant organization and the owner;

(d) Unless waived by the provider, information provided pursuant to this subsection shall be kept confidential, and a list must be created of persons with whom the tenants may share information who will also keep provided information confidential, including any of the following persons that are either seeking to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community on behalf of the tenants or assisting the qualified tenant organization in evaluating or purchasing the manufactured/mobile home community:

(i) A nonprofit organization or a housing authority;

(ii) An attorney or other licensed professional or adviser; and

(iii) A financial institution.

(4) Within 21 days after delivery of the information described in subsection (3)(a) of this section, if the tenants choose to continue competing to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community, the tenants must:

(a) Form a resident nonprofit cooperative that is legally capable of purchasing real property or associate with a nonprofit corporation or housing authority that is legally capable of purchasing the manufactured/mobile home community in which the tenants reside; and

(b) Submit to the owner a written offer to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community, in the form of a proposed purchase and sale agreement, and either a copy of the articles of incorporation of the corporate entity or other evidence of the legal capacity of the formed or associated corporate entity, nonprofit corporation, or housing authority to purchase real property and the manufactured/mobile home community.

(5)(a) Within 10 days of receiving the tenants' purchase and sale agreement, the owner may accept the offer, reject the offer, or submit a counteroffer.

(b) If the parties reach agreement on the purchase, the purchase and sale agreement must specify the price, due diligence duties, schedules, timelines, conditions, and any extensions.

(c) If the offer is rejected, then the owner must provide a written explanation of why the offer is being rejected and what terms and conditions might be included in a subsequent offer for the landlord to potentially accept it, if any. The price, terms, and conditions of an acceptable offer stated in the response must be universal and applicable to all potential buyers and must not be specific to and prohibitive of a qualified tenant organization or eligible organization making a successful offer to purchase the park.

(d) If the tenants do not: (i) Act as required within the time periods described in chapter 40, Laws of 2023; (ii) violate the confidentiality agreement described in this section; or (iii) reach agreement on a purchase with the owner, the owner is not obligated to take additional action under chapter 40, Laws of 2023 and may record an affidavit pursuant to RCW 59.20.345.

(6) An eligible organization acting on its own behalf is also subject to the same requirements and applicable conditions as those set out in this section. [2023 c 40 § 9.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.335 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Process. (1) During the process described in RCW 59.20.325 and 59.20.330, the parties shall act in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner, which includes a duty for the tenants to notify the owner promptly if there is no intent to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community or the property on which it sits. The parties have an overall duty to act in good faith. With respect to negotiation, this overall duty of good faith requirement means that the owner must allow the tenants to develop an offer, must give their offer reasonable consideration, and must inform the tenants if a higher offer is submitted. Furthermore, the owner may not deny residents the same access to the community and to information, such as operating expenses and rent rolls, that the landowner would give to a commercial buyer. With respect to financial information, all parties shall agree to keep this information confidential.

(2) Except as provided in RCW 59.20.340(1), before selling a manufactured/mobile home community to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants, or to an eligible organization, the owner of the manufactured/mobile home community must give the notice required by RCW 59.20.325 and comply with the requirements of RCW 59.20.330.

(3) A minor error in providing the notice required by RCW 59.20.325 or in providing operating expenses information required by RCW 59.20.330 does not prevent the owner from selling the manufactured/mobile home community to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants and does not cause the owner to be liable to the tenants for damages or a penalty.

(4) During the process described in RCW 59.20.325 and 59.20.330, the owner may seek, negotiate with, or enter into a contract subject to the rights of the tenants in chapter 40, Laws of 2023 with potential purchasers other than the tenants or an entity formed by or associated with the tenants or another eligible organization.

(5) If the owner does not comply with the requirements of chapter 40, Laws of 2023 in a substantial way that prevents the tenants or an eligible organization from competing to purchase the manufactured/mobile home community, the tenants or eligible organization may:

(a) Obtain injunctive relief to prevent a sale or transfer to an entity that is not formed by or associated with the tenants; and

(b) Recover actual damages not to exceed twice the monthly rent from the owner for each tenant.

(6) If a party misuses or discloses, in a substantial way, confidential information in violation of RCW 59.20.330, that party may recover actual damages from the other party.

(7) The department of commerce shall prepare and make available information for tenants about purchasing a manufactured dwelling or manufactured/mobile home community. [2023 c 40 § 10.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.340 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Sale, transfer. (1) With regard to a sale or transfer of a manufactured/

mobile home community, RCW 59.20.325 and 59.20.330 do not apply to any:

- (a) Sale or transfer to an individual identified in RCW 11.04.015 if the owner of the manufactured/mobile home community dies intestate;
- (b) Transfer by gift, devise, or operation of law;
- (c) Transfer by a corporation to an affiliate;
- (d) Transfer by a partnership to any of its partners;
- (e) Transfer among the shareholders who own a manufactured/mobile home community;
- (f) Transfer to a member of the owner's family or to a trust for the sole benefit of members of the owner's family;
- (g) Sale or transfer of less than a controlling interest in the legal entity that owns the manufactured/mobile home community;
- (h) Conveyance of an interest in a manufactured/mobile home community incidental to the financing of the mobile home park;
- (i) Sale or transfer between or among joint tenants or tenants in common owning a manufactured/mobile home community;
- (j) Bona fide exchange of a manufactured/mobile home community for other real property under section 1031 of the internal revenue code, as long as, at the time the manufactured/mobile home community owner lists the property or receives an offer for the manufactured/mobile home community, the owner has already commenced the exchange by the purchase of a property through a qualified exchange agent. In that circumstance, the owner has a deadline for selling the manufactured/mobile home community in order to gain the 1031 tax benefits; and
- (k) Purchase of a manufactured/mobile home community by a governmental entity under the entity's powers of eminent domain.

(2) For the purposes of this section, "affiliate" means an individual, corporation, limited partnership, unincorporated association, or entity that holds any direct or indirect ownership interest in the manufactured/mobile home community, except that the notice and extension of the opportunity to purchase must be granted to a qualified tenant organization or other eligible organization where the majority interest in the ownership of the manufactured/mobile home community or the power, directly or indirectly, to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies over the manufactured/mobile home community, whether through ownership of voting stock, by contract, or otherwise, is sold, transferred, or conveyed to any individual, corporation, limited partnership, unincorporated association, or other entity which has not held such a direct or indirect ownership interest in the manufactured/mobile home community for three or more years. [2023 c 40 § 11.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.345 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Affidavit for notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Preserve marketability of title. (1) An owner may record an affidavit in the county in which the manufactured/mobile home community is located that certifies that the owner has:

- (a) Complied with the requirements of RCW 59.20.325 and 59.20.330 with reference to an offer received by the owner for the purchase or transfer of the manufactured/mobile home community or to a counteroffer the owner has made or intends to make;

(b) Not entered into a contract for the sale or transfer of the manufactured/mobile home community to an entity formed by or associated with the tenants.

(2) The following parties have an absolute right to rely on the truth and accuracy of all statements appearing in the affidavit and are not obligated to inquire further as to any matter or fact relating to the owner's compliance with RCW 59.20.325 and 59.20.330:

(a) A party that acquires an interest in a manufactured/mobile home community;

(b) A title insurance company or an attorney that prepares, furnishes, or examines evidence of title.

(3) The purpose and intention of this section is to preserve the marketability of title to manufactured/mobile home communities across the state. Accordingly, this section must be liberally construed so that all persons may rely on the record title to manufactured/mobile home communities. [2023 c 40 § 12.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.350 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Registry of eligible organizations—Department of commerce to maintain.

(1) The department of commerce must maintain a registry of all eligible organizations that submit to the department of commerce a written request to receive notices of opportunity to compete to purchase or lease manufactured/mobile home communities pursuant to RCW 59.20.325. The department of commerce must provide registered eligible organizations with notices of opportunity to compete to purchase once it receives such a notice. The registry must include the following information:

(a) The name and mailing address of the eligible organization; and

(b) A statement that the eligible organization wishes to purchase or lease a manufactured/mobile home community.

(2) The department of commerce must provide a copy of the registry required to be maintained under this section to any person upon request. [2023 c 40 § 14.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.355 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Failure to comply by owner—Penalty—Civil action.

(1) An owner who sells or transfers a manufactured/mobile home community and willfully fails to comply with RCW 59.20.325, 59.20.330, or 59.20.305 is liable to the state of Washington for a civil penalty in the amount of \$10,000. This penalty is the exclusive state remedy for a violation of RCW 59.20.325, 59.20.330, or 59.20.305.

(2) The attorney general may bring a civil action in superior court in the name of the state against a landlord under this section to recover the penalty specified in subsection (1) of this section. [2023 c 40 § 15.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.360 Manufactured/mobile home communities—Notice of opportunity to compete to purchase—Exception. RCW 59.20.300, 59.20.305, 59.20.325, 59.20.330, and 59.20.355 do not apply to any sale or transfer of a manufactured/mobile home community to a county in order to reduce conflicting residential uses near military installations. [2023 c 40 § 16.]

Findings—Intent—2023 c 40: See note following RCW 59.20.030.

RCW 59.20.901 Effective date—1999 c 359. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 1999. [1999 c 359 § 21.]

RCW 59.20.902 Construction—Chapter applicable to state registered domestic partnerships—2009 c 521. For the purposes of this chapter, the terms spouse, marriage, marital, husband, wife, widow, widower, next of kin, and family shall be interpreted as applying equally to state registered domestic partnerships or individuals in state registered domestic partnerships as well as to marital relationships and married persons, and references to dissolution of marriage shall apply equally to state registered domestic partnerships that have been terminated, dissolved, or invalidated, to the extent that such interpretation does not conflict with federal law. Where necessary to implement chapter 521, Laws of 2009, gender-specific terms such as husband and wife used in any statute, rule, or other law shall be construed to be gender neutral, and applicable to individuals in state registered domestic partnerships. [2009 c 521 § 140.]