

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Budget Committee

BILL: SB 188

INTRODUCER: Senator Flores

SUBJECT: Growth Policy

DATE: February 17, 2012

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Wolfgang</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>CA</u>	Favorable
2.	<u>Wiggins</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>EP</u>	Favorable
3.	<u>Smith</u>	<u>Meyer, R.</u>	<u>BTA</u>	Favorable
4.	<u>Smith</u>	<u>Rhodes</u>	<u>BC</u>	Pre-meeting
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill eliminates the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program. This program was created by the Legislature in 1999 and has not been funded since fiscal year 2000-2001.

This bill repeals section 163.2523 of the Florida Statutes. This bill amends sections 163.065, 163.2511 and 163.2514 of the Florida Statutes to reflect the above-mentioned repeal.

II. Present Situation:

The Legislature passed the “Growth Policy Act”¹ in 1999, establishing a definition for urban infill and redevelopment areas (UIRAs), authorizing local governments to designate UIRAs and provide economic incentives for them, and setting standards for local governments to follow in designating them. The Act, currently found in ss. 163.2511-163.2523, F.S., has the goal of promoting and sustaining urban cores.²

Section 163.2523, F.S., establishes the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Program, a grant program that includes three types of grants. The largest percentage, sixty percent, is allocated towards fifty-fifty matching grants for implementing urban infill and redevelopment projects. Thirty percent is allocated for planning grants to be used in the development of an urban infill and redevelopment plan. The remaining ten percent is to be used for grants to implement projects which require an expenditure of under \$50,000. The local government which receives the grants is specifically allowed to allocate them to special districts and nonprofits.

¹ Chapter 99-378, s. 1, Laws of Fla.

² Section 163.2511, F.S.

The program has not been funded since fiscal year 2000-2001 when it was appropriated \$2.5 million. The Department of Community Affairs awarded the appropriated funds to 22 local governments.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 repeals s. 163.2523, F.S. This terminates the Urban Infill and Redevelopment Assistance Grant Program. The repeal of s. 163.2523, F.S., will not affect either the authority of local governments to designate UIRAs or use the economic incentives, such as revenue bonds and tax increment financing, currently available for local governments to use in implementing UIRA plans and projects.³

Section 2 amends s. 163.065, F.S., to reflect the repeal of s. 163.2523, F.S., by removing a reference to that statute.

Section 3 amends s. 163.2511, F.S., to reflect the repeal of s. 163.2523, F.S., by removing a reference to that statute.

Section 4 amends s. 163.2514, F.S., to reflect the repeal of s. 163.2523, F.S., by removing a reference to that statute.

Section 5 sets an effective date of July 1, 2012

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

³ Section 163.2520, F.S.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.