

c/o Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
State of Florida
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Governor DeSantis,

The Stonecrest Property Owners Association (POA) is considering a proposition to require home buyers to pay an "initial assessment" of .033% of the price of a home (subject to a 2/3rd vote by written consent). Based on last year's average home selling price of \$303,113, this assessment rate would cost home buyers \$1,000 for the right to purchase a home in Stonecrest.

I have read opinions of Florida attorneys that a developer may impose a capital contribution fee to establish reserves, but that after turnover, an association may only charge a fee for the sale or transfer of a unit, if the association is required by the HOA's articles or bylaws to approve such transfers or sales and that the fee cannot exceed \$150 per applicant.

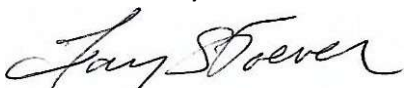
Our Board of Directors alleges that it's "permissible" to require purchasers to pay an assessment for the purchase of a home in an amount or percentage of home price as they may determine. And that the Board's attorney and auditor have informed them that there are other HOA's that are currently imposing an initial or capital contribution assessment (without naming any).

I'm not an attorney, but it seems that charging an arbitrarily determined assessment just for the right to buy a home within an HOA is neither fair nor Constitutional. And it's concerning if some Florida HOA's are now imposing such fees.

Please keep Florida the free state we've all come to enjoy under your leadership and take such steps as may be needed to prohibit homeowners' associations from charging for the right to buy a home.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours truly,



Larrv Stoever