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A bill to be entitled An act relating to community redevelopment; amending s. 163.340, F.S.; redefining the terms "governing body," "slum area," and "blighted area"; amending s. 163.355, F.S.; providing requirements for counties and municipalities with respect to adopting a resolution that makes a finding of a slum or blighted area; amending s. 163.356, F.S.; requiring a redevelopment agency to report to the county on the progress of redevelopment activities; amending s. 163.358, F.S.; providing additional powers of a community redevelopment agency if delegated by the governing body of the county or municipality; amending s. 163.361, F.S.; providing for amending the boundaries of a development area; amending s. 163.362, F.S.; revising requirements for completing redevelopment financed by increment revenues; amending s. 163.385, F.S.; requiring notice of intent to issue revenue bonds; amending s. 163.387, F.S.; requiring that a county or municipality fund the redevelopment trust fund for the duration of the redevelopment plan; amending s. 163.410, F.S.; providing for the exercise of powers by the governing body of the county in which a community redevelopment area is located; eliminating certain provisions applicable to counties with home rule charters; requiring that certain amendments be made by resolution; authorizing a municipality to

create a community redevelopment agency; authorizing a county to reserve certain rights to itself with respect to the issuance of revenue bonds and other requirements; repealing s. 163.415, F.S., relating to the exercise of powers by noncharter counties; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsections (3), (7), and (8) of section 163.340, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.340 Definitions.--The following terms, wherever used or referred to in this part, have the following meanings:

- "Governing body" means the council, commission, or other legislative body charged with governing the county or municipality.
- (7) "Slum area" means an area in which a minimum of one-quarter there is a predominance of all buildings or improvements, whether residential or nonresidential, endanger life or property by fire or other causes because of one or more of the following factors: which by reason of dilapidation, deterioration, age, or obsolescence; inadequate provision for ventilation, light, air, sanitation, or open spaces; or high density of population, as evidenced by comparison to the population density of adjacent areas within the county or municipality, and overcrowding, as evidenced by government-maintained statistics and information in the South Florida Building Code; the existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire or other causes; or any 31 combination of such factors is conducive to ill health,

transmission of disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency, or crime and is detrimental to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare.

(8) "Blighted area" means either:

(a) an area in which there are a substantial number of slum, deteriorated, or deteriorating structures in which and conditions, as evidenced by government-maintained statistics, are leading that lead to economic distress or endangering endanger life or property. Structures are substantially deteriorated if a minimum of one quarter of all buildings in the area are in a deteriorated state. The following factors may be considered as contributing to a slum area or blighted area, but do not, by themselves, qualify for a finding of a slum area or blighted area: by fire or other causes or one or more of the following factors that substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of a county or municipality and is a menace to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare in its present condition and use:

- $\underline{\text{(a)}1.} \text{ Predominance of defective or inadequate street} \\ \text{layout}\underline{.} \\ \tau$
- (b) An unemployment rate for the previous 5 years which is higher and rising faster than that of the county in which the proposed redevelopment area is situated.
- $\underline{\text{(c)}}$ A tax base that has been flat or falling for the previous 5 years.
- $\underline{(d)_{2}}$. Faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility, or usefulness. $\underline{\cdot}$
- (e) An increase in the number of tax-exempt properties.
 - (f) 3. Unsanitary or unsafe conditions. +
 - (g) 4. Deterioration of site or other improvements. +

1	$(h)^{5}$. Inadequate and outdated building density
2	patterns <u>.</u> +
3	(i) Falling lease rates per square foot for office,
4	commercial, and industrial space.
5	(j)6. Tax or special assessment delinquency exceeding
6	the fair value of the land. $\dot{ au}$
7	(k) High and rising residential and commercial vacancy
8	rates.
9	$(1)^{7}$. Inadequate transportation and parking
10	facilities <u>.</u> ; and
11	(m) A high incidence of crime, as compared to the
12	remainder of the county and municipality.
13	(n) A large number of fire and emergency medical
14	service calls within the area, as compared to the remainder of
15	the county and municipality.
16	(o) A large number of violations to the building code
17	within the area, as compared to the remainder of the county
18	and municipality.
19	8. Diversity of ownership or defective or unusual
20	conditions of title which prevent the free alienability of
21	land within the deteriorated or hazardous area; or
22	(b) An area in which there exists faulty or inadequate
23	street layout; inadequate parking facilities; or roadways,
24	bridges, or public transportation facilities incapable of
25	handling the volume of traffic flow into or through the area,
26	either at present or following proposed construction.
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28	However, For purposes of qualifying for the tax credits
29	authorized in chapter 220, "blighted area" means an area
30	described in this subsection paragraph (a).
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1 Section 2. Section 163.355, Florida Statutes, is 2 amended to read: 3 163.355 Finding of necessity by county or 4 municipality. --5 (1) A No county or municipality may not shall exercise 6 the authority conferred by this part with respect to community 7 redevelopment until after the appropriate governing body has 8 adopted a resolution identifying the slum or blighted area and providing a detailed statement of how some or all of the 9 factors specified in s. 164.340(8) have contributed to the 10 11 condition of the slum or blighted area. The resolution must 12 state finding that: 13 (a) (1) One or more slum or blighted areas, or one or more areas in which there is a shortage of housing affordable 14 to residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, 15 exist in such county or municipality; and, 16 (b) (b) (2) The rehabilitation, conservation, or 17 redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or 18 19 areas, including, if appropriate, the development of 20 affordable housing for which residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, can afford, is necessary in the 21 interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of 22 the residents of such county or municipality. 23 24 (2) If a determination of a slum or blighted area is 25 successfully challenged by an affected party, the community 26 redevelopment plan and any subsequent activity taken with 27 respect to that plan will be null and void ab initio. 28 Section 3. Subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of 29 subsection (3) of section 163.356, Florida Statutes, are 30 amended to read: 163.356 Creation of community redevelopment agency.--

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(1) After adopting Upon a finding concerning a slum or blighted area of necessity as set forth in s. 163.355, and upon a further finding that there is a need for a community redevelopment agency to function in the county or municipality to carry out the community redevelopment purposes of this part, any county or municipality may create a public body corporate and politic to be known as a "community redevelopment agency." Each such agency shall be constituted as a public instrumentality, and the exercise by a community redevelopment agency of the powers conferred by this part shall be deemed and held to be the performance of an essential public function. The community redevelopment agency of a county has the power to function within the corporate limits of a municipality only as, if, and when the governing body of the municipality has by resolution concurred in the community redevelopment plan proposed by the governing body of the county.

(3)

shall designate a chair and vice chair from among the commissioners. An agency may employ an executive director, technical experts, and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it requires, and determine their qualifications, duties, and compensation. For such legal service as it requires, an agency may employ or retain its own counsel and legal staff. An agency authorized to transact business and exercise powers under this part shall file with the governing body, on or before March 31 of each year, a report of its activities for the preceding fiscal year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expenses

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as of the end of such fiscal year. At the time of filing the report, the agency shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the community a notice to the effect that such report has been filed with the county or municipality and that the report is available for inspection during business hours in the office of the clerk of the city or county commission and in the office of the agency. At the time of filing the report with the Auditor General, the agency shall submit a report to the governing body of the county which provides detailed information on progress in redevelopment activities, including a report on meeting timeframes and benchmarks, and which includes, but is not limited to, changes in tax-increment payments, enhancements to the tax base, leverage of private or non-ad valorem funds, costs and revenues, growth in new business, reduction of incompatible land uses or code violations, improvements to infrastructure, and benefits to the larger community.

Section 4. Section 163.358, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.358 Exercise of powers in carrying out community redevelopment and related activities. -- The community redevelopment powers assigned to a community redevelopment agency created under s. 163.356 include all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this part, except the following, which continue to vest in the governing body of the county or in the governing body of the municipality, if so delegated:

(1) The power to determine an area to be a slum or blighted area, or combination thereof; to designate such area as appropriate for community redevelopment; and to hold any 31 public hearings required with respect thereto.

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- The power to grant final approval to community redevelopment plans and modifications thereof, including a modification to the boundaries of a community redevelopment area served by the plan, as set forth in s. 163.361.
- The power to extend the term of the plan involving the continuing contribution by the taxing authority beyond the term of the original plan approved or adopted.
- The power to change the plan to the extent that the change requires an amendment to the county or municipal land use plan.
- (5) The power to authorize the issuance of revenue bonds as set forth in s. 163.385.
- (6) (4) The power to approve the acquisition, demolition, removal, or disposal of property as provided in s. 163.370(3) and the power to assume the responsibility to bear loss as provided in s. 163.370(3).
- (7) The power to approve the development of community policing innovations.
- Section 5. Section 163.361, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 163.361 Modification of community redevelopment plans.--
- If at any time after the approval of a community redevelopment plan by the appropriate governing body it becomes necessary or desirable to amend or modify such plan, the governing body may amend such plan upon the recommendation of the agency. The agency recommendation to amend or modify a redevelopment plan may include a change in the boundaries of the redevelopment area to add land to or exclude land from the redevelopment area, or may include the development and 31 | implementation of community policing innovations.

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(2) If, at any time after approval of a community redevelopment plan by the appropriate governing body, it is necessary to amend or modify the boundaries of the plan or implement an amendment enumerated in s. 163.358, upon the recommendation of the agency the governing body of the county in which the community redevelopment area is located shall consider the impact of the amendment on the county as a whole and may approve the amendment by resolution. An agency recommendation to amend or modify the boundaries of a redevelopment plan may add land to or exclude land from the redevelopment area. (3) (3) (2) The appropriate governing body shall hold a

public hearing on a proposed modification of a community redevelopment plan after public notice thereof by publication in a newspaper having a general circulation in the area of operation of the agency.

(4) If a community redevelopment plan is modified by the county or municipality after the lease or sale of real property in the community redevelopment area, such modification may be conditioned upon such approval of the owner, lessee, or successor in interest as the county or municipality may deem advisable and, in any event, shall be subject to such rights at law or in equity as a lessee or purchaser, or his or her successor or successors in interest, may be entitled to assert.

Section 6. Subsections (10) and (11) of section 163.362, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.362 Contents of community redevelopment plan. -- Every community redevelopment plan shall:

(10) Provide a time certain for completing all 31 redevelopment financed by increment revenues.

- (a) Such time certain shall occur no later than 30 years after the end of the fiscal year in which the plan is initially approved or, adopted, or amended pursuant to s. 163.361(1). (b) For a plan amended or modified under s. 163.361 after October 1, 2002, the time certain occurs not later than 30 years after the fiscal year in which the plan was amended or modified.
 - (c) The time certain for completing all redevelopment financed by increment revenues under this subsection applies regardless of whether the plan was adopted before chapter 84-356, Laws of Florida, became a law and regardless of whether bonds were issued pledging increment revenues pursuant only to a plan approved before chapter 84-356, Laws of Florida, became a law. The county, upon notification, may impose conditions the county finds are reasonably necessary in securing the financial viability of any community redevelopment undertaking by the entity or agency.
 - (11) Subsections (1), (3), (4), and (8), as amended by s. 10, chapter 84-356, Laws of Florida, and subsections (9) and (10) do not apply to any governing body of a county or municipality or to a community redevelopment agency if such governing body has approved and adopted a community redevelopment plan pursuant to s. 163.360 before chapter 84-356 became a law; nor do they apply to any governing body of a county or municipality or to a community redevelopment agency if such governing body or agency has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing the issuance of any bonds, notes, or other forms of indebtedness to which is pledged increment revenues pursuant only to a community redevelopment

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law. Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (6) of section 163.385, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 163.385 Issuance of revenue bonds.--(1)(a) When authorized or approved by resolution or ordinance of the governing body, a county, municipality, or community redevelopment agency has power in its corporate capacity, in its discretion, to issue redevelopment revenue bonds from time to time to finance the undertaking of any community redevelopment under this part, including, without limiting the generality thereof, the payment of principal and interest upon any advances for surveys and plans or preliminary loans, and has power to issue refunding bonds for the payment or retirement of bonds or other obligations previously issued. If redevelopment bonds are not issued by the county, the issuing entity or agency must notify the

plan as approved and adopted before chapter 84-356 became a

23 redevelopment undertaking by the entity or agency. Any
24 redevelopment revenue bonds or other obligations issued to
25 finance the undertaking of any community redevelopment under
26 this part shall mature within 30 60 years after the end of the

county, in writing, of its intent to issue or, if applicable,

notification, may impose conditions it finds are reasonably necessary to secure the financial viability of any community

27 fiscal year in which the initial community redevelopment plan

was approved or adopted. However, in no event shall any

refinance the redevelopment bonds. The county, upon

29 redevelopment revenue bonds or other obligations issued to

finance the undertaking of any community redevelopment under

31 this part mature later than the expiration of the plan in

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effect at the time such bonds or obligations were issued. The security for such bonds may be based upon the anticipated assessed valuation of the completed community redevelopment and such other revenues as are legally available. Any bond, note, or other form of indebtedness pledging increment revenues to the repayment thereof shall mature no later than the end of the 30th fiscal year after the end of the fiscal year in which the initial community redevelopment plan was approved or adopted increment revenues are first deposited into the redevelopment trust fund or the fiscal year in which the plan is subsequently amended. However, any refunding bonds issued pursuant to this paragraph may not mature later than the final maturity date of any bonds or other obligations issued pursuant to this paragraph being paid or retired with the proceeds of such refunding bonds.

(6) Subsections (1), (4), and (5), as amended by s. 14, chapter 84-356, Laws of Florida, do not apply to any governing body of a county or municipality or to a community redevelopment agency if such governing body or agency has adopted an ordinance or resolution authorizing the issuance of any bonds, notes, or other forms of indebtedness to which is pledged increment revenues pursuant only to a community redevelopment plan as approved and adopted before chapter 84-356 became a law.

Section 8. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 163.387, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.387 Redevelopment trust fund.--

After approval of a community redevelopment plan, there shall be established for each community redevelopment 31 agency created under s. 163.356 a redevelopment trust fund.

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30 31 Funds allocated to and deposited into this fund shall be used by the agency to finance or refinance any community redevelopment it undertakes pursuant to the approved community redevelopment plan. A No community redevelopment agency may not receive or spend any increment revenues pursuant to this section unless and until the governing body of the county, or of the municipality if authority is delegated to the municipality by the county, has, by ordinance, provided for the funding of the redevelopment trust fund for the duration of a community redevelopment plan. Such ordinance may be adopted only after the appropriate governing body has approved a community redevelopment plan. The annual funding of the redevelopment trust fund shall be in an amount not less than that increment in the income, proceeds, revenues, and funds of each taxing authority derived from or held in connection with the undertaking and carrying out of community redevelopment under this part. Such increment shall be determined annually and shall be that amount equal to 95 percent of the difference between:

- (a) The amount of ad valorem taxes levied each year by each taxing authority, exclusive of any amount from any debt service millage, on taxable real property contained within the geographic boundaries of a community redevelopment area; and
- (b) The amount of ad valorem taxes which would have been produced by the rate upon which the tax is levied each year by or for each taxing authority, exclusive of any debt service millage, upon the total of the assessed value of the taxable real property in the community redevelopment area as shown upon the most recent assessment roll used in connection with the taxation of such property by each taxing authority

prior to the effective date of the ordinance providing for the funding of the trust fund.

 However, The governing body of any county as defined in s. 125.011(1) may, in the ordinance providing for the funding of a trust fund established with respect to any community redevelopment area created on or after July 1, 1994, determine that the amount to be funded by each taxing authority annually shall be less than 95 percent of the difference between paragraphs (a) and (b); however, but in no event shall such amount be less than 50 percent of such difference.

(2)(a) Except for the purpose of funding the trust fund pursuant to subsection (3), upon the adoption of an ordinance providing for funding of the redevelopment trust fund as provided in this section, each taxing authority shall, by January 1 of each year, appropriate to the trust fund for so long as any indebtedness pledging increment revenues to the payment thereof is outstanding (but not to exceed 30 years following approval or adoption of the initial ordinance) a sum that is no less than the increment as defined and determined in subsection (1) accruing to such taxing authority. If the community redevelopment plan is amended or modified pursuant to s. 163.361(1), each such taxing authority shall make the annual appropriation for a period not to exceed 30 years after the date the governing body amends the plan.

Section 9. Section 163.410, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.410 Exercise of powers in counties with home rule charters.--

(1) In any county which has adopted a home rule charter, The powers conferred by this part shall be exercised

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exclusively by the governing body of the such county in which the community redevelopment area is located. However, the governing body of any such county which has adopted a home rule charter may, in its discretion, by resolution delegate the exercise of the powers conferred upon the county by this part within the boundaries of a municipality to the governing body of such a municipality in which a community redevelopment area is proposed to be located. Such a delegation to a municipality confers shall confer only those such powers upon a municipality which are as shall be specifically enumerated in the delegating resolution and includes only those powers that are not specifically reserved to the county under this part. Any powers power not specifically delegated to the municipality by resolution are shall be reserved exclusively to the governing body of the county. This section does not affect any ongoing community redevelopment activity in a community redevelopment area agency created by a municipality prior to October 1, 2002 the adoption of a county home rule charter. However, after October 1, 2002, any amendment to the boundaries of a community redevelopment area or plan may be approved by a resolution of the governing body of the county as provided in s. 163.361, and any of the amendments enumerated in s. 163.358 may be approved upon recommendation of the agency. (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a municipality may create a community redevelopment agency to operate within the boundaries of the municipality if the municipality or the community redevelopment agency does not request that the

county provide an appropriation of incremental ad valorem tax

revenues for the redevelopment activities planned or

undertaken within the community redevelopment area and does

not obtain such an appropriation from the county. A municipality creating a community redevelopment agency under this section may exercise all powers conferred by this part.

- (3) If a municipality desires to create a community redevelopment agency in which the county will participate by providing an annual appropriation of incremental ad valorem tax revenues, the municipality shall notify the chief executive officer of the county of its intent before conducting the study required under s. 163.355. If the county determines that it will participate in the municipality's proposed community redevelopment, the county shall delegate the exercise of its powers under this part, subject to other requirements adopted by the county under this part. In addition to the county's authority to delegate the exercise of its powers under this section, the county may:
- (a) Reserve to itself the right to approve the issuance of revenue bonds under s. 163.385, including the right to impose conditions that the county finds are reasonably necessary to secure the financial viability of a community redevelopment undertaking.
- (b) Require, by ordinance or resolution, that the municipality or community redevelopment agency create an advisory committee composed of residents and business owners within the community redevelopment area.
- (c) Require, by ordinance or resolution, that the community redevelopment agency engage in joint planning activities if the area under the agency's jurisdiction is adjacent to another community redevelopment area.
- (d) Notwithstanding s. 163.387, establish, by ordinance or resolution, conditions under which the county may participate in the undertakings of a community redevelopment

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      agency and pay to the agency incremental ad valorem tax
      revenues produced in the community redevelopment area. Such
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      conditions must be in a letter of agreement and may include,
      but are not limited to, establishing the percentage of
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      incremental tax revenues to be paid, establishing the total
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      number of years such funds are to be paid to the agency,
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      restricting the use of the incremental tax revenues paid to
      the agency, and establishing a mechanism for retaining all or
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      part of the county's share of tax increments, consistent with
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      the terms of the letter of agreement.
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                 Section 10.
                                     Section 163.415, Florida Statutes, is
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      repealed.
                 Section 11. This act shall take effect October 1,
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      2002.
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                                            SENATE SUMMARY
        Revises various provisions of part III of ch. 163, F.S., governing community redevelopment. Redefines the terms "slum area" and "blighted area." Requires that redevelopment agencies report to the county on the progress of redevelopment activities. Provides for amending the boundaries of a redevelopment area. Requires that redevelopment financed by increment revenues be completed within a time certain or within 30 years. Requires that the redevelopment trust fund be funded for the duration of the redevelopment plan. (See bill for details.)
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         details.)
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