

163.2511 Urban infill and redevelopment.—

(1) Sections 163.2511-163.2520 may be cited as the “Growth Policy Act.”

(2) It is declared that:

(a) Fiscally strong urban centers are beneficial to regional and state economies and resources, are a method for reduction of future urban sprawl, and should be promoted by state, regional, and local governments.

(b) The health and vibrancy of the urban cores benefit their respective regions and the state; conversely, the deterioration of those urban cores negatively impacts the surrounding area and the state.

(c) In recognition of the interwoven destiny between the urban center, the suburbs, the region, and the state, the respective governments need to establish a framework and work in partnership with communities and the private sector to revitalize urban centers.

(d) State urban policies should guide the state, regional agencies, local governments, and the private sector in preserving and redeveloping existing urban cores and promoting the adequate provision of infrastructure, human services, safe neighborhoods, educational facilities, and economic development to sustain these cores into the future.

(e) Successfully revitalizing and sustaining the urban cores is dependent on addressing, through an integrated and coordinated community effort, a range of varied components essential to a healthy urban environment, including cultural, educational, recreational, economic, transportation, and social service components.

(f) Infill development and redevelopment are recognized to be important components and useful mechanisms for promoting and sustaining urban cores. State and regional entities and local governments should provide incentives to promote urban infill and redevelopment. Existing programs and incentives should be integrated to the extent possible to promote urban infill and redevelopment and to achieve the goals of the state urban policy.

History.—s. 1, ch. 99-378; s. 186, ch. 2010-102; s. 3, ch. 2012-90.

163.2514 Growth Policy Act; definitions.—As used in ss. 163.2511-163.2520, the term:

(1) “Local government” means any county or municipality.

(2) “Urban infill and redevelopment area” means an area or areas designated by a local government where:

(a) Public services such as water and wastewater, transportation, schools, and recreation are already available or are scheduled to be provided in an adopted 5-year schedule of capital improvements;

(b) The area, or one or more neighborhoods within the area, suffers from pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress as defined by s. 290.0058;

(c) The area exhibits a proportion of properties that are substandard, overcrowded, dilapidated, vacant or abandoned, or functionally obsolete which is higher than the average for the local government;

(d) More than 50 percent of the area is within 1/4 mile of a transit stop, or a sufficient number of transit stops will be made available concurrent with the designation; and

(e) The area includes or is adjacent to community redevelopment areas, brownfields, enterprise zones, or Main Street programs, or has been designated by the state or Federal Government as an urban redevelopment, revitalization, or infill area under empowerment zone, enterprise community, or brownfield showcase community programs or similar programs.

History.—s. 1, ch. 99-378; s. 187, ch. 2010-102; s. 4, ch. 2012-90.

163.2517 Designation of urban infill and redevelopment area.—

(1) A local government may designate a geographic area or areas within its jurisdiction as an urban infill and redevelopment area for the purpose of targeting economic development, job creation, housing, transportation, crime prevention, neighborhood revitalization and preservation, and land use incentives to encourage urban infill and redevelopment within the urban core.

(2)(a) As part of the preparation and implementation of an urban infill and redevelopment plan, a collaborative and holistic community participation process must be implemented to include each neighborhood within the area targeted for designation as an urban infill and redevelopment area. The objective of the community participation process is to encourage communities within the proposed urban infill and redevelopment area to participate in the design and implementation of the plan, including a “visioning” of the urban core, before redevelopment.

(b)1. A neighborhood participation process must be developed to provide for the ongoing involvement of stakeholder groups including, but not limited to, community-based organizations, neighborhood associations, financial institutions, faith organizations, housing authorities, financial institutions, existing businesses, businesses interested in operating in the community, schools, and neighborhood residents, in preparing and implementing the urban infill and redevelopment plan.

2. The neighborhood participation process must include a governance structure whereby the local government shares decisionmaking authority for developing and implementing the urban infill and redevelopment plan with communitywide representatives. For example, the local government and community representatives could organize a corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to implement specific redevelopment projects.

(3) A local government seeking to designate a geographic area within its jurisdiction as an urban infill and redevelopment area shall prepare a plan that describes the infill and redevelopment objectives of the local government within the proposed area. In lieu of preparing a new plan, the local

government may demonstrate that an existing plan or combination of plans associated with a community redevelopment area, Florida Main Street program, Front Porch Florida Community, sustainable community, enterprise zone, or neighborhood improvement district includes the factors listed in paragraphs (a)-(n), including a collaborative and holistic community participation process, or amend such existing plans to include these factors. The plan shall demonstrate the local government and community's commitment to comprehensively address the urban problems within the urban infill and redevelopment area and identify activities and programs to accomplish locally identified goals such as code enforcement; improved educational opportunities; reduction in crime; neighborhood revitalization and preservation; provision of infrastructure needs, including mass transit and multimodal linkages; and mixed-use planning to promote multifunctional redevelopment to improve both the residential and commercial quality of life in the area. The plan shall also:

(a) Contain a map depicting the geographic area or areas to be included within the designation.

(b) Confirm that the infill and redevelopment area is within an area designated for urban uses in the local government's comprehensive plan.

(c) Identify and map existing enterprise zones, community redevelopment areas, community development corporations, brownfield areas, downtown redevelopment districts, safe neighborhood improvement districts, historic preservation districts, and empowerment zones or enterprise communities located within the area proposed for designation as an urban infill and redevelopment area and provide a framework for coordinating infill and redevelopment programs within the urban core.

(d) Identify a memorandum of understanding between the district school board and the local government jurisdiction regarding public school facilities located within the urban infill and redevelopment area to identify how the school board will provide priority to enhancing public school facilities and programs in the designated area, including the reuse of existing buildings for schools within the area.

(e) Identify each neighborhood within the proposed area and state community preservation and revitalization goals and projects identified through a collaborative and holistic community participation process and how such projects will be implemented.

(f) Identify how the local government and community-based organizations intend to implement affordable housing programs, including, but not limited to, economic and community development programs administered by federal and state agencies, within the urban infill and redevelopment area.

(g) Identify strategies for reducing crime.

(h) If applicable, provide guidelines for the adoption of land development regulations specific to the urban infill and redevelopment area which include, for example, setbacks and parking requirements appropriate to urban development.

(i) Identify and map any existing transportation concurrency exception areas and any relevant public transportation corridors designated by a metropolitan planning organization in its long-range transportation plans or by the local government in its comprehensive plan for which the local government seeks designation as a transportation concurrency exception area. For those areas, describe how public transportation, pedestrian ways, and bikeways will be implemented as an alternative to increased automobile use.

(j) Identify and adopt a package of financial and local government incentives which the local government will offer for new development, expansion of existing development, and redevelopment within the urban infill and redevelopment area. Examples of such incentives include:

1. Waiver of license and permit fees.
2. Exemption of sales made in the urban infill and redevelopment area from local option sales surtaxes imposed pursuant to s. 212.055.
3. Waiver of delinquent local taxes or fees to promote the return of property to productive use.
4. Expedited permitting.
5. Lower transportation impact fees for development which encourages more use of public transit, pedestrian, and bicycle modes of transportation.
6. Prioritization of infrastructure spending within the urban infill and redevelopment area.
7. Local government absorption of developers' concurrency costs.

In order to be authorized to recognize the exemption from local option sales surtaxes pursuant to subparagraph 2., the owner, lessee, or lessor of the new development, expanding existing development, or redevelopment within the urban infill and redevelopment area must file an application under oath with the governing body having jurisdiction over the urban infill and redevelopment area where the business is located. The application must include the name and address of the business claiming the exclusion from collecting local option surtaxes; an address and assessment roll parcel number of the urban infill and redevelopment area for which the exemption is being sought; a description of the improvements made to accomplish the new development, expanding development, or redevelopment of the real property; a copy of the building permit application or the building permit issued for the development of the real property; a new application for a certificate of registration with the Department of Revenue with the address of the new development, expanding development, or redevelopment; and the location of the property. The local government must review and approve the application and submit the completed application and documentation along with a copy of the ordinance adopted pursuant to subsection (5) to the Department of Revenue in order for the business to become eligible to make sales exempt from local option sales surtaxes in the urban infill and redevelopment area.

(k) Identify how activities and incentives within the urban infill and redevelopment area will be coordinated and what administrative mechanism the local government will use for the coordination.

(l) Identify how partnerships with the financial and business community will be developed.

(m) Identify the governance structure that the local government will use to involve community representatives in the implementation of the plan.

(n) Identify performance measures to evaluate the success of the local government in implementing the urban infill and redevelopment plan.

(4) In order for a local government to designate an urban infill and redevelopment area, it must amend its comprehensive land use plan under s. 163.3187 to delineate the boundaries of the urban infill and redevelopment area within the future land use element of its comprehensive plan pursuant to its adopted urban infill and redevelopment plan. The state land planning agency shall review the boundary delineation of the urban infill and redevelopment area in the future land use element under s. 163.3184. However, an urban infill and redevelopment plan adopted by a local government is not subject to review for compliance as defined by s. 163.3184(1)(b), and the local government is not required to adopt the plan as a comprehensive plan amendment.

(5) After the preparation of an urban infill and redevelopment plan or designation of an existing plan, the local government shall adopt the plan by ordinance. Notice for the public hearing on the ordinance must be in the form established in s. 166.041(3)(c)2. for municipalities, and s. 125.66(4)(b)2. for counties.

(6)(a) In order to continue to be eligible for the economic and regulatory incentives granted with respect to an urban infill and redevelopment area, the local government must demonstrate during the evaluation, assessment, and review of its comprehensive plan required pursuant to s. 163.3191, that within designated urban infill and redevelopment areas, the amount of combined annual residential, commercial, and institutional development has increased by at least 10 percent.

(b) If the local government fails to implement the urban infill and redevelopment plan in accordance with the deadlines set forth in the plan, the state land planning agency may seek to rescind the economic and regulatory incentives granted to the urban infill and redevelopment area, subject to the provisions of chapter 120. The action to rescind may be initiated 90 days after issuing a written letter of warning to the local government.

History.—s. 1, ch. 99-378; s. 18, ch. 2000-317; s. 24, ch. 2001-60; s. 3, ch. 2011-139; s. 5, ch. 2012-96.

163.2520 Economic incentives.—

(1) A local government with an adopted urban infill and redevelopment plan or plan employed in lieu thereof may issue revenue bonds under s. 163.385 and employ tax increment financing under s. 163.387 for the purpose of financing the implementation of the plan, except that in a charter county such incentives shall be employed consistent with the provisions of s. 163.410.

(2) A local government with an adopted urban infill and redevelopment plan or plan employed in lieu thereof may exercise the powers granted under s. 163.514 for community redevelopment neighborhood improvement districts, including the authority to levy special assessments.

(3) Prior to June 1 each year, areas designated by a local government as urban infill and redevelopment areas shall be given a priority in the allocation of private activity bonds from the state pool pursuant to s. 159.807.

History.—s. 1, ch. 99-378; s. 25, ch. 2001-60.

63.3161 Short title; intent and purpose.—

(1) This part shall be known and may be cited as the “Community Planning Act.”

(2) It is the purpose of this act to utilize and strengthen the existing role, processes, and powers of local governments in the establishment and implementation of comprehensive planning programs to guide and manage future development consistent with the proper role of local government.

(3) It is the intent of this act to focus the state role in managing growth under this act to protecting the functions of important state resources and facilities.

(4) It is the intent of this act that local governments have the ability to preserve and enhance present advantages; encourage the most appropriate use of land, water, and resources, consistent with the public interest; overcome present handicaps; and deal effectively with future problems that may result from the use and development of land within their jurisdictions. Through the process of comprehensive planning, it is intended that units of local government can preserve, promote, protect, and improve the public health, safety, comfort, good order, appearance, convenience, law enforcement and fire prevention, and general welfare; facilitate the adequate and efficient provision of transportation, water, sewerage, schools, parks, recreational facilities, housing, and other requirements and services; and conserve, develop, utilize, and protect natural resources within their jurisdictions.

(5) It is the intent of this act to encourage and ensure cooperation between and among municipalities and counties and to encourage and ensure coordination of planning and development activities of units of local government with the planning activities of regional agencies and state government in accord with applicable provisions of law.

(6) It is the intent of this act that adopted comprehensive plans shall have the legal status set out in this act and that no public or private development shall be permitted except in conformity with comprehensive plans, or elements or portions thereof, prepared and adopted in conformity with this act.

(7) It is the intent of this act that the activities of units of local government in the preparation and adoption of comprehensive plans, or elements or portions thereof, shall be conducted in conformity with this act.

(8) The provisions of this act in their interpretation and application are declared to be the minimum requirements necessary to accomplish the stated intent, purposes, and objectives of this act; to protect human, environmental, social, and economic resources; and to maintain, through orderly growth and development, the character and stability of present and future land use and development in this state.

(9) It is the intent of the Legislature that the repeal of ss. 163.160 through 163.315 by s. 19 of chapter 85-55, Laws of Florida, and amendments to this part by this chapter law, not be interpreted to limit or restrict the powers of municipal or county officials, but be interpreted as a recognition of their broad statutory and constitutional powers to plan for and regulate the use of land. It is, further, the intent of the Legislature to reconfirm that ss. 163.3161-163.3248 have provided and do provide the necessary statutory direction and basis for municipal and county officials to carry out their comprehensive planning and land development regulation powers, duties, and responsibilities.

(10) It is the intent of the Legislature that all governmental entities in this state recognize and respect judicially acknowledged or constitutionally protected private property rights. It is the intent of the Legislature that all rules, ordinances, regulations, comprehensive plans and amendments thereto, and programs adopted under the authority of this act must be developed, promulgated, implemented, and applied with sensitivity for private property rights and not be unduly restrictive, and property owners must be free from actions by others which would harm their property or which would constitute an inordinate burden on property rights as those terms are defined in s. 70.001(3)(e) and (f). Full and just compensation or other appropriate relief must be provided to any property owner for a governmental action that is determined to be an invalid exercise of the police power which constitutes a taking, as provided by law. Any such relief must ultimately be determined in a judicial action.

(11) It is the intent of this part that the traditional economic base of this state, agriculture, tourism, and military presence, be recognized and protected. Further, it is the intent of this part to encourage economic diversification, workforce development, and community planning.

(12) It is the intent of this part that new statutory requirements created by the Legislature will not require a local government whose plan has been found to be in compliance with this part to adopt amendments implementing the new statutory requirements until the evaluation and appraisal period provided in s. 163.3191, unless otherwise specified in law. However, any new amendments must comply with the requirements of this part.

History.—ss. 1, 2, ch. 75-257; ss. 1, 20, ch. 85-55; s. 1, ch. 93-206; s. 4, ch. 2011-139.

¹163.3162 Agricultural Lands and Practices.—

(1) **LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**—The Legislature finds that agricultural production is a major contributor to the economy of the state; that agricultural lands constitute unique and irreplaceable resources of statewide importance; that the continuation of agricultural activities preserves the landscape and environmental resources of the state, contributes to the increase of

tourism, and furthers the economic self-sufficiency of the people of the state; and that the encouragement, development, and improvement of agriculture will result in a general benefit to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state. It is the purpose of this act to protect reasonable agricultural activities conducted on farm lands from duplicative regulation.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Farm” has the same meaning as provided in s. 823.14.

(b) “Farm operation” has the same meaning as provided in s. 823.14.

(c) “Farm product” means any plant, as defined in s. 581.011, or animal useful to humans and includes, but is not limited to, any product derived therefrom.

(d) “Governmental entity” has the same meaning as provided in s. 164.1031. The term does not include a water control district established under chapter 298 or a special district created by special act for water management purposes.

(3) DUPLICATION OF REGULATION.—Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 487.051(2), and notwithstanding any other law, including any provision of chapter 125 or this chapter:

(a) A county may not exercise any of its powers to adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution, regulation, rule, or policy to prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit an activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if such activity is regulated through implemented best management practices, interim measures, or regulations adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program; or if such activity is expressly regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) A governmental entity may not charge an assessment or fee for stormwater management on a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if the farm operation has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit or implements best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program.

(c) For each governmental entity that, before March 1, 2009, adopted a stormwater utility ordinance or resolution, adopted an ordinance or resolution establishing a municipal services benefit unit, or adopted a resolution stating the governmental entity’s intent to use the uniform method of collection pursuant to s. 197.3632 for such stormwater ordinances, the governmental entity may continue to charge an assessment or fee for stormwater management on a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural pursuant to s. 193.461, if the ordinance or resolution provides credits against the assessment or fee on a bona fide farm operation for the water quality or flood control benefit of:

1. The implementation of best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program;

2. The stormwater quality and quantity measures required as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit; or

3. The implementation of best management practices or alternative measures which the landowner demonstrates to the governmental entity to be of equivalent or greater stormwater benefit than those provided by implementation of best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program, or stormwater quality and quantity measures required as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit.

(d) When an activity of a farm operation takes place within a wellfield protection area as defined in any wellfield protection ordinance adopted by a county, and the implemented best management practice, regulation, or interim measure does not specifically address wellfield protection, a county may regulate that activity pursuant to such ordinance. This subsection does not limit the powers and duties provided for in s. 373.4592 or limit the powers and duties of any county to address an emergency as provided for in chapter 252.

(e) This subsection may not be construed to permit an existing farm operation to change to a more excessive farm operation with regard to traffic, noise, odor, dust, or fumes where the existing farm operation is adjacent to an established homestead or business on March 15, 1982.

(f) This subsection does not limit the powers of a predominantly urbanized county with a population greater than 1,500,000 and more than 25 municipalities, not operating under a home rule charter adopted pursuant to ss. 10, 11, and 24, Art. VIII of the Constitution of 1885, as preserved by s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the Constitution of 1968, which has a delegated pollution control program under s. 403.182 and includes drainage basins that are part of the Everglades Stormwater Program, to enact ordinances, regulations, or other measures to comply with the provisions of s. 373.4592, or which are necessary to carrying out a county's duties pursuant to the terms and conditions of any environmental program delegated to the county by agreement with a state agency.

(g) For purposes of this subsection, a county ordinance that regulates the transportation or land application of domestic wastewater residuals or other forms of sewage sludge shall not be deemed to be duplication of regulation.

(h) This subsection does not limit a county's powers to:

1. Enforce wetlands, springs protection, or stormwater ordinances, regulations, or rules adopted before July 1, 2003.

2. Enforce wetlands, springs protection, or stormwater ordinances, regulations, or rules pertaining to the Wekiva River Protection Area.

3. Enforce ordinances, regulations, or rules as directed by law or implemented consistent with the requirements of a program operated under a delegation agreement from a state agency or water management district.

As used in this paragraph, the term “wetlands” has the same meaning as defined in s. [373.019](#).

(i) The provisions of this subsection that limit a governmental entity’s authority to adopt or enforce any ordinance, regulation, rule, or policy, or to charge any assessment or fee for stormwater management, apply only to a bona fide farm operation as described in this subsection.

(j) This subsection does not apply to a municipal services benefit unit established before March 1, 2009, pursuant to s. [125.01\(1\)\(q\)](#), predominately for flood control or water supply benefits.

(4) AMENDMENT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—The owner of a parcel of land defined as an agricultural enclave under s. [163.3164](#) may apply for an amendment to the local government comprehensive plan pursuant to s. [163.3184](#). Such amendment is presumed not to be urban sprawl as defined in s. [163.3164](#) if it includes land uses and intensities of use that are consistent with the uses and intensities of use of the industrial, commercial, or residential areas that surround the parcel. This presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence. Each application for a comprehensive plan amendment under this subsection for a parcel larger than 640 acres must include appropriate new urbanism concepts such as clustering, mixed-use development, the creation of rural village and city centers, and the transfer of development rights in order to discourage urban sprawl while protecting landowner rights.

(a) The local government and the owner of a parcel of land that is the subject of an application for an amendment shall have 180 days following the date that the local government receives a complete application to negotiate in good faith to reach consensus on the land uses and intensities of use that are consistent with the uses and intensities of use of the industrial, commercial, or residential areas that surround the parcel. Within 30 days after the local government’s receipt of such an application, the local government and owner must agree in writing to a schedule for information submittal, public hearings, negotiations, and final action on the amendment, which schedule may thereafter be altered only with the written consent of the local government and the owner. Compliance with the schedule in the written agreement constitutes good faith negotiations for purposes of paragraph (c).

(b) Upon conclusion of good faith negotiations under paragraph (a), regardless of whether the local government and owner reach consensus on the land uses and intensities of use that are consistent with the uses and intensities of use of the industrial, commercial, or residential areas that surround the parcel, the amendment must be transmitted to the state land planning agency for review pursuant to s. [163.3184](#). If the local government fails to transmit the amendment within 180 days after receipt of a

complete application, the amendment must be immediately transferred to the state land planning agency for such review. A plan amendment transmitted to the state land planning agency submitted under this subsection is presumed not to be urban sprawl as defined in s. 163.3164. This presumption may be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence.

(c) If the owner fails to negotiate in good faith, a plan amendment submitted under this subsection is not entitled to the rebuttable presumption under this subsection in the negotiation and amendment process.

(d) Nothing within this subsection relating to agricultural enclaves shall preempt or replace any protection currently existing for any property located within the boundaries of the following areas:

1. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316; or
2. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2).

History.—s. 1, ch. 2003-162; s. 2, ch. 2006-255; ss. 1, 9, ch. 2011-7; s. 5, ch. 2011-139; HJR 7103, 2011 Regular Session; s. 1, ch. 2012-83.

¹**Note.**—Section 4, ch. 2012-75, provides that:

“(1) Notwithstanding ss. 163.3162 and 163.3164, Florida Statutes, the owner of a parcel of land located in an unincorporated area of a county that qualifies as an agricultural enclave under subsection (2) may apply for an amendment to the local government comprehensive plan pursuant to s. 163.3184, Florida Statutes. The subject of the amendment is presumed not to be urban sprawl, as defined in s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, if it proposes land uses and intensities of use that are consistent with the existing uses and intensities of use of, or consistent with the uses and intensities of use authorized for, the industrial, commercial, or residential areas that surround the parcel. If the parcel of land that is the subject of an amendment under this section is abutted on all sides by land having only one land use designation, the same land use designation must be presumed by the county to be appropriate for the parcel. The county shall, after considering the proposed density and intensity, grant the parcel the same land use designation as the surrounding parcels that abut the parcel unless the county finds by clear and convincing evidence that the grant would be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of its residents.

“(2) In order to qualify as an agricultural enclave under this section, the parcel of land must be a parcel that:

“(a) Is owned by a single person or entity;

“(b) Has been in continuous use for bona fide agricultural purposes, as defined by s. 193.461, Florida Statutes, for at least 5 years before the date of any comprehensive plan amendment application;

“(c) Is surrounded on at least 95 percent of its perimeter by property that the local government has designated as land that may be developed for industrial, commercial, or residential purposes; and

“(d) Does not exceed 640 acres but is not smaller than 500 acres.

“(3) This section does not preempt or replace the protection currently existing for property located within the boundaries of:

“1. The Wekiva Study Area, as described in s. 369.316, Florida Statutes; or

“2. The Everglades Protection Area, as defined in s. 373.4592(2), Florida Statutes.

“In order to qualify under this section as an enclave, the owner of a parcel of land meeting the requirements of subsection (2) must submit a written application to the county by January 1, 2013.”

163.3163 Applications for development permits; disclosure and acknowledgment of contiguous sustainable agricultural land.—

(1) This section may be cited as the “Agricultural Land Acknowledgment Act.”

(2) The Legislature finds that nonagricultural land which neighbors agricultural land may adversely affect agricultural production and farm operations on the agricultural land and may lead to the agricultural land’s conversion to urban, suburban, or other nonagricultural uses. The Legislature intends to reduce the occurrence of conflicts between agricultural and nonagricultural land uses and encourage sustainable agricultural land use. The purpose of this section is to ensure that generally accepted agricultural practices will not be subject to interference by residential use of land contiguous to sustainable agricultural land.

(3) As used in this section, the term:

(a) “Contiguous” means touching, bordering, or adjoining along a boundary. For purposes of this section, properties that would be contiguous if not separated by a roadway, railroad, or other public easement are considered contiguous.

(b) “Farm operation” has the same meaning as defined in s. 823.14.

(c) “Sustainable agricultural land” means land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461 which is used for a farm operation that uses current technology, based on science or research and demonstrated measurable increases in productivity, to meet future food, feed, fiber, and energy needs, while considering the environmental impacts and the social and economic benefits to the rural communities.

(4)(a) Before a political subdivision issues a local land use permit, building permit, or certificate of occupancy for nonagricultural land contiguous to sustainable agricultural land, the political subdivision shall require that, as a condition of issuing the permit or certificate, the applicant for the permit or certificate sign and submit to the political subdivision, in a format that is recordable in the official records of the county in which the political subdivision is located, a written acknowledgment of contiguous sustainable agricultural land in the following form:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CONTIGUOUS
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL LAND

I, (name of applicant), understand that my property located at (address of nonagricultural land), as further described in the attached legal description, is contiguous to sustainable agricultural land located at (address of agricultural land), as further described in the attached legal description.

I acknowledge and understand that the farm operation on the contiguous sustainable agricultural land identified herein will be conducted according to generally accepted agricultural practices as provided in the Florida Right to Farm Act, s. 823.14, Florida Statutes.

Signature: (signature of applicant)

Date: (date)

(b) An acknowledgment submitted to a political subdivision under paragraph (a) shall be recorded in the official records of the county in which the political subdivision is located.

(c) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in cooperation with the Department of Revenue, may adopt rules to administer this section.

History.—ss. 2, 9, ch. 2011-7; HJR 7103, 2011 Regular Session; s. 14, ch. 2012-83.