THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 964

Session of 2005

INTRODUCED BY HICKERNELL, BOYD, ARMSTRONG, BALDWIN, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CRAHALLA, DALLY, DENLINGER, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, KILLION, REICHLEY, SCHRODER, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, TIGUE, TRUE, WILT AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 15, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, MARCH 15, 2005

AN ACT

- Amending Title 68 (Real and Personal Property) of the 2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for enforcement 3 of violation of condominium, cooperative and planned 4 community provisions; consolidating provisions applicable to 5 certain condominiums under the Unit Property Act; and making 6 a related repeal. 7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 8 hereby enacts as follows: 9 Section 1. Title 68 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a section to read: 10 11 § 3114. Enforcement through Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer 12 Protection Law. 13 Notwithstanding section 3113(b) (relating to remedies to be liberally administered), a violation of this subpart shall 14 15 constitute an unfair trade practice as defined under the act of 16 December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade
- 19 Section 2. Title 68 is amended by adding a chapter to read:

and may be enforced by the Attorney General.

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Practices and Consumer Protection Law, shall be deemed unlawful

1 CHAPTER 35

2 PRE-1980 CONDOMINIUMS

- 3 Subchapter
- 4 A. Preliminary Provisions
- 5 B. General Provisions
- 6 C. Administrative Provisions
- 7 D. Declarations, Reservations of Charges Under Declaration,
- 8 Conveyances, Mortgages and Leases
- 9 E. Recording
- 10 F. Removal of Property from this Chapter
- 11 G. Assessments, Taxation and Liens
- 12 H. Miscellaneous Provisions
- 13 SUBCHAPTER A
- 14 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS
- 15 3501. Scope.
- 16 3502. Definitions.
- 17 3503. Applicability.
- 18 § 3501. Scope.
- 19 This chapter applies to condominiums created prior to October
- 20 29, 1980, that were subject to the former act of July 3, 1963
- 21 (P.L.196, No.117), known as the Unit Property Act.
- 22 § 3502. Definitions.
- 23 The following words and phrases as used in this chapter shall
- 24 have the meanings given to them in this section, unless the
- 25 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 26 "Building." A multiunit building or buildings or complex
- 27 thereof, whether in vertical or horizontal arrangement, as well
- 28 as other improvements comprising a part of the property and used
- 29 or intended for use for residential, commercial or industrial
- 30 purposes or for any other lawful purpose or for any combination

- 1 of such uses.
- 2 "Code of regulations." Such governing regulations as are
- 3 adopted pursuant to this chapter for the regulation and
- 4 management of property, including such amendments as may be
- 5 adopted from time to time.
- 6 "Common elements." The term includes:
- 7 (1) Land on which a building is located and portions of
- 8 a building which are not included in a unit.
- 9 (2) Foundations, structural parts, supports, main walls,
- 10 roofs, basements, halls, corridors, lobbies, stairways and
- 11 entrances and exits of a building.
- 12 (3) Yards, parking areas and driveways.
- 13 (4) Portions of land and building used exclusively for
- 14 the management, operation or maintenance of common elements.
- 15 (5) Installations of all central services and utilities.
- 16 (6) All apparatus and installations existing for common
- 17 use.
- 18 (7) All other elements of a building necessary or
- 19 convenient to its existence, management, operation,
- 20 maintenance and safety or normally in common use.
- 21 (8) Such facilities as are designated in a declaration
- 22 as common elements.
- "Common expenses." The term includes:
- 24 (1) Expenses of administration, maintenance, repair and
- 25 replacement of common elements.
- 26 (2) Expenses agreed upon as common by all unit owners.
- 27 (3) Expenses declared common by provisions of this
- chapter or by a declaration or code of regulations.
- 29 "Council." A board of natural individuals of the number
- 30 stated in a code of regulations who:

- 1 (1) Are residents of this Commonwealth.
- 2 (2) Need not be unit owners.
- 3 (3) Manage the business, operation and affairs of the
- 4 property on behalf of the unit owners and in compliance with
- 5 and subject to this chapter.
- 6 "Declaration." The instrument by which an owner of property
- 7 submits it to this chapter.
- 8 "Declaration plan." A survey of property prepared in
- 9 accordance with section 3542 (relating to declaration plan).
- 10 "Majority" or "majority of the unit owners." The owners of
- 11 more than 50% in the aggregate in interest of the undivided
- 12 ownership of common elements as specified in a declaration.
- 13 "Person." A natural individual, corporation, partnership,
- 14 association, trustee or other legal entity.
- 15 "Property." The term includes the land, the building, all
- 16 improvements thereon, all owned in fee simple, and all
- 17 easements, rights and appurtenances belonging thereto which have
- 18 been or are intended to be subject to this chapter.
- 19 "Recorded." Action whereby an instrument has been duly
- 20 entered of record in the office of the recorder of deeds or
- 21 department of records of the county in which property is
- 22 situate.
- 23 "Recorder." The recorder of deeds or commissioner of records
- 24 of the county in which property is situate.
- 25 "Revocation." An instrument signed by all unit owners and by
- 26 all holders of liens against the units by which property is
- 27 removed from this chapter.
- 28 "Unit." A part of property designed or intended for any type
- 29 of independent use, which has a direct exit to:
- 30 (1) a public street or way;

- 1 (2) a common element or common elements leading to a
- 2 public street or way; or
- 3 (3) an easement or right-of-way leading to a public
- 4 street or way,
- 5 and includes the proportionate undivided interest in the common
- 6 elements, which is assigned to the unit in the declaration or
- 7 any amendments.
- 8 "Unit designation." The number, letter or combination of
- 9 numbers or letters designating a unit in a declaration plan.
- 10 "Unit owner." The person or persons owning a unit in fee
- 11 simple.
- 12 § 3503. Applicability.
- 13 This chapter shall be applicable only to real property, the
- 14 sole owner or all the owners of which submit the same to the
- 15 provisions of this chapter or submitted to the former act of
- 16 July 3, 1963 (P.L.196, No.117), known as the Unit Property Act,
- 17 by a duly recorded declaration.
- 18 SUBCHAPTER B
- 19 GENERAL PROVISIONS
- 20 Sec.
- 21 3511. Status of units and ownership.
- 22 3512. Common elements.
- 23 3513. Invalidity of contrary agreements.
- 24 § 3511. Status of units and ownership.
- 25 Each unit, together with its proportionate undivided interest
- 26 in the common elements, is for all purposes real property and
- 27 the ownership of each unit, together with its proportionate
- 28 undivided interest in the common elements, is for all purposes
- 29 the ownership of real property.
- 30 § 3512. Common elements.

- 1 The percentage of undivided interest in the common elements
- 2 assigned to each unit shall be set forth in the declaration, and
- 3 such percentage shall not be altered except by recording an
- 4 amended declaration duly executed by all of the unit owners
- 5 affected. The undivided interest in the common elements may not
- 6 be separated from the unit to which such interest pertains and
- 7 shall be deemed to be conveyed, leased or encumbered with the
- 8 unit even though such interest is not expressly referred to or
- 9 described in the deed, lease, mortgage or other instrument. The
- 10 common elements shall remain undivided, and no owner may exempt
- 11 himself from liability with respect to the common expenses by
- 12 waiver of the enjoyment of the right to use any of the common
- 13 elements or by the abandonment of his unit or otherwise, and no
- 14 action for partition or division of any part of the common
- 15 elements shall be permitted except as provided in section 3582
- 16 (relating to repair or reconstruction). Each unit owner or
- 17 lessee may use the common elements in accordance with the
- 18 purpose for which they are intended, without hindering or
- 19 encroaching upon the lawful rights of the other unit owners. The
- 20 maintenance and repair of the common elements and the making of
- 21 any additions or improvements to the common elements shall be
- 22 carried out only as provided in the code of regulations.
- 23 § 3513. Invalidity of contrary agreements.
- 24 Any agreement contrary to this chapter shall be void and of
- 25 no effect.
- 26 SUBCHAPTER C
- 27 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
- 28 Sec.
- 29 3521. Code of regulations.
- 30 3522. Adoption, amendment, etc., of code of regulations.

- 1 3523. Contents of code of regulations.
- 2 3524. Compliance with code of regulations, administrative
- 3 provisions, covenants, etc.
- 4 3525. Noncompliance with code of regulations, administrative
- 5 provisions, covenants, etc.
- 6 3526. Duties of council.
- 7 3527. Powers of council.
- 8 3528. Work on common elements.
- 9 3529. Certain work prohibited.
- 10 3530. Easements for work.
- 11 3531. Common profits and expenses.
- 12 3532. Voting by unit owners.
- 13 3533. Books of receipts and expenditures and availability for
- 14 examination.
- 15 § 3521. Code of regulations.
- 16 The administration of every property shall be governed by a
- 17 code of regulations, a true and correct copy of which, and all
- 18 adopted amendments of which, shall be recorded.
- 19 § 3522. Adoption, amendment, etc., of code of regulations.
- 20 The first members of council shall establish and adopt the
- 21 original code of regulations. Thereafter, no amendment or change
- 22 of the code of regulations shall be effective unless it is
- 23 adopted at a meeting of the unit owners by the affirmative vote
- 24 of at least those unit owners who represent a majority of the
- 25 votes entitled to be cast at that meeting.
- 26 § 3523. Contents of code of regulations.
- 27 The code of regulations shall provide for at least the
- 28 following and may include other lawful provisions:
- 29 (1) Identification of the property by reference to the
- 30 place of record of the declaration and the declaration plan.

- 1 (2) The method of calling meetings of unit owners and
- 2 meetings of the council.
- 3 (3) The number of unit owners and the number of members
- 4 of council which shall constitute a quorum for the
- 5 transaction of business.
- 6 (4) The number and qualification of members of council,
- 7 the duration of the term of such members and the method of
- 8 filling vacancies.
- 9 (5) The annual election by the council of a president,
- 10 secretary, treasurer and any other officers which the code of
- 11 regulations may specify.
- 12 (6) The duties of each officer, the compensation and
- 13 removal of officers and the method of filling vacancies.
- 14 (7) Maintenance, repair and replacement of the common
- elements and payment of the cost thereof.
- 16 (8) The manner of collecting common expenses from unit
- owners.
- 18 (9) The method of adopting and amending rules governing
- 19 the details of the use and operation of the property and the
- use of the common elements.
- 21 § 3524. Compliance with code of regulations, administrative
- 22 provisions, covenants, etc.
- 23 Each unit owner shall comply with the code of regulations and
- 24 with such rules governing the details of the use and operation
- 25 of the property and the use of the common elements as may be in
- 26 effect from time to time and with the covenants, conditions and
- 27 restrictions set forth in the declaration or in the deed to his
- 28 unit or in the declaration plan.
- 29 § 3525. Noncompliance with code of regulations, administrative
- provisions, covenants, etc.

- 1 Failure to comply with the code of regulations and with such
- 2 rules governing the details of the use and operation of the
- 3 property and the use of the common elements as may be in effect
- 4 from time to time and with the covenants, conditions and
- 5 restrictions set forth in the declaration or in deeds of units
- 6 or in the declaration plan shall be grounds for an action for
- 7 the recovery of damages or for injunctive relief, or both,
- 8 maintainable by any member of the council on behalf of the
- 9 council or the unit owners or, in a proper case, by an aggrieved
- 10 unit owner or by any person who holds a mortgage lien upon a
- 11 unit and is aggrieved by any such noncompliance.
- 12 § 3526. Duties of council.
- 13 The duties of the council shall include the following:
- 14 (1) The maintenance, repair and replacement of the
- 15 common elements.
- 16 (2) The assessment and collection of funds from unit
- owners for common expenses and the payment of such common
- 18 expenses.
- 19 (3) The promulgation, distribution and enforcement of
- 20 rules governing the details of the use and operation of the
- 21 property and the use of the common elements, subject to the
- 22 right of a majority of the unit owners to change any such
- 23 rules.
- 24 (4) Any other duties which may be set forth in the
- declaration or code of regulations.
- 26 § 3527. Powers of council.
- 27 Subject to the limitations and restrictions contained in this
- 28 chapter, the declaration and the code of regulations, the
- 29 council shall have, on behalf of the unit owners:
- 30 (1) The power to manage the business, operation and

- 1 affairs of the property and for such purposes to engage
- 2 employees and appoint agents and define their duties and fix
- 3 their compensation, enter into contracts and other written
- 4 instruments or documents and authorize the execution of the
- 5 contracts and other written instruments or documents by
- 6 officers elected by the council.
- 7 (2) Such incidental powers as may be appropriate to the
- 8 performance of their duties.
- 9 § 3528. Work on common elements.
- 10 The maintenance, repair and replacement of the common
- 11 elements and the making of improvements or additions to the
- 12 common elements shall be carried on only as provided in the code
- 13 of regulations.
- 14 § 3529. Certain work prohibited.
- No unit owner shall do any work which would jeopardize the
- 16 soundness or safety of the property or impair any easement or
- 17 hereditament without the unanimous consent of the unit owners
- 18 affected by the work.
- 19 § 3530. Easements for work.
- 20 The council shall have an easement to enter any unit to
- 21 maintain, repair or replace the common elements, as well as to
- 22 make repairs to units if such repairs are reasonably necessary
- 23 for public safety or to prevent damage to other units or to the
- 24 common elements.
- 25 § 3531. Common profits and expenses.
- 26 The common profits of the property shall be distributed among
- 27 and the common expenses shall be charged to the unit owners
- 28 according to the percentage of the undivided interest of each in
- 29 the common elements as set forth in the declaration and any
- 30 amendments.

- 1 § 3532. Voting by unit owners.
- 2 At any meeting of unit owners, each unit owner shall be
- 3 entitled to the same number of votes as the percentage of
- 4 ownership in the common elements assigned to his unit in the
- 5 declaration and any amendments.
- 6 § 3533. Books of receipts and expenditures and availability for
- 7 examination.
- 8 The treasurer shall keep detailed records of all receipts and
- 9 expenditures, including expenditures affecting the common
- 10 elements, specifying and itemizing the maintenance, repair and
- 11 replacement expenses of the common elements and any other
- 12 expenses incurred. The records shall be available for
- 13 examination by the unit owners during regular business hours. In
- 14 accordance with the actions of the council assessing common
- 15 expenses against the units and unit owners, the treasurer shall
- 16 keep an accurate record of such assessments and of the payment
- 17 of assessments by each unit owner.
- 18 SUBCHAPTER D
- 19 DECLARATIONS, RESERVATIONS OF CHARGES UNDER DECLARATION,
- 20 CONVEYANCES, MORTGAGES AND LEASES
- 21 Sec.
- 22 3541. Contents of declaration.
- 23 3542. Declaration plan.
- 24 3543. Contents of deeds of units.
- 25 3544. Mortgages and other liens of record affecting property
- at time of first conveyance of each unit.
- 27 3545. Sales, conveyances or leases of or liens upon
- 28 separate units.
- 29 § 3541. Contents of declaration.
- 30 (a) General rule. -- A declaration shall contain the

- 1 following:
- 2 (1) A reference to this chapter and an expression of the
- intention to submit the property to this chapter.
- 4 (2) A description of the land and building.
- 5 (3) The name by which the property will be known.
- 6 (4) A statement that the property is to consist of units
- 7 and common elements as shown in a declaration plan.
- 8 (5) A description of the common elements and the
- 9 proportionate undivided interest, expressed as a percentage,
- 10 assigned to each unit, which percentages shall aggregate
- 11 100%.
- 12 (6) A statement that the proportionate undivided
- interest in the common elements may be altered by the
- 14 recording of an amendment duly executed by all unit owners
- 15 affected by the amendment.
- 16 (7) A statement of the purposes or uses for which each
- unit is intended and the restrictions, if any, as to use.
- 18 (8) The names of the first members of council.
- 19 (9) Any further details in connection with the property
- 20 which the party or parties executing the declaration may deem
- 21 appropriate.
- 22 (b) Construction. -- Any reference in the declaration to the
- 23 former act of July 3, 1963 (P.L.196, No.117), known as the Unit
- 24 Property Act, shall be deemed a reference to this chapter or
- 25 relevant provisions of this chapter.
- 26 § 3542. Declaration plan.
- 27 The declaration plan shall bear the verified statement of a
- 28 registered architect or licensed professional engineer
- 29 certifying that the declaration plan fully and accurately:
- 30 (1) Shows the property, the location of the building

- thereon, the building and the layout of the floors of the
- 2 building, including the units and the common elements.
- 3 (2) Sets forth the name by which the property will be
- 4 known and the unit designation for each unit in the property.
- 5 § 3543. Contents of deeds of units.
- 6 Deeds of units shall include the following:
- 7 (1) The name by which the property is identified in the
- 8 declaration plan and the name of the political subdivision
- 9 and the ward, if any, and the name of the county in which the
- 10 building is situate, together with a reference to the
- declaration and the declaration plan, including reference to
- the place where both instruments and any amendments are
- 13 recorded.
- 14 (2) The unit designation of the unit in the declaration
- plan and any other data necessary for its proper
- 16 identification.
- 17 (3) A reference to the last unit deed if the unit was
- 18 previously conveyed.
- 19 (4) The proportionate undivided interest, expressed as a
- 20 percentage, in the common elements which is assigned to the
- 21 unit in the declaration and any amendments thereof.
- 22 (5) In addition to paragraphs (1) through (4), the first
- 23 deed conveying each unit shall contain the following specific
- 24 provision:
- The grantee, for and on behalf of the grantee and the
- 26 grantee's heirs, personal representatives, successors and
- assigns, by the acceptance of this deed covenants and agrees
- 28 to pay such charges for the maintenance of, repairs to,
- 29 replacement of and expenses in connection with the common
- 30 elements as may be assessed from time to time by the council

- in accordance with 68 Pa.C.S. Ch. 35 (relating to pre-1980
- 2 condominiums) and further covenants and agrees that the unit
- 3 conveyed by this deed shall be subject to a charge for all
- 4 amounts so assessed and that, except in so far as 68 Pa.C.S.
- 5 §§ 3575 (relating to unpaid assessments at time of execution
- 6 sale against a unit) and 3576 (relating to unpaid assessments
- 7 at time of voluntary sale of a unit) may relieve a subsequent
- 8 unit owner of liability for prior unpaid assessments, this
- 9 covenant shall run with and bind the land or unit hereby
- 10 conveyed and all subsequent owners thereof.
- 11 (6) Any further details which the grantor and grantee
- may deem appropriate and which are consistent with the
- declaration, the code of regulations, the declaration plan
- 14 and this chapter.
- 15 § 3544. Mortgages and other liens of record affecting property
- 16 at time of first conveyance of each unit.
- 17 At the time of the first conveyance of each unit following
- 18 the recording of the original declaration, every mortgage and
- 19 other lien of record affecting the entire building or property
- 20 or a greater portion thereof than the unit being conveyed shall
- 21 be paid and satisfied of record, or the unit being conveyed
- 22 shall be released therefrom by partial release duly recorded.
- 23 § 3545. Sales, conveyances or leases of or liens upon separate
- 24 units.
- Units may be sold, conveyed, mortgaged, leased or otherwise
- 26 dealt with in the same manner as like dealings are conducted
- 27 with respect to real property and interests in the real
- 28 property. Every written instrument dealing with a unit shall
- 29 specifically set forth the name by which the property is
- 30 identified and the unit designation identifying the unit

- 1 involved.
- 2 SUBCHAPTER E
- 3 RECORDING
- 4 Sec.
- 5 3551. Instruments recordable.
- 6 3552. Recording a prerequisite to effectiveness of certain
- 7 instruments.
- 8 3553. Place of recording.
- 9 3554. Indexing by recording officer.
- 10 3555. Recording fees.
- 11 § 3551. Instruments recordable.
- 12 All instruments relating to the property or any unit,
- 13 including the instruments provided for in this chapter, shall be
- 14 entitled to be recorded, provided that they are acknowledged or
- 15 proved in the manner provided by law.
- 16 § 3552. Recording a prerequisite to effectiveness of certain
- instruments.
- 18 No declaration, declaration plan or code of regulations or
- 19 any amendments shall be effective until duly recorded.
- 20 § 3553. Place of recording.
- 21 The recorder shall record declarations, deeds of units, codes
- 22 of regulations and revocations in the same records as are
- 23 maintained for the recording of deeds of real property.
- 24 Mortgages relating to units shall be recorded in the same
- 25 records as are maintained by the recorder for the recording of
- 26 real estate mortgages. Declaration plans, and any and all
- 27 amendments, shall be recorded in the same records as are
- 28 maintained for the recording of subdivision plans.
- 29 § 3554. Indexing by recording officer.
- The recorder shall index each declaration against the maker

- 1 of the declaration as the grantor and the name by which the
- 2 property is identified in the declaration as the grantee. The
- 3 recorder shall index each declaration plan and code of
- 4 regulations and any revocation in the name by which the property
- 5 is identified therein in both the grantor index and the grantee
- 6 index. The recorder shall index each unit deed and mortgage and
- 7 lease covering a unit in the same manner as like instruments are
- 8 indexed.
- 9 § 3555. Recording fees.
- 10 The recorder shall be entitled to charge the same fees for
- 11 recording instruments which are recordable under this chapter as
- 12 the recorder is entitled to charge for like services with
- 13 respect to the recording of instruments.
- 14 SUBCHAPTER F
- 15 REMOVAL OF PROPERTY FROM THIS CHAPTER
- 16 Sec.
- 17 3561. Removal.
- 18 3562. Effect of removal.
- 19 3563. Resubmission.
- 20 § 3561. Removal.
- 21 Property may be removed from this chapter by a revocation
- 22 expressing the intention to remove property previously made
- 23 subject to this chapter. No revocation shall be effective unless
- 24 it is executed by all of the unit owners and by the holders of
- 25 all mortgages, judgments or other liens affecting the units and
- 26 is duly recorded.
- 27 § 3562. Effect of removal.
- 28 When property subject to this chapter has been removed as
- 29 provided in section 3561 (relating to removal), the former unit
- 30 owners shall, at the time such removal becomes effective, become

- 1 tenants in common of the property. The undivided interest in the
- 2 property owned in common which shall appertain to each unit
- 3 owner at the time of removal shall be the percentage of
- 4 undivided interest previously owned by the unit owner in the
- 5 common elements.
- 6 § 3563. Resubmission.
- 7 The removal of property from the provisions of this chapter
- 8 shall not preclude such property from being resubmitted to this
- 9 chapter in the manner provided in this chapter.
- 10 SUBCHAPTER G
- ASSESSMENTS, TAXATION AND LIENS
- 12 Sec.
- 13 3571. Assessments and taxes.
- 14 3572. Assessment of charges.
- 15 3573. Method of enforcing charges.
- 16 3574. Mechanics' liens against units.
- 17 3575. Unpaid assessments at time of execution sale against a
- 18 unit.
- 19 3576. Unpaid assessments at time of voluntary sale of a unit.
- 20 § 3571. Assessments and taxes.
- 21 Each unit and its proportionate undivided interest in the
- 22 common elements as determined by the declaration and any
- 23 amendments thereof shall be assessed and taxed for all purposes
- 24 as a separate parcel of real estate entirely independent of the
- 25 building or property of which the unit is a part. Neither the
- 26 building, the property nor any of the common elements shall be
- 27 assessed or taxed separately after the declaration and
- 28 declaration plan are recorded, nor shall the building, property
- 29 or any of the common elements be subject to assessment or
- 30 taxation, except as the units and their proportionate undivided

- 1 interests in the common elements are assessed and taxed pursuant
- 2 to this section.
- 3 § 3572. Assessment of charges.
- 4 All sums assessed by resolutions duly adopted by the council
- 5 against any unit for the share of common expenses chargeable to
- 6 that unit shall constitute the personal liability of the owner
- 7 of the unit so assessed and shall, until fully paid, together
- 8 with interest thereon at the rate of 6% per year from the 30th
- 9 day following the adoption of such resolutions, constitute a
- 10 charge against the unit which shall be enforceable as provided
- 11 in section 3573 (relating to method of enforcing charges).
- 12 § 3573. Method of enforcing charges.
- 13 A charge assessed against a unit may be enforced by suit by
- 14 the council acting on behalf of the unit owners in a civil
- 15 action provided that each suit when filed shall refer to this
- 16 chapter and to the unit against which the assessment is made and
- 17 the owner of the unit and shall be indexed by the prothonotary
- 18 as lis pendens. Any judgment against a unit and its owner shall
- 19 be enforceable in the same manner as is otherwise provided by
- 20 law.
- 21 § 3574. Mechanics' liens against units.
- 22 A mechanics' lien arising as a result of repairs to or
- 23 improvements of a unit by a unit owner shall be a lien only
- 24 against that unit. A mechanics' lien arising as a result of
- 25 repairs to or improvements of the common elements, if authorized
- 26 in writing pursuant to a duly adopted resolution of the council,
- 27 shall be paid by the council as a common expense and until so
- 28 paid shall be a lien against each unit in a percentage equal to
- 29 the proportionate share of the common elements relating to that
- 30 unit.

- 1 § 3575. Unpaid assessments at time of execution sale against a
- 2 unit.
- In the event that title to a unit is transferred by sheriff's
- 4 sale pursuant to execution upon any lien against the unit, the
- 5 council may give notice in writing to the sheriff of any unpaid
- 6 assessments for common expenses which are a charge against the
- 7 unit but have not been reduced to lien pursuant to section 3573
- 8 (relating to method of enforcing charges), and the sheriff shall
- 9 pay the assessments of which the sheriff has the notice out of
- 10 any proceeds of the sale which remain in the sheriff's hands for
- 11 distribution after payment of all other claims which the sheriff
- 12 is required by law to pay, but prior to any distribution of the
- 13 balance to the former unit owner against whom the execution was
- 14 issued. The purchaser at the sheriff's sale and the unit
- 15 involved shall not be liable for unpaid assessments for common
- 16 expenses which become due prior to the sheriff's sale of the
- 17 unit. Any unpaid assessments which cannot be promptly collected
- 18 from the former unit owner may be reassessed by the council as a
- 19 common expense to be collected from all of the unit owners,
- 20 including the purchaser who acquired title at the sheriff's
- 21 sale, the purchaser's successors and assigns. To protect its
- 22 right to collect unpaid assessments which are a charge against a
- 23 unit, the council may, on behalf of the unit owners, purchase
- 24 the unit at sheriff's sale provided such action is authorized by
- 25 the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of council,
- 26 and if it does purchase the unit, the council shall thereafter
- 27 have the power to sell, convey, mortgage or lease the unit to
- 28 any person.
- 29 § 3576. Unpaid assessments at time of voluntary sale of a unit.
- 30 (a) General rule. -- Subject to subsection (b), upon the

- 1 voluntary sale or conveyance of a unit, the grantee shall be
- 2 jointly and severally liable with the grantor for all unpaid
- 3 assessments for common expenses which are a charge against the
- 4 unit as of the date of the sale or conveyance, but such joint
- 5 and several liability shall be without prejudice to the
- 6 grantee's right to recover from the grantor the amount of any
- 7 such unpaid assessments which the grantee may pay, and until any
- 8 such assessments are paid, they shall continue to be a charge
- 9 against the unit which may be enforced in the manner set forth
- 10 in section 3573 (relating to method of enforcing charges).
- 11 (b) Right to treasurer's statement.--
- 12 (1) A person who shall have entered into a written
- agreement to purchase a unit shall be entitled to obtain a
- 14 written statement from the treasurer setting forth the amount
- of unpaid assessments charged against the unit and its
- owners. If such statement does not reveal the full amount of
- 17 the unpaid assessments as of the date it is rendered, neither
- the purchaser nor the unit shall be liable for the payment of
- 19 an amount in excess of the unpaid assessments shown on the
- 20 statement.
- 21 (2) Any such excess which cannot be promptly collected
- from the former unit owner may be reassessed by the council
- as a common expense to be collected from all of the unit
- owners, including the purchaser, the purchaser's successors
- and assigns.
- 26 SUBCHAPTER H
- 27 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 28 3581. Insurance.
- 29 3582. Repair or reconstruction.
- 30 3583. Eminent domain.

- 1 3584. Enforcement through Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer
- 2 Protection Law.
- 3 § 3581. Insurance.
- 4 The council shall, if required by the declaration, the code
- 5 of regulations or a majority of the unit owners, insure the
- 6 building against loss or damage by fire and such other hazards
- 7 as shall be required or requested, without prejudice to the
- 8 right of each unit owner to insure his own unit for his own
- 9 benefit. The premiums for such insurance on the building shall
- 10 be deemed common expenses.
- 11 § 3582. Repair or reconstruction.
- 12 (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in
- 13 subsection (b), damage to or destruction of a building or of one
- 14 or more of several buildings which comprise the property shall
- 15 be promptly repaired and restored by the council using the
- 16 proceeds of insurance held by the council, if any, for that
- 17 purpose, and the unit owners directly affected by it shall be
- 18 liable for assessment for any deficiency in proportion to their
- 19 respective undivided ownership of the common elements.
- 20 (b) Exception.--If there is substantially total destruction
- 21 of the building or of one or more of several buildings which
- 22 comprise the property or if at least 75% of the unit owners
- 23 directly affected by it resolve not to proceed with repair or
- 24 restoration, then, and in that event, the salvage value of the
- 25 property or of the substantially destroyed building or buildings
- 26 shall be subject to partition at the suit of any unit owner
- 27 directly affected by it, in which event the net proceeds of
- 28 sale, together with the net proceeds of insurance policies held
- 29 by the council, if any, shall be considered as one fund and
- 30 shall be divided among all the unit owners directly affected by

- 1 it in proportion to their respective undivided ownership of the
- 2 common elements, after discharging, out of the respective shares
- 3 of unit owners directly affected by it, to the extent sufficient
- 4 for the purpose, all liens against the units of such unit
- 5 owners.
- 6 § 3583. Eminent domain.
- Whenever all or part of the common elements shall be taken,
- 8 injured or destroyed by eminent domain, each unit owner shall be
- 9 entitled to notice thereof and to participate in the proceedings
- 10 incident thereto, but in any proceeding for the determination of
- 11 damages, such damages shall be determined for such taking,
- 12 injury or destruction as a whole and not for each unit owner's
- 13 interest in the common elements. After such determination, each
- 14 unit owner shall be entitled to a share in the damages in the
- 15 same proportion as that unit owner's individual interest in the
- 16 common elements.
- 17 § 3584. Enforcement through Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer
- 18 Protection Law.
- 19 A violation of this chapter shall constitute an unfair trade
- 20 practice as defined under the act of December 17, 1968
- 21 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the Unfair Trade Practices and
- 22 Consumer Protection Law, shall be deemed unlawful and may be
- 23 enforced by the Attorney General.
- 24 Section 3. Title 68 is amended by adding sections to read:
- 25 § 4114. Enforcement through Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer
- 26 <u>Protection Law.</u>
- Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4113(b) (relating
- 28 to remedies to be liberally administered), a violation of this
- 29 <u>subpart shall constitute an unfair trade practice as defined</u>
- 30 under the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as

- 1 the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, shall be
- 2 <u>deemed unlawful and may be enforced by the Attorney General.</u>
- 3 § 5115. Enforcement through Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer
- 4 Protection Law.
- 5 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5114(b) (relating
- 6 to remedies to be liberally administered), a violation of this
- 7 subpart shall constitute an unfair trade practice as defined
- 8 under the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as
- 9 the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law, shall be
- 10 deemed unlawful and may be enforced by the Attorney General.
- 11 Section 4. The addition of 68 Pa.C.S. Ch. 35 is a
- 12 continuation of the former act of July 3, 1963 (P.L.196,
- 13 No.117), known as the Unit Property Act. The following apply:
- 14 (1) Except as otherwise provided in 68 Pa.C.S. Ch. 35,
- all activities initiated under the Unit Property Act, shall
- 16 continue and remain in full force and effect and may be
- 17 completed under 68 Pa.C.S. Ch.35. Resolutions, orders,
- 18 regulations, rules and decisions which were made under the
- 19 Unit Property Act and which are in effect on the effective
- 20 date of this section shall remain in full force and effect
- until revoked, vacated or modified under 68 Pa.C.S. Ch. 35.
- 22 Contracts, obligations and agreements entered into under the
- 23 Unit Property Act are not affected nor impaired by the repeal
- of the Unit Property Act.
- 25 (2) Except as set forth in paragraph (3), any difference
- in language between 68 Pa.C C. Ch. 35 and the Unit Property
- 27 Act is intended only to conform to the style of the
- 28 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes and is not intended to
- 29 change or affect the legislative intent, judicial
- 30 construction or administrative interpretation and

- implementation of the Unit Property Act. 1
- 2 (3) Paragraph (2) does not apply to 68 Pa.C.S. §§ 3501,
- 3541(b) and 3584. 3
- Section 5. The act of July 3, 1963 (P.L.196, No.117), known 4
- as the Unit Property Act is repealed. 5
- Section 6. This act shall take effect in 60 days. 6