CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SECOND ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2057

65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 3, 2018 CERTIFICATE Yeas 96 Nays 0 I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND** Speaker of the House of Representatives ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2057 as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth. Passed by the Senate March 1, 2018 Yeas 49 Nays 0

Chief Clerk

President of the Senate Approved

FILED

Secretary of State State of Washington

Governor of the State of Washington

SECOND ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2057

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2018 Regular Session

State of Washington65th Legislature2017 Regular SessionBy House Judiciary (originally sponsored by Representative Orwall)READ FIRST TIME 02/17/17.

AN ACT Relating to the services and processes available when residential real property is abandoned or in foreclosure; amending RCW 61.24.030, 61.24.040, 61.24.045, 61.24.050, 61.24.130, 61.24.163, and 61.24.173; adding a new section to chapter 61.24 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 61.12 RCW; and adding a new chapter to Title 7 RCW.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 61.24.030 and 2012 c 185 s 9 are each amended to 9 read as follows:

10

It shall be requisite to a trustee's sale:

11

(1) That the deed of trust contains a power of sale;

(2) That the deed of trust contains a statement that the real 12 13 property conveyed is not used principally for agricultural purposes; 14 provided, if the statement is false on the date the deed of trust was granted or amended to include that statement, and false on the date 15 16 of the trustee's sale, then the deed of trust must be foreclosed 17 judicially. Real property is used for agricultural purposes if it is 18 used in an operation that produces crops, livestock, or aquatic 19 goods;

1 (3) That a default has occurred in the obligation secured or a 2 covenant of the grantor, which by the terms of the deed of trust 3 makes operative the power to sell;

(4) That no action commenced by the beneficiary of the deed of 4 trust is now pending to seek satisfaction of an obligation secured by 5 б the deed of trust in any court by reason of the grantor's default on the obligation secured: PROVIDED, That (a) the seeking of the 7 appointment of a receiver, or the filing of a civil case to obtain 8 court approval to access, secure, maintain, and preserve property 9 from waste or nuisance, shall not constitute an action for purposes 10 of this chapter; and (b) if a receiver is appointed, the grantor 11 12 shall be entitled to any rents or profits derived from property subject to a homestead as defined in RCW 6.13.010. If the deed of 13 trust was granted to secure a commercial loan, this subsection shall 14 not apply to actions brought to enforce any other lien or security 15 16 interest granted to secure the obligation secured by the deed of 17 trust being foreclosed;

18 (5) That the deed of trust has been recorded in each county in 19 which the land or some part thereof is situated;

20 (6) That prior to the date of the notice of trustee's sale and 21 continuing thereafter through the date of the trustee's sale, the 22 trustee must maintain a street address in this state where personal 23 service of process may be made, and the trustee must maintain a 24 physical presence and have telephone service at such address;

25 (7)(a) That, for residential real property, before the notice of trustee's sale is recorded, transmitted, or served, the trustee shall 26 have proof that the beneficiary is the ((owner)) holder of any 27 promissory note or other obligation secured by the deed of trust. A 28 declaration by the beneficiary made under the penalty of perjury 29 stating that the beneficiary is the ((actual)) holder of ((the)) any 30 31 promissory note or other obligation secured by the deed of trust 32 shall be sufficient proof as required under this subsection.

(b) Unless the trustee has violated his or her duty under RCW
 61.24.010(4), the trustee is entitled to rely on the beneficiary's
 declaration as evidence of proof required under this subsection.

36 (c) This subsection (7) does not apply to association 37 beneficiaries subject to chapter 64.32, 64.34, or 64.38 RCW;

(8) That at least thirty days before notice of sale shall be
 recorded, transmitted or served, written notice of default <u>and, for</u>
 <u>residential real property, the beneficiary declaration specified in</u>

1 <u>subsection (7)(a) of this section</u> shall be transmitted by the 2 beneficiary or trustee to the borrower and grantor at their last 3 known addresses by both first-class and either registered or 4 certified mail, return receipt requested, and the beneficiary or 5 trustee shall cause to be posted in a conspicuous place on the 6 premises, a copy of the notice, or personally served on the borrower 7 and grantor. This notice shall contain the following information:

8 (a) A description of the property which is then subject to the 9 deed of trust;

10 (b) A statement identifying each county in which the deed of 11 trust is recorded and the document number given to the deed of trust 12 upon recording by each county auditor or recording officer;

13 (c) A statement that the beneficiary has declared the borrower or 14 grantor to be in default, and a concise statement of the default 15 alleged;

16 (d) An itemized account of the amount or amounts in arrears if 17 the default alleged is failure to make payments;

(e) An itemized account of all other specific charges, costs, or fees that the borrower, grantor, or any guarantor is or may be obliged to pay to reinstate the deed of trust before the recording of the notice of sale;

(f) A statement showing the total of (d) and (e) of this subsection, designated clearly and conspicuously as the amount necessary to reinstate the note and deed of trust before the recording of the notice of sale;

(g) A statement that failure to cure the alleged default within 26 thirty days of the date of mailing of the notice, or if personally 27 served, within thirty days of the date of personal service thereof, 28 may lead to recordation, transmittal, and publication of a notice of 29 sale, and that the property described in (a) of this subsection may 30 31 be sold at public auction at a date no less than one hundred twenty 32 days in the future, or no less than one hundred fifty days in the future if the borrower received a letter under RCW 61.24.031; 33

34 (h) A statement that the effect of the recordation, transmittal, 35 and publication of a notice of sale will be to (i) increase the costs 36 and fees and (ii) publicize the default and advertise the grantor's 37 property for sale;

(i) A statement that the effect of the sale of the grantor's
property by the trustee will be to deprive the grantor of all their
interest in the property described in (a) of this subsection;

(j) A statement that the borrower, grantor, and any guarantor has
 recourse to the courts pursuant to RCW 61.24.130 to contest the
 alleged default on any proper ground;

4 (k) In the event the property secured by the deed of trust is
5 owner-occupied residential real property, a statement, prominently
6 set out at the beginning of the notice, which shall state as follows:

"THIS NOTICE IS ONE STEP IN A PROCESS THAT COULD RESULT IN YOUR LOSING YOUR HOME.

9 You may be eligible for mediation in front of a neutral third party 10 to help save your home.

11 CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR OR AN ATTORNEY LICENSED IN WASHINGTON NOW 12 to assess your situation and refer you to mediation if you might 13 benefit. Mediation **MUST** be requested between the time you receive the 14 Notice of Default and no later than twenty days after the Notice of 15 Trustee Sale is recorded.

16 **DO NOT DELAY.** If you do nothing, a notice of sale may be issued as 17 soon as 30 days from the date of this notice of default. The notice 18 of sale will provide a minimum of 120 days' notice of the date of the 19 actual foreclosure sale.

20 **BE CAREFUL** of people who claim they can help you. There are many 21 individuals and businesses that prey upon borrowers in distress.

22 **REFER TO THE CONTACTS BELOW** for sources of assistance.

23

7

8

SEEKING ASSISTANCE

Housing counselors and legal assistance may be available at little or no cost to you. If you would like assistance in determining your rights and opportunities to keep your house, you may contact the following:

28 The statewide foreclosure hotline for assistance and referral to 29 housing counselors recommended by the Housing Finance Commission

- 30 Telephone: Web site:
- 31 The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

32 Telephone: Web site:

33 The statewide civil legal aid hotline for assistance and referrals to

34 other housing counselors and attorneys

1 The beneficiary or trustee shall obtain the toll-free numbers and 2 web site information from the department for inclusion in the notice; 3 ((and))

(1) In the event the property secured by the deed of trust is
residential real property, the name and address of the ((owner))
<u>holder</u> of any promissory note((s)) or other obligation((s)) secured
by the deed of trust and the name, address, and telephone number of a
party acting as a servicer of the obligations secured by the deed of
trust; ((and))

10 (m) For notices issued after June 30, 2018, on the top of the 11 first page of the notice:

12

13 (ii) The current mortgage servicer for the deed of trust; and

14 (iii) The current trustee for the deed of trust;

(i) The current beneficiary of the deed of trust;

15 (9) That, for owner-occupied residential real property, before 16 the notice of the trustee's sale is recorded, transmitted, or served, 17 the beneficiary has complied with RCW 61.24.031 and, if applicable, 18 RCW 61.24.163*i*

19 (10) That, in the case where the borrower or grantor is known to 20 the mortgage servicer or trustee to be deceased, the notice required 21 under subsection (8) of this section must be sent to any spouse, 22 child, or parent of the borrower or grantor known to the trustee or 23 mortgage servicer, and to any owner of record of the property, at any 24 address provided to the trustee or mortgage servicer, and to the 25 property addressed to the heirs and devisees of the borrower.

26 (a) If the name or address of any spouse, child, or parent of 27 such deceased borrower or grantor cannot be ascertained with use of 28 reasonable diligence, the trustee must execute and record with the 29 notice of sale a declaration attesting to the same.

30 (b) Reasonable diligence for the purposes of this subsection (10) 31 means the trustee shall search in the county where the property is 32 located, the public records and information for any obituary, will, 33 death certificate, or case in probate within the county for the 34 borrower and grantor;

35 (11) Upon written notice identifying the property address and the 36 name of the borrower to the servicer or trustee by someone claiming 37 to be a successor in interest to the borrower's or grantor's property 38 rights, but who is not a party to the loan or promissory note or 39 other obligation secured by the deed of trust, a trustee shall not 1 record a notice of sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.040 until the trustee
2 or mortgage servicer completes the following:

3 (a) Acknowledges the notice in writing and requests reasonable documentation of the death of the borrower or grantor from the 4 claimant including, but not limited to, a death certificate or other 5 б written evidence of the death of the borrower or grantor. The 7 claimant must be allowed thirty days from the date of this request to present this documentation. If the trustee or mortgage servicer has 8 already obtained sufficient proof of the borrower's death, it may 9 proceed by acknowledging the claimant's notice in writing and issuing 10 a request under (b) of this subsection. 11

12 (b) If the mortgage servicer or trustee obtains or receives 13 written documentation of the death of the borrower or grantor from 14 the claimant, or otherwise independently confirms the death of the 15 borrower or grantor, then the servicer or trustee must request in 16 writing documentation from the claimant demonstrating the ownership 17 interest of the claimant in the real property. A claimant has sixty 18 days from the date of the request to present this documentation.

(c) If the mortgage servicer or trustee receives written 19 documentation demonstrating the ownership interest of the claimant 20 prior to the expiration of the sixty days provided in (b) of this 21 22 subsection, then the servicer or trustee must, within twenty days of receipt of proof of ownership interest, provide the claimant with, at 23 24 a minimum, the loan balance, interest rate and interest reset dates 25 and amounts, balloon payments if any, prepayment penalties if any, the basis for the default, the monthly payment amount, reinstatement 26 amounts or conditions, payoff amounts, and information on how and 27 where payments should be made. The mortgage servicers shall also 28 provide the claimant application materials and information, or a 29 description of the process, necessary to request a loan assumption 30 31 and modification.

- 32 (d) Upon receipt by the trustee or the mortgage servicer of the 33 documentation establishing claimant's ownership interest in the real 34 property, that claimant shall be deemed a "successor in interest" for 35 the purposes of this section.
- 36 (e) There may be more than one successor in interest to the 37 borrower's property rights. The trustee and mortgage servicer shall 38 apply the provisions of this section to each successor in interest. 39 In the case of multiple successors in interest, where one or more do 40 not wish to assume the loan as coborrowers or coapplicants, a

1 mortgage servicer may require any nonapplicant successor in interest
2 to consent in writing to the application for loan assumption.

(f) The existence of a successor in interest under this section 3 does not impose an affirmative duty on a mortgage servicer or alter 4 any obligation the mortgage servicer has to provide a loan 5 б modification to the successor in interest. If a successor in interest 7 assumes the loan, he or she may be required to otherwise qualify for available foreclosure prevention alternatives offered by the mortgage 8 9 servicer. (g) (c), (e), and (f) of this subsection (11) do not apply to 10

10 (g) (c), (e), and (1) of this subsection (11) do not apply to
11 association beneficiaries subject to chapter 64.32, 64.34, or 64.38
12 RCW; and

13 (12) Nothing in this section shall prejudice the right of the 14 mortgage servicer or beneficiary from discontinuing any foreclosure 15 action initiated under the deed of trust act in favor of other 16 allowed methods for pursuit of foreclosure of the security interest 17 or deed of trust security interest.

18 Sec. 2. RCW 61.24.040 and 2012 c 185 s 10 are each amended to 19 read as follows:

20 A deed of trust foreclosed under this chapter shall be foreclosed 21 as follows:

(1) At least ninety days before the sale, or if a letter under RCW 61.24.031 is required, at least one hundred twenty days before the sale, the trustee shall:

(a) Record a notice in the form described in (((f) of this)) subsection <u>(2) of this section</u> in the office of the auditor in each county in which the deed of trust is recorded;

(b) To the extent the trustee elects to foreclose its lien or 28 interest, or the beneficiary elects to preserve its right to seek a 29 30 deficiency judgment against a borrower or grantor under RCW 61.24.100(3)(a), and if their addresses are stated in a recorded 31 instrument evidencing their interest, lien, or claim of lien, or an 32 amendment thereto, or are otherwise known to the trustee, cause a 33 copy of the notice of sale described in (((f) of this)) subsection 34 35 (2) of this section to be transmitted by both first-class and either 36 certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, to the 37 following persons or their legal representatives, if any, at such address: 38

39 (i)(A) The borrower and grantor;

1 (B) In the case where the borrower or grantor is deceased, to any 2 successors in interest. If no successor in interest has been 3 established, then to any spouse, child, or parent of the borrower or 4 grantor, at the addresses discovered by the trustee pursuant to RCW 5 61.24.030(10);

6 (ii) The beneficiary of any deed of trust or mortgagee of any 7 mortgage, or any person who has a lien or claim of lien against the 8 property, that was recorded subsequent to the recordation of the deed 9 of trust being foreclosed and before the recordation of the notice of 10 sale;

11 (iii) The vendee in any real estate contract, the lessee in any 12 lease, or the holder of any conveyances of any interest or estate in any portion or all of the property described in such notice, if that 13 14 contract, lease, or conveyance of such interest or estate, or a memorandum or other notice thereof, 15 was recorded after the 16 recordation of the deed of trust being foreclosed and before the 17 recordation of the notice of sale;

18 (iv) The last holder of record of any other lien against or 19 interest in the property that is subject to a subordination to the 20 deed of trust being foreclosed that was recorded before the 21 recordation of the notice of sale;

(v) The last holder of record of the lien of any judgmentsubordinate to the deed of trust being foreclosed; and

(vi) The occupants of property consisting solely of a singlefamily residence, or a condominium, cooperative, or other dwelling unit in a multiplex or other building containing fewer than five residential units, whether or not the occupant's rental agreement is recorded, which notice may be a single notice addressed to "occupants" for each unit known to the trustee or beneficiary;

(c) Cause a copy of the notice of sale described in (((f) of 30 31 this)) subsection (2) of this section to be transmitted by both 32 first-class and either certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, to the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney of record, in 33 any court action to foreclose a lien or other encumbrance on all or 34 any part of the property, provided a court action is pending and a 35 lis pendens in connection therewith is recorded in the office of the 36 auditor of any county in which all or part of the property is located 37 on the date the notice is recorded; 38

39 (d) Cause a copy of the notice of sale described in (((f) of
40 this)) subsection <u>(2) of this section</u> to be transmitted by both

1 first-class and either certified or registered mail, return receipt 2 requested, to any person who has recorded a request for notice in accordance with RCW 61.24.045, at the address specified in such 3 person's most recently recorded request for notice; 4 (e) Cause a copy of the notice of sale described in $\left(\left(\frac{f}{f}\right) - of\right)$ 5 б this)) subsection (2) of this section to be posted in a conspicuous 7 place on the property, or in lieu of posting, cause a copy of said notice to be served upon any occupant of the property((+ 8 (f))) (2)(a) If foreclosing on a commercial loan under RCW 9 61.24.005(4), the title of the document must be "Notice of Trustee's 10 Sale of Commercial Loan(s)"; 11 12 (b) In addition to all other indexing requirements, the notice required in subsection (1) of this section must clearly indicate on 13 the first page the following information, which the auditor will 14 15 index: 16 (i) The document number or numbers given to the deed of trust 17 upon recording; (ii) The parcel number(s); 18 (iii) The grantor; 19 (iv) The current beneficiary of the deed of trust; 20 21 (v) The current trustee of the deed of trust; and (vi) The current loan mortgage servicer of the deed of trust; 22 (c) Nothing in this section: 23 24 (i) Requires a trustee or beneficiary to cause to be recorded any 25 new notice of trustee's sale upon transfer of the beneficial interest in a deed of trust or the servicing rights for the associated 26 27 mortqaqe loan; (ii) Relieves a mortgage loan servicer of any obligation to 28 29 provide the borrower with notice of a transfer of servicing rights or other legal obligations related to the transfer; or 30 (iii) Prevents the trustee from disclosing the beneficiary's 31 identity to the borrower and to county and municipal officials 32 seeking to abate nuisance and abandoned property in foreclosure 33 pursuant to chapter 35.21 RCW. 34 35 (d) The notice ((shall)) <u>must</u> be in substantially the following

- 36 form:
- 37

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

- 38 <u>Grantor:</u>....
- 39 <u>Current beneficiary of the deed of trust:</u>

1 Current trustee of the deed of trust: 2 Current mortgage servicer of the deed of trust: Reference number of the deed of trust: 3 Parcel number(s): 4 5 Τ. б NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Trustee will on 7 the . . . day of , . . , at the hour of 8 o'clock . • Μ. at • . 9 address and location if inside a building] in the City 10 11 of , State of Washington, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable at the time of sale, the following 12 described real property, situated in the County(ies) of, 13 14 State of Washington, to-wit: 15 [If any personal property is to be included in the trustee's sale, include a description that reasonably identifies such 16 17 personal property] 18 which is subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated , . . . , recorded , . . . , under 19 20 Auditor's File No. , records of County, 21 Washington, from , as Grantor, to , as Trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of , as 22 23 Beneficiary, the beneficial interest in which was assiqned by , under an Assignment recorded under Auditor's 24 File No. . . . [Include recording information for all counties if 25 the Deed of Trust is recorded in more than one county.] 26 27 TT. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust is now 28 29 pending to seek satisfaction of the obligation in any Court by reason of the Borrower's or Grantor's default on the obligation secured by 30 the Deed of Trust. 31 32 [If there is another action pending to foreclose other security for all or part of the same debt, qualify the 33 statement and identify the action.] 34 35 III. The default(s) for which this foreclosure is made is/are as follows: 36

1 [If default is for other than payment of money, set forth the 2 particulars]

3 Failure to pay when due the following amounts which are now in 4 arrears:

IV.

5

6 The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: 7 Principal \$, together with interest as provided in the 8 note or other instrument secured from the day 9 of , . . , and such other costs and fees as are due under 10 the note or other instrument secured, and as are provided by statute.

11

v.

The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense 12 of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as provided 13 14 by statute. The sale will be made without warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances on the 15 day of The default(s) referred to in paragraph 16 III must be cured by the day of (11 days 17 before the sale date), to cause a discontinuance of the sale. The 18 sale will be discontinued and terminated if at any time on or before 19 the . . . day of (11 days before the sale 20 date), the default(s) as set forth in paragraph III is/are cured and 21 22 the Trustee's fees and costs are paid. The sale may be terminated any 23 24 sale date), and before the sale by the Borrower, Grantor, any 25 Guarantor, or the holder of any recorded junior lien or encumbrance paying the entire principal and interest secured by the Deed of 26 Trust, plus costs, fees, and advances, if any, made pursuant to the 27 terms of the obligation and/or Deed of Trust, and curing all other 28 29 defaults.

30

VI.

31 A written notice of default was transmitted by the Beneficiary or 32 Trustee to the Borrower and Grantor at the following addresses:

33	
34	
35	

by both first-class and certified mail on the day of , proof of which is in the possession of the 2 Trustee; and the Borrower and Grantor were personally served on 3 4 the . . . day of , with said written notice of default or the written notice of default was posted in a conspicuous 5 6 place on the real property described in paragraph I above, and the Trustee has possession of proof of such service or posting. 7 8 VTT. 9 The Trustee whose name and address are set forth below will provide 10 in writing to anyone requesting it, a statement of all costs and fees 11 due at any time prior to the sale. 12 VIII. The effect of the sale will be to deprive the Grantor and all those 13 who hold by, through or under the Grantor of all their interest in 14 15 the above-described property. 16 IX. 17 Anyone having any objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever 18 will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130. 19 20 Failure to bring such a lawsuit may result in a waiver of any proper 21 grounds for invalidating the Trustee's sale. [Add Part X to this notice if applicable under RCW 61.24.040(((9)))22 23 (11)] 24 25, Trustee 26 27 28 29 30 31 Address 32} Phone 33 34 [Acknowledgment]

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1	$((\frac{g}{g}))$ <u>(3)</u> If the borrower received a letter under RCW
2	61.24.031, the notice specified in subsection $\left(\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)\right)$ (2)(d) of
3	this section shall also include the following additional language:
4	"THIS NOTICE IS THE FINAL STEP BEFORE THE FORECLOSURE SALE OF YOUR
5	HOME.
6	You have only 20 DAYS from the recording date on this notice to
7	pursue mediation.
8	DO NOT DELAY. CONTACT A HOUSING COUNSELOR OR AN ATTORNEY LICENSED IN
9	$\ensuremath{\texttt{WASHINGTON}}\xspace$ now to assess your situation and refer you to mediation if
10	you are eligible and it may help you save your home. See below for
11	safe sources of help.
12	SEEKING ASSISTANCE
13	Housing counselors and legal assistance may be available at little or
14	no cost to you. If you would like assistance in determining your
15	rights and opportunities to keep your house, you may contact the
16	following:
17	The statewide foreclosure hotline for assistance and referral to
18	housing counselors recommended by the Housing Finance Commission
19	Telephone:
20	The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
21	Telephone:
22	The statewide civil legal aid hotline for assistance and referrals to
23	other housing counselors and attorneys
24	Telephone:
25	The beneficiary or trustee shall obtain the toll-free numbers and
26	web site information from the department for inclusion in the notice;
27	$((\frac{2}{2}))$ (4) In addition to providing the borrower and grantor the
28	notice of sale described in subsection $(((1)(f)))$ (2) of this
29	section, the trustee shall include with the copy of the notice which
30	is mailed to the grantor, a statement to the grantor in substantially
31	the following form:
32	NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
33	Pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington,
34	Chapter 61.24 RCW
35	The attached Notice of Trustee's Sale is a consequence of
36	default(s) in the obligation to , the Beneficiary of your
37	Deed of Trust and ((owner)) holder of the obligation secured thereby.

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1	Unless the default(s) is/are	cured, y	our property w	vill be sold at
2	auction on the day of		• , • • •	
3	To cure the default(s), y	ou must br	ing the payment	ts current, cure
4	any other defaults, and pay	accrued 1	ate charges a	nd other costs,
5	advances, and attorneys' fees	as set fo	orth below by	the day
6	of, [11 day	ys before	the sale date]	. To date, these
7	arrears and costs are as follo	ows:		
8			Estimated amount	
9		Currently due	that will be due	
10		to reinstate	to reinstate	
11		on	on	
12		••••		
13			(11 days before	
14			the date set	
15			for sale)	
16	Delinquent payment	nts		
17	from,			
18	, in the			
19	amount of			
20	\$/mo.:	\$	\$	
21	Late charges in			
22	the total			
23	amount of:	\$	\$	
24			Estimated	
25			Amounts	
26	Attorneys' fees:	\$	\$	
27	Trustee's fee:	\$	\$	
28	Trustee's expenses:	:		
29	(Itemization)			
30	Title report	\$	\$	
31	Recording fees	\$	\$	
32	Service/Posting			
33	of Notices	\$	\$	
34	Postage/Copying			
35	expense	\$	\$	
36	Publication	\$	\$	
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1	Telephone	\$
2	charges	\$
3	Inspection fees	\$ \$
4		\$ \$
5		\$ \$
6	TOTALS	\$ \$

To pay off the entire obligation secured by your Deed of Trust as of the day of you must pay a total of \$. . . . in principal, \$. . . . in interest, plus other costs and advances estimated to date in the amount of \$. From and after the date of this notice you must submit a written request to the Trustee to obtain the total amount to pay off the entire obligation secured by your Deed of Trust as of the payoff date.

As to the defaults which do not involve payment of money to the Beneficiary of your Deed of Trust, you must cure each such default. Listed below are the defaults which do not involve payment of money to the Beneficiary of your Deed of Trust. Opposite each such listed default is a brief description of the action necessary to cure the default and a description of the documentation necessary to show that the default has been cured.

21	Default	Description of Action Required to Cure and
22		Documentation Necessary to Show Cure
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

29 You may reinstate your Deed of Trust and the obligation secured thereby at any time up to and including the day 30 of [11 days before the sale date], by paying the 31 32 amount set forth or estimated above and by curing any other defaults 33 described above. Of course, as time passes other payments may become due, and any further payments coming due and any additional late 34 35 charges must be added to your reinstating payment. Any new defaults not involving payment of money that occur after the date of this 36 notice must also be cured in order to effect reinstatement. 37 In

addition, because some of the charges can only be estimated at this 1 2 time, and because the amount necessary to reinstate or to pay off the entire indebtedness may include presently unknown expenditures 3 required to preserve the property or to comply with state or local 4 law, it will be necessary for you to contact the Trustee before the 5 б time you tender reinstatement or the payoff amount so that you may be 7 advised of the exact amount you will be required to pay. Tender of payment or performance must be made to: , whose address 8 is , telephone () AFTER THE DAY 9 OF , YOU MAY NOT REINSTATE YOUR DEED OF TRUST BY 10 PAYING THE BACK PAYMENTS AND COSTS AND FEES AND CURING THE OTHER 11 12 DEFAULTS AS OUTLINED ABOVE. The Trustee will respond to any written request for current payoff or reinstatement amounts within ten days 13 14 of receipt of your written request. In such a case, you will only be able to stop the sale by paying, before the sale, the total principal 15 16 balance (\$) plus accrued interest, costs and advances, if 17 any, made pursuant to the terms of the documents and by curing the 18 other defaults as outlined above.

You may contest this default by initiating court action in the 19 Superior Court of the county in which the sale is to be held. In such 20 21 action, you may raise any legitimate defenses you have to this default. A copy of your Deed of Trust and documents evidencing the 22 obligation secured thereby are enclosed. You may wish to consult a 23 24 lawyer. Legal action on your part may prevent or restrain the sale, 25 but only if you persuade the court of the merits of your defense. You 26 may contact the Department of Financial Institutions or the statewide civil legal aid hotline for possible assistance or referrals. 27

The court may grant a restraining order or injunction to restrain a trustee's sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130 upon five days notice to the trustee of the time when, place where, and the judge before whom the application for the restraining order or injunction is to be made. This notice shall include copies of all pleadings and related documents to be given to the judge. Notice and other process may be served on the trustee at:

35	NAME:
36	ADDRESS:
37	
38	TELEPHONE NUMBER:

1 If you do not reinstate the secured obligation and your Deed of 2 Trust in the manner set forth above, or if you do not succeed in 3 restraining the sale by court action, your property will be sold. The 4 effect of such sale will be to deprive you and all those who hold by, 5 through or under you of all interest in the property;

6 (((3))) (5) In addition, the trustee shall cause a copy of the 7 notice of sale described in subsection (((1)(f))) (2)(d) of this 8 section (excluding the acknowledgment) to be published in a legal 9 newspaper in each county in which the property or any part thereof is 10 situated, once on or between the thirty-fifth and twenty-eighth day 11 before the date of sale, and once on or between the fourteenth and 12 seventh day before the date of sale;

13 (((4))) (6) In the case where no successor in interest has been 14 established, and neither the beneficiary nor the trustee are able to ascertain the name and address of any spouse, child, or parent of the 15 borrower or grantor in the manner described in RCW 61.24.030(10), 16 17 then the trustee may, in addition to mailing notice to the property 18 addressed to the unknown heirs and devisees of the grantor, serve the 19 notice of sale by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or city where the property is located once per week for 20 three consecutive weeks. Upon this service by publication, to be 21 completed not less than thirty days prior to the date the sale is 22 conducted, all unknown heirs shall be deemed served with the notice 23 24 of sale;

25 (7)(a) If a servicer or trustee receives notification by someone claiming to be a successor in interest to the borrower or grantor, as 26 under RCW 61.24.030(11), after the recording of the notice of sale, 27 28 the trustee or servicer must request written documentation within 29 five days demonstrating the ownership interest, provided that, the trustee may, but is not required to, postpone a trustee's sale upon 30 receipt of such notification by someone claiming to be a successor in 31 32 interest.

33 (b) Upon receipt of documentation establishing a claimant as a 34 successor in interest, the servicer must provide the information in 35 RCW 61.24.030(11)(c). Only if the servicer or trustee receives the 36 documentation confirming someone as successor in interest more than 37 forty-five days before the scheduled sale must the servicer then 38 provide the information in RCW 61.24.030(11)(c) to the claimant not 39 less than twenty days prior to the sale. 1

(c) (b) of this subsection (7) does not apply to association beneficiaries subject to chapter 64.32, 64.34, or 64.38 RCW. 2

(8) On the date and at the time designated in the notice of sale, 3 the trustee or its authorized agent shall sell the property at public 4 auction to the highest bidder. The trustee may sell the property in 5 6 gross or in parcels as the trustee shall deem most advantageous;

7 (((5))) (9) The place of sale shall be at any designated public place within the county where the property is located and if the 8 property is in more than one county, the sale may be in any of the 9 counties where the property is located. The sale shall be on Friday, 10 11 or if Friday is a legal holiday on the following Monday, and during 12 the hours set by statute for the conduct of sales of real estate at execution; 13

14 (((6))) (10) The trustee has no obligation to, but may, for any cause the trustee deems advantageous, continue the sale for a period 15 16 or periods not exceeding a total of one hundred twenty days by (a) a 17 public proclamation at the time and place fixed for sale in the notice of sale and if the continuance is beyond the date of sale, by 18 giving notice of the new time and place of the sale by both first 19 class and either certified or registered mail, return receipt 20 21 requested, to the persons specified in subsection (1)(b)(i) and (ii) of this section to be deposited in the mail (i) not less than four 22 days before the new date fixed for the sale if the sale is continued 23 for up to seven days; or (ii) not more than three days after the date 24 25 of the continuance by oral proclamation if the sale is continued for 26 more than seven days, or, alternatively, (b) by giving notice of the time and place of the postponed sale in the manner and to the persons 27 specified in subsection (1)(b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section and 28 29 publishing a copy of such notice once in the newspaper(s) described in subsection $\left(\left(\frac{3}{3}\right)\right)$ (5) of this section, more than seven days 30 31 before the date fixed for sale in the notice of sale. No other notice of the postponed sale need be given; 32

(((7))) (11) The purchaser shall forthwith pay the price bid and 33 on payment the trustee shall execute to the purchaser its deed; the 34 deed shall recite the facts showing that the sale was conducted in 35 compliance with all of the requirements of this chapter and of the 36 deed of trust, which recital shall be prima facie evidence of such 37 compliance and conclusive evidence thereof in favor of bona fide 38 39 purchasers and encumbrancers for value, except that these recitals shall not affect the lien or interest of any person entitled to 40

notice under subsection (1) of this section, if the trustee fails to give the required notice to such person. In such case, the lien or interest of such omitted person shall not be affected by the sale and such omitted person shall be treated as if such person was the holder of the same lien or interest and was omitted as a party defendant in a judicial foreclosure proceeding;

7 (((8))) (<u>12</u>) The sale as authorized under this chapter shall not 8 take place less than one hundred ninety days from the date of default 9 in any of the obligations secured;

10 (((9))) <u>(13)</u> If the trustee elects to foreclose the interest of 11 any occupant or tenant of property comprised solely of a single-12 family residence, or a condominium, cooperative, or other dwelling 13 unit in a multiplex or other building containing fewer than five 14 residential units, the following notice shall be included as Part X 15 of the Notice of Trustee's Sale:

16

X. NOTICE TO OCCUPANTS OR TENANTS

17 The purchaser at the trustee's sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the grantor 18 19 under the deed of trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest 20 junior to the deed of trust, including occupants who are not tenants. 21 After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to 22 evict occupants who are not tenants by summary proceedings under chapter 59.12 RCW. For tenant-occupied property, the purchaser shall 23 provide a tenant with written notice in accordance with RCW 24 25 61.24.060;

26 (((10))) (14) Only one copy of all notices required by this 27 chapter need be given to a person who is both the borrower and the 28 grantor. All notices required by this chapter that are given to a 29 general partnership are deemed given to each of its general partners, 30 unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 61.24.045 and 2008 c 153 s 4 are each amended to 32 read as follows:

Any person desiring a copy of any notice of sale described in RCW 61.24.040(((1)(f))) (2) under any deed of trust, other than a person entitled to receive such a notice under RCW 61.24.040(1) (b) or (c), must, after the recordation of such deed of trust and before the recordation of the notice of sale, cause to be filed for record, in the office of the auditor of any county in which the deed of trust is

recorded, a duly acknowledged request for a copy of any notice of 1 2 sale. The request shall be signed and acknowledged by the person to be notified or such person's agent, attorney, or representative; 3 shall set forth the name, mailing address, and telephone number, if 4 any, of the person or persons to be notified; shall identify the deed 5 6 of trust by stating the names of the parties thereto, the date the 7 deed of trust was recorded, the legal description of the property encumbered by the deed of trust, and the auditor's file number under 8 which the deed of trust is recorded; and shall be in substantially 9 the following form: 10

11

REQUEST FOR NOTICE

12 Request is hereby made that a copy of any notice of sale described in RCW 61.24.040(((1)(f)))13 (2) under that certain Deed of Trust 14 on , ((20. . .)) <u>. . . . (year)</u>, under auditor's file 15 16 No. , records of County, Washington, 17 from , as Grantor, to , as Trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of as Beneficiary, 18 19 and affecting the following described real property:

(Legal Description)

be sent by both first-class and either registered or certified mail, 21 22 23 Dated this day of , ((20...)) (year) 24

25

20

Signature

(Acknowledgment) 26

A request for notice under this section shall not affect title to, or 27 28 be deemed notice to any person that any person has any right, title, interest in, lien or charge upon, the property described in the 29 request for notice. 30

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 61.24.050 and 2012 c 185 s 14 are each amended to read as follows: 32

(1) Upon physical delivery of the trustee's deed to the 33 purchaser, or a different grantee as designated by the purchaser 34 following the trustee's sale, the trustee's deed shall convey all of 35 the right, title, and interest in the real and personal property sold 36

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at the trustee's sale which the grantor had or had the power to 1 convey at the time of the execution of the deed of trust, and such as 2 the grantor may have thereafter acquired. Except as provided in 3 subsection (2) of this section, if the trustee accepts a bid, then 4 the trustee's sale is final as of the date and time of such 5 6 acceptance if the trustee's deed is recorded within fifteen days 7 thereafter. After a trustee's sale, no person shall have any right, by statute or otherwise, to redeem the property sold at the trustee's 8 9 sale.

10 (2)(a) Up to the eleventh day following the trustee's sale, the 11 trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent for the beneficiary may 12 declare the trustee's sale and trustee's deed void for the following 13 reasons:

14 (i) The trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent for the 15 beneficiary assert that there was an error with the trustee 16 foreclosure sale process including, but not limited to, an erroneous 17 opening bid amount made by or on behalf of the foreclosing 18 beneficiary at the trustee's sale;

19 (ii) The borrower and beneficiary, or authorized agent for the 20 beneficiary, had agreed prior to the trustee's sale to a loan 21 modification agreement, forbearance plan, shared appreciation 22 mortgage, or other loss mitigation agreement to postpone or 23 discontinue the trustee's sale; or

(iii) The beneficiary or authorized agent for the beneficiary had accepted funds that fully reinstated or satisfied the loan even if the beneficiary or authorized agent for the beneficiary had no legal duty to do so.

(b) This subsection does not impose a duty upon the trustee any different than the obligations set forth under RCW 61.24.010 (3) and (4).

31 (3) The trustee must refund the bid amount to the purchaser no 32 later than the third day following the postmarked mailing of the 33 rescission notice described under subsection (4) of this section.

34 (4) No later than fifteen days following the voided trustee's 35 sale date, the trustee shall send a notice in substantially the 36 following form by first-class mail and certified mail, return receipt 37 requested, to all parties entitled to notice under RCW 61.24.040(1) 38 (b) through (e):

39

NOTICE OF RESCISSION OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

1 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the trustee's sale that occurred on 2 (trustee's sale date) is rescinded and declared void because (insert 3 the applicable reason(s) permitted under RCW 61.24.050(2)(a)).

4 The trustee's sale occurred pursuant to that certain Notice of 5 Trustee's Sale dated, . . ., recorded, . . ., under Auditor's File No. . . , records of County, Washington, and 6 that certain Deed of Trust dated, . . ., 7 recorded, . . ., under Auditor's File No. . . ., records 8 9 of County, Washington, from, as Grantor, to, 10 as, as original Beneficiary, concerning the following described property, situated in the County(ies) of, State of 11 12 Washington, to wit:

13

(Legal description)

14 Commonly known as (common property address)

15 (5) If the reason for the rescission stems from subsection 16 (2)(a)(i) or (ii) of this section, the trustee may set a new sale 17 date not less than forty-five days following the mailing of the 18 notice of rescission of trustee's sale. The trustee shall:

19 (a) Comply with the requirements of RCW 61.24.040(1) (a) through 20 (((+f))) (e) at least thirty days before the new sale date; and

(b) Cause a copy of the notice of trustee's sale as provided in RCW 61.24.040(((+1)(+))) (2) to be published in a legal newspaper in each county in which the property or any part of the property is situated, once between the thirty-fifth and twenty-eighth day before the sale and once between the fourteenth and seventh day before the sale.

27 Sec. 5. RCW 61.24.130 and 2008 c 153 s 5 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

(1) Nothing contained in this chapter shall prejudice the right 29 of the borrower, grantor, any guarantor, or any person who has an 30 interest in, lien, or claim of lien against the property or some part 31 thereof, to restrain, on any proper legal or equitable ground, a 32 trustee's sale. The court shall require as a condition of granting 33 the restraining order or injunction that the applicant pay to the 34 clerk of the court the sums that would be due on the obligation 35 secured by the deed of trust if the deed of trust was not being 36 37 foreclosed:

1 (a) In the case of default in making the periodic payment of 2 principal, interest, and reserves, such sums shall be the periodic 3 payment of principal, interest, and reserves paid to the clerk of the 4 court every thirty days.

5 (b) In the case of default in making payment of an obligation 6 then fully payable by its terms, such sums shall be the amount of 7 interest accruing monthly on said obligation at the nondefault rate, 8 paid to the clerk of the court every thirty days.

9 In the case of default in performance of any nonmonetary 10 obligation secured by the deed of trust, the court shall impose such 11 conditions as it deems just.

12 In addition, the court may condition granting the restraining order or injunction upon the giving of security by the applicant, in 13 such form and amount as the court deems proper, for the payment of 14 such costs and damages, including attorneys' fees, as may be later 15 16 found by the court to have been incurred or suffered by any party by 17 reason of the restraining order or injunction. The court may consider, upon proper showing, the grantor's equity in the property 18 in determining the amount of said security. 19

(2) No court may grant a restraining order or injunction to 20 21 restrain a trustee's sale unless the person seeking the restraint gives five days notice to the trustee of the time when, place where, 22 and the judge before whom the application for the restraining order 23 or injunction is to be made. This notice shall include copies of all 24 25 pleadings and related documents to be given to the judge. No judge 26 may act upon such application unless it is accompanied by proof, evidenced by return of a sheriff, the sheriff's deputy, or by any 27 person eighteen years of age or over who is competent to be a 28 29 witness, that the notice has been served on the trustee.

30 (3) If the restraining order or injunction is dissolved after the 31 date of the trustee's sale set forth in the notice as provided in RCW 32 $61.24.040((\frac{1}{1}))$ (2), the court granting such restraining order or 33 injunction, or before whom the order or injunction is returnable, 34 shall, at the request of the trustee, set a new sale date which shall 35 be not less than forty-five days from the date of the order 36 dissolving the restraining order. The trustee shall:

37 (a) Comply with the requirements of RCW 61.24.040(1) (a) through 38 (((f))) (e) at least thirty days before the new sale date; and

39 (b) Cause a copy of the notice of trustee's sale as provided in 40 RCW 61.24.040(((1)(f))) (2) to be published in a legal newspaper in

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each county in which the property or any part thereof is situated
 once between the thirty-fifth and twenty-eighth day before the sale
 and once between the fourteenth and seventh day before the sale.

4 (4) If a trustee's sale has been stayed as a result of the filing 5 of a petition in federal bankruptcy court and an order is entered in 6 federal bankruptcy court granting relief from the stay or closing or 7 dismissing the case, or discharging the debtor with the effect of 8 removing the stay, the trustee may set a new sale date which shall 9 not be less than forty-five days after the date of the bankruptcy 10 court's order. The trustee shall:

11 (a) Comply with the requirements of RCW 61.24.040(1) (a) through 12 (((f))) (e) at least thirty days before the new sale date; and

(b) Cause a copy of the notice of trustee's sale as provided in RCW 61.24.040(((1)(f))) (2) to be published in a legal newspaper in each county in which the property or any part thereof is situated, once between the thirty-fifth and twenty-eighth day before the sale and once between the fourteenth and seventh day before the sale.

18 (5) Subsections (3) and (4) of this section are permissive only 19 and do not prohibit the trustee from proceeding with a trustee's sale 20 following termination of any injunction or stay on any date to which 21 such sale has been properly continued in accordance with RCW 22 61.24.040(((+6))) (10).

23 (6) The issuance of a restraining order or injunction shall not 24 prohibit the trustee from continuing the sale as provided in RCW 25 61.24.040(((-6)))) (10).

26 **Sec. 6.** RCW 61.24.163 and 2014 c 164 s 3 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

28 (1) The foreclosure mediation program established in this section applies only to borrowers who have been referred to mediation by a 29 30 housing counselor or attorney. The referral to mediation may be made 31 any time after a notice of default has been issued but no later than twenty days after the date a notice of sale has been recorded. If the 32 borrower has failed to elect to mediate within the applicable time 33 frame, the borrower and the beneficiary may, but are under no duty 34 35 to, agree in writing to enter the foreclosure mediation program. The mediation program under this section is not governed by chapter 7.07 36 RCW and does not preclude mediation required by a court or other 37 38 provision of law.

1 (2) A housing counselor or attorney referring a borrower to 2 mediation shall send a notice to the borrower and the department, stating that mediation is appropriate. 3

(3) Within ten days of receiving the notice, the department 4 shall: 5

6 (a) Send a notice to the beneficiary, the borrower, the housing 7 counselor or attorney who referred the borrower, and the trustee stating that the parties have been referred to mediation. The notice 8 must include the statements and list of documents and information 9 described in subsections (4) and (5) of this section and a statement 10 11 explaining each party's responsibility to pay the mediator's fee; and 12

(b) Select a mediator and notify the parties of the selection.

(4) Within twenty-three days of the department's notice that the 13 parties have been referred to mediation, the borrower shall transmit 14 the documents required for mediation to the mediator and the 15 beneficiary. The required documents include an initial ((Making Home 16 17 Affordable Application (HAMP) package or such other equivalent)) 18 homeowner financial information worksheet as required by the department. ((In the event the department is required to create a 19 20 worksheet,)) The worksheet must include, at a minimum, the following 21 information:

(a) The borrower's current and future income; 22

- (b) Debts and obligations; 23
- (c) Assets; 24
- (d) Expenses; 25

26 (e) Tax returns for the previous two years;

27 (f) Hardship information;

(g) Other applicable information commonly required by 28 any 29 applicable federal mortgage relief program.

(5) Within twenty days of the beneficiary's receipt of the 30 31 borrower's documents, the beneficiary shall transmit the documents 32 required for mediation to the mediator and the borrower. The required documents include: 33

(a) An accurate statement containing the balance of the loan 34 35 within thirty days of the date on which the beneficiary's documents 36 are due to the parties;

(b) Copies of the note and deed of trust; 37

(c) Proof that the entity claiming to be the beneficiary is the 38 owner of any promissory note or obligation secured by the deed of 39

1 trust. Sufficient proof may be a copy of the declaration described in 2 RCW 61.24.030(7)(a);

3 (d) The best estimate of any arrearage and an itemized statement4 of the arrearages;

5 (e) An itemized list of the best estimate of fees and charges6 outstanding;

7 (f) The payment history and schedule for the preceding twelve 8 months, or since default, whichever is longer, including a breakdown 9 of all fees and charges claimed;

(g) All borrower-related and mortgage-related input data used in 10 any net present values analysis. If no net present values analysis is 11 12 required by the applicable federal mortgage relief program, then the input data required under the federal deposit insurance corporation 13 14 and published in the federal deposit insurance corporation loan if that calculation becomes 15 modification program guide, or 16 unavailable, substantially similar input data as determined by the 17 department;

(h) An explanation regarding any denial for a loan modification,
forbearance, or other alternative to foreclosure in sufficient detail
for a reasonable person to understand why the decision was made;

(i) Appraisal or other broker price opinion most recently relied upon by the beneficiary not more than ninety days old at the time of the scheduled mediation; and

(j) The portion or excerpt of the pooling and servicing agreement 24 25 or other investor restriction that prohibits the beneficiary from implementing a modification, if the beneficiary claims it cannot 26 implement a modification due to limitations in a pooling and 27 servicing agreement or other investor restriction, and documentation 28 or a statement detailing the efforts of the beneficiary to obtain a 29 waiver of the pooling and servicing agreement or other investor 30 31 restriction provisions.

32 (6) Within seventy days of receiving the referral from the department, the mediator shall convene a mediation session in the 33 county where the property is located, unless the parties agree on 34 another location. The parties may agree to extend the time in which 35 36 to schedule the mediation session. If the parties agree to extend the time, the beneficiary shall notify the trustee of the extension and 37 38 the date the mediator is expected to issue the mediator's 39 certification.

1 (7)(a) The mediator may schedule phone conferences, consultations 2 with the parties individually, and other communications to ensure 3 that the parties have all the necessary information and documents to 4 engage in a productive mediation.

5 (b) The mediator must send written notice of the time, date, and 6 location of the mediation session to the borrower, the beneficiary, 7 and the department at least thirty days prior to the mediation 8 session. At a minimum, the notice must contain:

9 (i) A statement that the borrower may be represented in the 10 mediation session by an attorney or other advocate;

(ii) A statement that a person with authority to agree to a resolution, including a proposed settlement, loan modification, or dismissal or continuation of the foreclosure proceeding, must be present either in person or on the telephone or videoconference during the mediation session; and

16 (iii) A statement that the parties have a duty to mediate in good 17 faith and that failure to mediate in good faith may impair the 18 beneficiary's ability to foreclose on the property or the borrower's 19 ability to modify the loan or take advantage of other alternatives to 20 foreclosure.

(8)(a) The borrower, the beneficiary or authorized agent, and the mediator must meet in person for the mediation session. However, a person with authority to agree to a resolution on behalf of the beneficiary may be present over the telephone or videoconference during the mediation session.

(b) After the mediation session commences, the mediator may
continue the mediation session once, and any further continuances
must be with the consent of the parties.

29 (9) The participants in mediation must address the issues of foreclosure that may enable the borrower and the beneficiary to reach 30 31 resolution, including but not limited to reinstatement, а modification of the loan, restructuring of the debt, or some other 32 workout plan. To assist the parties in addressing issues of 33 foreclosure, the mediator may require the participants to consider 34 35 the following:

36 (a) The borrower's current and future economic circumstances, 37 including the borrower's current and future income, debts, and 38 obligations for the previous sixty days or greater time period as 39 determined by the mediator;

1 (b) The net present value of receiving payments pursuant to a 2 modified mortgage loan as compared to the anticipated net recovery 3 following foreclosure;

(c) Any affordable loan modification calculation and net present 4 5 value calculation when required under any federal mortgage relief 6 program((, including the home affordable modification program (HAMP) 7 as applicable to government-sponsored enterprise and nongovernmentsponsored enterprise loans)) and any ((HAMP-related)) modification 8 program ((applicable)) related to loans insured by the federal 9 housing administration, the veterans administration, and the rural 10 housing service. If such a calculation is not provided or required, 11 12 then the beneficiary must provide the net present value data inputs established by the federal deposit 13 insurance corporation and 14 published in the federal deposit insurance corporation loan modification program guide or other net present value data inputs as 15 16 designated by the department. The mediator may run the calculation in 17 order for a productive mediation to occur and to comply with the 18 mediator certification requirement; and

(d) Any other loss mitigation guidelines to loans insured by the federal housing administration, the veterans administration, and the rural housing service, if applicable.

(10) A violation of the duty to mediate in good faith as requiredunder this section may include:

(a) Failure to timely participate in mediation without goodcause;

(b) Failure of the borrower or the beneficiary to provide the documentation required before mediation or pursuant to the mediator's instructions;

(c) Failure of a party to designate representatives with adequate authority to fully settle, compromise, or otherwise reach resolution with the borrower in mediation; and

32 (d) A request by a beneficiary that the borrower waive future claims he or she may have in connection with the deed of trust, as a 33 condition of agreeing to a modification, except for rescission claims 34 under the federal truth in lending act. Nothing in this section 35 36 precludes a beneficiary from requesting that a borrower dismiss with prejudice any pending claims against the beneficiary, its agents, 37 loan servicer, or trustee, arising from the underlying deed of trust, 38 39 as a condition of modification.

1 (11) If the mediator reasonably believes a borrower will not 2 attend a mediation session based on the borrower's conduct, such as 3 the lack of response to the mediator's communications, the mediator 4 may cancel a scheduled mediation session and send a written 5 cancellation to the department and the trustee and send copies to the 6 parties. The beneficiary may proceed with the foreclosure after 7 receipt of the mediator's written confirmation of cancellation.

8 (12) Within seven business days after the conclusion of the 9 mediation session, the mediator must send a written certification to 10 the department and the trustee and send copies to the parties of:

11

(a) The date, time, and location of the mediation session;

(b) The names of all persons attending in person and by telephoneor videoconference, at the mediation session;

14 (c) Whether a resolution was reached by the parties, including 15 whether the default was cured by reinstatement, modification, or 16 restructuring of the debt, or some other alternative to foreclosure 17 was agreed upon by the parties;

18 (d) Whether the parties participated in the mediation in good 19 faith; and

(e) If a written agreement was not reached, a description of any
net present value test used, along with a copy of the inputs,
including the result of any net present value test expressed in a
dollar amount.

(13) If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the beneficiary may proceed with the foreclosure after receipt of the mediator's written certification.

(14)(a) The mediator's certification that the beneficiary failed to act in good faith in mediation constitutes a defense to the nonjudicial foreclosure action that was the basis for initiating the mediation. In any action to enjoin the foreclosure, the beneficiary is entitled to rebut the allegation that it failed to act in good faith.

33 (b) The mediator's certification that the beneficiary failed to 34 act in good faith during mediation does not constitute a defense to a 35 judicial foreclosure or a future nonjudicial foreclosure action if a 36 modification of the loan is agreed upon and the borrower subsequently 37 defaults.

38 (c) If an affordable loan modification is not offered in the 39 mediation or a written agreement was not reached and the mediator's 40 certification shows that the net present value of the modified loan 1 exceeds the anticipated net recovery at foreclosure, that showing in 2 the certification constitutes a basis for the borrower to enjoin the 3 foreclosure.

4 (15) The mediator's certification that the borrower failed to act 5 in good faith in mediation authorizes the beneficiary to proceed with 6 the foreclosure.

(16)(a) If a borrower has been referred to mediation before a 7 notice of trustee sale has been recorded, a trustee may not record 8 the notice of sale until the trustee receives the mediator's 9 certification stating that the mediation has been completed. If the 10 11 trustee does not receive the mediator's certification, the trustee may record the notice of sale after ten days from the date the 12 certification to the trustee was due. If, after a notice of sale is 13 recorded under this subsection (16)(a), the mediator subsequently 14 issues a certification finding that the beneficiary violated the duty 15 of good faith, the certification constitutes a basis for the borrower 16 17 to enjoin the foreclosure.

(b) If a borrower has been referred to mediation after the notice of sale was recorded, the sale may not occur until the trustee receives the mediator's certification stating that the mediation has been completed.

(17) A mediator may charge reasonable fees as authorized by this 22 subsection or as authorized by the department. Unless the fee is 23 waived, the parties agree otherwise, or the department otherwise 24 25 authorizes, a foreclosure mediator's fee may not exceed four hundred dollars for preparing, scheduling, and conducting a mediation session 26 lasting between one hour and three hours. For a mediation session 27 exceeding three hours, the foreclosure mediator may charge a 28 29 reasonable fee, as authorized by the department. The mediator must provide an estimated fee before the mediation, and payment of the 30 31 mediator's fee must be divided equally between the beneficiary and the borrower. The beneficiary and the borrower must tender the loan 32 mediator's fee within thirty calendar days from receipt of the 33 department's letter referring the parties to mediation or pursuant to 34 the mediator's instructions. 35

36 (18) Beginning December 1, 2012, and every year thereafter, the37 department shall report annually to the legislature on:

(a) The performance of the program, including the numbers of
 borrowers who are referred to mediation by a housing counselor or
 attorney;

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1 (b) The results of the mediation program, including the number of 2 mediations requested by housing counselors and attorneys, the number of certifications of good faith issued, the number of borrowers and 3 beneficiaries who failed to mediate in good faith, and the reasons 4 for the failure to mediate in good faith, if known, the numbers of 5 б loans restructured or modified, the change in the borrower's monthly 7 payment for principal and interest and the number of principal writedowns and interest rate reductions, and, to the extent practical, the 8 9 number of borrowers who report a default within a year of restructuring or modification; 10

11 (c) The information received by housing counselors regarding 12 outcomes of foreclosures; and

13 (d) Any recommendations for changes to the statutes regarding the 14 mediation program.

15 **Sec. 7.** RCW 61.24.173 and 2016 c 196 s 2 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

(1) Except as provided in subsections (((4) and)) (5) and (6) of this section, beginning July 1, 2016, and every quarter thereafter, every beneficiary on whose behalf a notice of trustee's sale has been recorded pursuant to RCW 61.24.040 on residential real property under this chapter must:

(a) Report to the department the number of notices of trustee's
 sale recorded for each residential property during the previous
 quarter;

25 (b) Remit the amount required under subsection (2) of this 26 section; and

(c) Report and update beneficiary contact information for the person and work group responsible for the beneficiary's compliance with the requirements of the foreclosure fairness act created in this chapter.

(2) For each notice of trustee's sale recorded on residential 31 real property, the beneficiary on whose behalf the notice of 32 trustee's sale has been recorded shall remit ((two)) three hundred 33 34 ((fifty)) twenty-five dollars to the department to be deposited, as 35 provided under RCW 61.24.172, into the foreclosure fairness account. The ((two)) three hundred ((fifty)) twenty-five dollar payment is 36 37 required for every recorded notice of trustee's sale for noncommercial loans on residential real property, but does not apply 38 to the recording of an amended notice of trustee's sale. ((If the 39

1 beneficiary previously made a payment under RCW 61.24.174, as it existed prior to July 1, 2016, for a notice of default supporting the 2 recorded notice of trustee's sale, no payment is required under this 3 section.)) No later than January 1, 2020, the department may from 4 time to time adjust the amount of the fee, not to exceed three 5 б hundred twenty-five dollars, at a sufficient level to defray the 7 costs of the program. The beneficiary shall remit the total amount required in a lump sum each quarter. 8

9 (3) <u>Any adjustment to the amount of the fee, pursuant to the</u> 10 <u>authority of subsection (2) of this section, shall be made by rule</u> 11 <u>adopted by the department in accordance with the provisions of</u> 12 <u>chapter 34.05 RCW.</u>

13 (4) Reporting and payments under subsections (1) and (2) of this 14 section are due within forty-five days of the end of each quarter.

15 (((4))) (5) This section does not apply to any beneficiary or 16 loan servicer that is a federally insured depository institution, as 17 defined in 12 U.S.C. Sec. 461(b)(1)(A), and that certifies under 18 penalty of perjury that fewer than fifty notices of trustee's sale 19 were recorded on its behalf in the preceding year.

20 (((5))) <u>(6)</u> This section does not apply to association 21 beneficiaries subject to chapter 64.32, 64.34, or 64.38 RCW.

22 (((6))) (7) For purposes of this section, "residential real 23 property" includes residential real property with up to four dwelling 24 units, whether or not the property or any part thereof is owner-25 occupied.

26 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 61.24 27 RCW to read as follows:

(1) If a trustee under a deed of trust is named as a defendant in 28 an action or proceeding in which that deed of trust is the subject, 29 30 and if there are no substantive allegations that seek damages from the trustee or seek to enjoin the foreclosure based on any alleged 31 unlawful actions or omissions by the trustee, including causes of 32 action where the trustee is a codefendant alleged to be jointly or 33 derivatively liable with respect to the trustee's conduct as to the 34 35 borrower or the trustee's statutory obligations, not less than thirty-five days after service of the summons and complaint on the 36 trustee, the trustee may file a declaration of nonmonetary status. 37 The declaration must be served on the parties in the manner set forth 38 in superior court civil rule (CR) 5. 39

1

(2) The declaration of nonmonetary status must set forth:

2 (a) The status of the trustee as trustee under the deed of trust3 that is the subject of the action or proceeding;

4 (b) That the complaint or pleading does not assert any 5 substantive allegations that seek damages from the trustee or seek to 6 enjoin the foreclosure based on any alleged unlawful actions or 7 omissions by the trustee;

8 (c) That it has been named as a defendant in the proceeding 9 solely in its capacity as a trustee under the deed of trust and that 10 the trustee agrees to be bound by whatever order or judgment is 11 issued by the court regarding the subject deed of trust;

12 (d) A statement printed in no less than twelve-point font and 13 bolded that reads:

14 "You have 30 days from service of this declaration to file and 15 serve an objection with the court in compliance with RCW 16 61.24.--- (this section). If you do not timely object, the 17 trustee will be deemed a nominal party to this action and you may 18 not seek monetary relief against it. Your case may also be 19 removed to federal court if the trustee was the only defendant 20 domiciled in Washington."

(3) The parties who have appeared in the action or proceeding have thirty days from the service of the declaration by the trustee in which to object to the nonmonetary status of the trustee. Any objection must set forth the allegations against the trustee in a manner sufficient to satisfy the pleading standard of superior court civil rule (CR) 8(a).

27

(4) The objection must:

(a) Conform to superior court civil rule (CR) 10 and the caption
 must include the following identification: "Objection to Declaration
 of Nonmonetary Status of Defendant [trustee]";

31 (b) Contain a short and plain statement of the claim against 32 defendant trustee as described in the complaint, showing that the 33 plaintiff is entitled to relief. Allegations against the trustee may 34 not be raised for the first time in the objection;

35 (c) Be filed with the court within thirty days of service of the 36 trustee's declaration of nonmonetary status described in subsection 37 (1) of this section;

38 (d) Be served on the trustee in the manner set forth in superior 39 court civil rule (CR) 5.

1 (5) Upon filing of a timely objection with the court and timely 2 service of the objection, the trustee must thereafter be required to 3 participate in the action or proceeding.

(6) If an objection is not filed and served within the thirty-day 4 5 objection period, the trustee: Is not required to participate any 6 further in the action or proceeding; is not subject to any monetary awards as and for damages, attorneys' fees, or costs; and is bound by 7 any court order relating to the subject deed of trust that is the 8 subject of the action or proceeding. The trustee's nonmonetary status 9 is not established until the thirty-day objection period has passed 10 11 without filing and service of an objection pursuant to subsection (5) 12 of this section.

(7) In the event a party or parties elect not to or fail to 13 timely object to the declaration of nonmonetary status, but later 14 through discovery or otherwise determine that the trustee should 15 16 participate in the action, the parties may file and serve on all 17 parties and the trustee a motion pursuant to superior court civil rule (CR) 15. Upon the court's granting of the motion, the trustee 18 19 must thereafter be required to participate in the action or proceeding, and the court must provide sufficient time before trial 20 21 for the trustee to be able to respond to the complaint, to conduct discovery, and to bring other pretrial motions in accordance with 22 Washington superior court civil rules. 23

(8) Upon the filing of the declaration of nonmonetary status, the 24 25 time within which the trustee is required to file an answer or other 26 responsive pleading is tolled for the period of time within which the opposing parties may object to the declaration. Upon the timely 27 service of an objection to the declaration of nonmonetary status, the 28 29 trustee has thirty days from the date of service within which to file an answer or other responsive pleading to the complaint or cross-30 31 complaint.

32 (9) For purposes of this section, "trustee" includes any agent or 33 employee of the trustee who performs some or all the duties of a 34 trustee under this chapter and includes substituted trustees and 35 agents of the trustee.

36 (10) If upon objection to the trustee's declaration of 37 nonmonetary status the court finds that the declaration was filed 38 without sufficient support based upon the allegations made in the 39 complaint, the court may award the plaintiff attorneys' fees and 40 costs associated with the objection together with any actual damages

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demonstrated. Any award may be made after notice and hearing with 1 2 submission of evidence of the attorneys' fees and damages.

<u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 61.12 3 RCW to read as follows: 4

5 (1) Before any mortgagee of residential real property commences any legal action under RCW 61.12.040 to foreclose any reverse 6 residential mortgage, such person shall give the mortgagor notice of 7 such intention at least thirty-three days in advance. For the 8 purposes of this section "residential real property" means property 9 10 consisting solely of a single-family residence, a two-to-four-unit owner occupied dwelling, a residential condominium unit, a 11 manufactured home, or a residential cooperative unit. 12

(2) Notice of intention to take action as specified in subsection 13 (1) of this section must be in writing and sent to the resident 14 mortgagor or, in case of the death of the last surviving mortgagor, 15 addressed to any known surviving spouse or to "unknown heirs" of the 16 residential mortgagor, by first-class and either certified or 17 registered mail, return receipt requested, at his or her last known 18 address and, if different, at the residence which is the subject of 19 20 the residential mortgage.

(3) The written notice must be in English and Spanish, in a form 21 to be published by the department of commerce, and must clearly and 22 23 conspicuously state:

24

(a) The particular obligation or real estate security interest;

25 (b) The nature of the default claimed or the reason for 26 acceleration of the mortgage;

27 (c) Except in cases where the acceleration is due to the death of the last surviving mortgagor, the right, if any, of the mortgagor to 28 cure the default and exactly what performance, including what sum of 29 30 money, if any, must be tendered to cure the default;

(d) Except in cases where the acceleration is due to the death of 31 the last surviving mortgagor, the applicable time within which the 32 mortgagor must cure the default; 33

34 (e) A statement printed in no less than twelve-point font and 35 bolded that reads:

"If you do nothing to cure the default, if any, we intend to 36 start a lawsuit to foreclose your mortgaged property. If the mortgage 37 is foreclosed, your mortgaged property will be sold to pay off the 38

1 mortgage debt. You should contact a housing counselor or attorney as
2 soon as possible."; and

3 (f) The toll-free telephone number to find a department-approved 4 home equity conversion mortgage counseling agency from the United 5 States department of housing and urban development, the toll-free 6 numbers for the statewide foreclosure hotline recommended by the 7 housing finance commission, and the statewide civil legal aid hotline 8 for assistance and referrals.

9 (4) It is an unfair or deceptive act in trade or commerce and an 10 unfair method of competition in violation of the consumer protection 11 act, chapter 19.86 RCW, affecting the public interest, for any person 12 or entity to:

13 (a) Fail to send the notice as required in this section at least 14 thirty-three days before accelerating the maturity of any reverse 15 residential mortgage obligation or commencing any legal action under 16 RCW 61.12.040;

(b) Fail to state the nature of the default, the correct amount or action that is required to cure the default, if any, or the time and manner in which to cure if cure is possible; or

20 (c) To send the notice required in this section without the 21 advisory language and information about foreclosure assistance.

22 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 10. (1) This chapter applies only to 23 residential real property consisting solely of a single-family 24 residence, a residential condominium unit, or a residential 25 cooperative unit.

26 (2) For purposes of this chapter:

(a) Property is "abandoned" when there are no signs of occupancy
and at least three of the following indications of abandonment are
visible from the exterior:

30 (i) The absence of furnishings and personal items consistent with 31 residential habitation;

32 (ii) The gas, electric, or water utility services have been 33 disconnected;

34 (iii) Statements by neighbors, passersby, delivery agents, or 35 government employees that the property is vacant;

36 (iv) Multiple windows on the property are boarded up or closed 37 off or are smashed through, broken, or unhinged, or multiple window 38 panes are broken and unrepaired;

(v) Doors on the residence are substantially damaged, broken off,
 unhinged, or conspicuously open;

3 (vi) The property has been stripped of copper or other materials,
4 or interior fixtures have been removed;

5 (vii) Law enforcement officials have received at least one report 6 within the immediately preceding six months of trespassing or 7 vandalism or other illegal activities by persons who enter unlawfully 8 on the property;

9 (viii) The property has been declared unfit for occupancy and 10 ordered to remain vacant and unoccupied pursuant to an order issued 11 by a municipal or county authority or a court of competent 12 jurisdiction;

(ix) Construction was initiated on the property and was discontinued before completion, leaving a building unsuitable for occupancy, and construction has not taken place for at least six months;

17 (x) Newspapers, circulars, flyers, or mail has accumulated on the 18 property or the United States postal service has discontinued 19 delivery to the property;

(xi) Rubbish, trash, debris, neglected vegetation, or natural
 overgrowth has accumulated on the property;

(xii) Hazardous, noxious, or unhealthy substances or materialshave accumulated on the property;

24 (xiii) Other credible evidence exists indicating the intent to 25 vacate and abandon the property.

(b) Property is in "mid-foreclosure" when, pursuant to chapter
61.24 RCW, a notice of default or notice of preforeclosure options
has been issued or a notice of trustee's sale has been recorded in
the office of the county auditor.

30 (c) Property is a "nuisance" when so determined by a county, 31 city, or town pursuant to its authority under chapter 7.48 RCW or RCW 32 35.22.280, 35.23.440, 35.27.410, or 36.32.120.

33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 11. (1) A county, city, or town may notify a 34 mortgage servicer that a property has been determined to be 35 abandoned, in mid-foreclosure, and a nuisance.

36 (2) A notice issued pursuant to this section must:

37 (a) Be accompanied by an affidavit or a declaration made under 38 penalty of perjury by a county, city, or town official that a 39 property is abandoned, in mid-foreclosure, and a nuisance, and the

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affidavit or declaration must outline at least three indicators of abandonment and be supported with time and date stamped photographs, a finding that the property is a nuisance, and a copy of the notice of default, notice of preforeclosure options, or notice of trustee's sale; and

6 (b) Be sent to the mortgage servicer by certified mail.

7 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 12. (1) A mortgage servicer may contact a county, city, or town regarding a property it believes to be 8 abandoned, and a nuisance and request that a county, city, or town 9 official visit the property and make a determination as to whether 10 11 the residential real property is abandoned and a nuisance. When 12 making such a request, the mortgage servicer must furnish a copy of a notice of default, notice of preforeclosure options, or notice of 13 14 trustee's sale applicable to the property.

15 (2) A county, city, or town shall respond to such a request 16 within fifteen calendar days of receipt and notify the mortgage 17 servicer:

18 (a) That a county, city, or town official has visited the 19 property and determined that the property is not abandoned, or not a 20 nuisance;

21 (b) That a county, city, or town official has visited the property and determined that the property is abandoned, in mid-22 23 foreclosure, and a nuisance. In this case, the notification shall be accompanied by an affidavit or a declaration made under penalty of 24 25 perjury by a county, city, or town official that a property is 26 abandoned, mid-foreclosure, and a nuisance, and the affidavit or 27 declaration must outline at least three indicators of abandonment and be supported with time and date stamped photographs, a finding that 28 29 the property is a nuisance, and a copy of the notice of default or 30 notice of trustee's sale supplied by the mortgage servicer; or

31 (c) That the county, city, or town does not have adequate 32 resources or is otherwise unable to make the requested determination.

33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 13. (1) Upon receipt from a county, city, or 34 town of an affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury that a 35 property is abandoned, in mid-foreclosure, and a nuisance, a mortgage 36 servicer or its designee may enter the property for the purposes of 37 abating the identified nuisance, preserving property, or preventing

1 waste and may take steps to secure the property, including but not 2 limited to:

(a) Installing missing locks on exterior doors. If any locks are 3 changed the mortgage servicer must provide a lock box. Working locks 4 may not be removed or replaced unless all doors are secured and there 5 6 is no means of entry, and in such cases only one working lock may be 7 removed and replaced;

8

(b) Replacing or boarding broken or missing windows;

(c) Winterizing, including draining pipes and disconnecting or 9 turning on utilities; 10

11

(d) Eliminating building code or other code violations;

(e) Securing exterior pools and spas; 12

13 (f) Performing routine yard maintenance on the exterior of the 14 residence; and

15

(q) Performing pest and insect control services.

(2) The mortgage servicer or its designee must make a record of 16 17 entry by means of dated and time-stamped photographs showing the 18 manner of entry and personal items visible within the residence upon 19 entry.

20 (3) Neither the mortgage servicer nor its designee may remove 21 personal items from the property unless the items are hazardous or perishable, and in case of such removal must inventory the items 22 23 removed.

24 (4) Prior to each entry, a mortgage servicer or its designee must 25 ensure that a notice is posted on the front door that includes the 26 following:

(a) A statement that, pursuant to RCW 7.28.230, until foreclosure 27 and sale is complete the property owner or occupant authorized by the 28 29 owner has the right to possession;

(b) A statement that the property owner or occupant authorized by 30 31 the owner has the right to request that any locks installed by the mortgage servicer or its designee be removed within twenty-four hours 32 and replaced with new locks accessible by the property owner or 33 occupant authorized by the owner only; 34

(c) A toll-free, twenty-four hour number that the property owner 35 36 or occupant authorized by the owner may call in order to gain timely entry, which entry must be provided no later than the next business 37 day; and 38

39 (d) The phone number of the statewide foreclosure hotline recommended by the housing finance commission and the statewide civil 40

1 legal aid hotline, together with a statement that the property owner 2 may have the right to participate in foreclosure mediation pursuant 3 to RCW 61.24.163.

4 (5) Records of entry onto property pursuant to this section must
5 be maintained by the mortgage servicer or its designee for at least
6 four years from the date of entry.

7 (6) If, upon entry, the property is found to be occupied, the 8 mortgage servicer or its designee must leave the property 9 immediately, notify the county, city, or town, and thereafter neither 10 the mortgage servicer nor its designee may enter the property 11 regardless of whether the property constitutes a nuisance or complies 12 with local code enforcement standards.

13 (7) In the event a mortgage servicer is contacted by the borrower 14 and notified that the property is not abandoned, the mortgage 15 servicer must so notify the county, city, or town and thereafter 16 neither the mortgage servicer nor its designee may enter the property 17 regardless of whether the property constitutes a nuisance or complies 18 with local code enforcement standards.

(8) A county, city, or town is not liable for any damages causedby any act or omission of the mortgage servicer or its designee.

Sec. 14. Except in circumstances governed by 21 NEW SECTION. section 13 (6) and (7) of this act, if a mortgage servicer receives 22 notice from a county, city, or town pursuant to section 11 or 23 24 12(2)(b) of this act that a property is abandoned, in mid-25 foreclosure, and a nuisance, and the mortgage servicer does not abate 26 the nuisance within the time prescribed by local ordinance, a county, 27 city, or town may exercise its authority under chapter 7.48 RCW, RCW 35.22.280, 35.23.440, 35.27.410, 36.32.120, or any other applicable 28 law to abate the nuisance and recover associated costs as set forth 29 30 in section 16 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. (1) When a property has been the subject of foreclosure, a county, city or town may notify the grantee of the trustee's deed or sheriff's deed, via certified mail, that a property is a nuisance. Upon receipt of such a notice, the grantee of the trustee's deed or sheriff's deed shall respond within fifteen calendar days and provide one of the following responses:

(a) That the grantee of the trustee's deed or sheriff's deed willabate the nuisance within the time prescribed by local ordinance; or

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1 (b) That the grantee of the trustee's deed or sheriff's deed does 2 not have adequate resources to abate the nuisance within the time 3 limits required by local ordinance.

(2) If the grantee of the trustee's deed or sheriff's deed is 4 notified and does not abate the nuisance within the time prescribed 5 6 by local ordinance, a county, city, or town may exercise its 7 authority under chapter 7.48 RCW, RCW 35.22.280, 35.23.440, 35.27.410, 36.32.120, or any other applicable law to abate the 8 nuisance and recover associated costs as set forth in section 16 of 9 this act. 10

Sec. 16. Except in circumstances governed by 11 NEW SECTION. 12 section 13 (6) and (7) of this act, if, after issuance of a notice 13 pursuant to section 11, 12(2)(b), or 15 of this act, a nuisance has not been abated within the time prescribed by local ordinance and the 14 county, city, or town has exercised its authority under chapter 7.48 15 16 RCW, RCW 35.22.280, 35.23.440, 35.27.410, 36.32.120, or any other 17 applicable law to abate the nuisance, the county, city, or town may recover its costs by levying an assessment on the real property on 18 which the nuisance is situated to reimburse the county, city, or town 19 for the costs of abatement, excluding any associated fines or 20 penalties. This assessment constitutes a lien against the property, 21 and is binding upon successors in title only from the date the lien 22 23 is recorded in the county in which the real property is located. This assessment is of equal rank with state, county, and municipal taxes 24 25 and is assessed against the real property upon which cost was 26 incurred unless such amount is previously paid.

27 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 17.** The authority provided pursuant to this 28 chapter is in addition to, and not in limitation of, any other 29 authority provided by law.

30 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 18. Sections 10 through 17 of this act 31 constitute a new chapter in Title 7 RCW.

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