CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Judiciary recommends the following:

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Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to regulating the consolidation and recordation of lands; providing for assembly and readjustment of certain land plats; revising provisions relating to recording land plats; amending s. 125.01, F.S.; revising certain powers of county governments to regulate lands; amending s. 127.01, F.S.; specifying consolidation of certain property for certain purposes as a public purpose; amending s. 163.3164, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "land development regulations" and defining the term "land assembly or adjustment"; amending s. 163.3177, F.S.; revising requirements of future land use plan elements of a required comprehensive plan to address antiquated subdivisions and consolidation of certain properties for certain purposes; providing a deadline for addressing certain plan amendments; amending s. 163.3202, F.S.; revising certain land development regulation requirements to address consolidation of certain properties for certain purposes; amending s.

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163.340, F.S.; revising certain definitions to include consolidation of certain properties and antiquated subdivisions; amending s. 163.360, F.S.; including antiquated subdivisions under certain community redevelopment plan requirements; amending s. 166.411, F.S.; including consolidation of certain properties for certain purposes under municipal powers of eminent domain; amending s. 177.011, F.S.; providing additional purposes and scope relating to platting, replatting, and reassembly of lands; providing intent relating to regulation of land platting and land assembly or adjustment; amending s. 177.031, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "subdivision" and defining the term "land assembly or adjustment"; amending s. 177.091, F.S.; requiring recordation of approved subdivision plats in certain public records; amending s. 177.101, F.S.; authorizing local governing bodies to order the assembly or adjustment of all or portions of subdivisions for certain purposes; providing an exception; providing criteria and requirements; amending s. 177.111, F.S.; requiring submittal of certain approved plats to certain entities; amending s. 290.003, F.S.; declaring the revitalization of antiquated subdivisions to be a public purpose; amending s. 290.0058, F.S.; revising provisions for determining general distress of certain areas to include antiquated subdivisions and other criteria; amending s. 380.031, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "land development regulations" and defining the terms

"antiquated subdivisions" and "land assembly or adjustment"; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, antiquated subdivisions or large volumes of vacant lots within platted and unplatted subdivisions are detrimental to the local and regional economies and environment, hinder appropriate planning, and lead to inefficient development patterns, and

WHEREAS, large-scale land reassembly of subdivided lots is expensive to both the property owner and the local governing body and is administratively complicated and time consuming, and

WHEREAS, local governments could foster the reassembly of subdivided lots into parcels that would incorporate current planning practices for efficient development, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (g), (h), and (j) of subsection (1) of section 125.01, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

125.01 Powers and duties.--

(1) The legislative and governing body of a county shall have the power to carry on county government. To the extent not inconsistent with general or special law, this power includes, but is not restricted to, the power to:

(g) Prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for the development of the county and the regulation of platted lands development, including platting, deplatting, and reassembly.

(h) Establish, coordinate, and enforce zoning and such business regulations as are necessary for the protection of the community and environmental welfare public.

- (j) Establish and administer programs of housing, slum clearance, community redevelopment, conservation, flood and beach erosion control, air pollution control, <u>platted lands</u> assembly or adjustment, and navigation and drainage and cooperate with governmental agencies and private enterprises in the development and operation of such programs.
- Section 2. Subsection (3) is added to section 127.01, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 127.01 Counties delegated power of eminent domain; recreational purposes, issue of necessity of taking.--
- (3) The consolidation of platted or subdivided lots to allow replatting for more appropriate development consistent with the public policies of the jurisdiction or for public use shall be considered a public purpose.
- Section 3. Subsection (23) of section 163.3164, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (32) is added to said section, to read:
- 163.3164 Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act; definitions.--As used in this act:
- (23) "Land development regulations" means ordinances enacted by governing bodies for the regulation of any aspect of development and includes any local government zoning, rezoning, subdivision, <u>land assembly or adjustment of platted or</u> subdivided lands, building construction, or sign regulations or

any other regulations controlling the development of land, except that this definition shall not apply in s. 163.3213.

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- (32) "Land assembly or adjustment" means the consolidation of contiguous and noncontiguous platted or subdivided lots and the vacation or deplatting of all or a portion of such lots to allow replatting and reassembly for more appropriate development or use.
- Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 114 163.3177, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 115 163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive 116 plan; studies and surveys.--
 - (6) In addition to the requirements of subsections (1)-(5), the comprehensive plan shall include the following elements:
 - (a) A future land use plan element designating proposed future general distribution, location, and extent of the uses of land for residential uses, commercial uses, industry, agriculture, recreation, conservation, education, public buildings and grounds, other public facilities, and other categories of the public and private uses of land. Each future land use category must be defined in terms of uses included, and must include standards to be followed in the control and distribution of population densities and building and structure intensities. The proposed distribution, location, and extent of the various categories of land use shall be shown on a land use map or map series which shall be supplemented by goals, policies, and measurable objectives. The future land use plan shall be based upon surveys, studies, and data regarding the

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area, including the amount of land required to accommodate anticipated growth; the projected population of the area; the character of undeveloped land, including an analysis of antiquated subdivisions; the availability of public services; the need for redevelopment and land reassembly, including the renewal of blighted areas and the elimination of nonconforming uses which are inconsistent with the character of the community; and, in rural communities, the need for job creation, capital investment, and economic development that will strengthen and diversify the community's economy. The future land use plan may designate areas for future planned development use involving combinations of types of uses for which special regulations may be necessary to ensure development in accord with the principles and standards of the comprehensive plan and this act. The future land use plan shall contain provisions to address antiquated subdivisions that are underused to minimize the imbalance of single land use buildout, lack of public services, and environmental and water quality impacts. In addition, for rural communities, the amount of land designated for future planned industrial use shall be based upon surveys and studies that reflect the need for job creation, capital investment, and the necessity to strengthen and diversify the local economies, and shall not be limited solely by the projected population of the rural community. The future land use plan of a county may also designate areas for possible future municipal incorporation. The future land use plan element shall identify any area where the local government seeks to consolidate platted or subdivided lots and the vacation of all or a portion of such lots to allow

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appropriate development, redevelopment, reassembly, or any other use. The land use maps or map series shall generally identify and depict historic district boundaries and shall designate historically significant properties meriting protection. The future land use element must clearly identify the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use. When delineating the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use, a local government shall include in the categories sufficient land proximate to residential development to meet the projected needs for schools in coordination with public school boards and may establish differing criteria for schools of different type or size. Each local government shall include lands contiguous to existing school sites, to the maximum extent possible, within the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use. All comprehensive plans must comply with the school siting requirements of this paragraph no later than October 1, 1999. The failure by a local government to comply with these school siting requirements by October 1, 1999, will result in the prohibition of the local government's ability to amend the local comprehensive plan, except for plan amendments described in s. 163.3187(1)(b), until the school siting requirements are met. Amendments proposed by a local government for purposes of identifying the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use or for adopting or amending the school-siting maps pursuant to s. 163.31776(3) are exempt from the limitation on the frequency of plan amendments contained in s. 163.3187. The future land use element shall include criteria that encourage the location of

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schools proximate to urban residential areas to the extent possible and shall require that the local government seek to collocate public facilities, such as parks, libraries, and community centers, with schools to the extent possible and to encourage the use of elementary schools as focal points for neighborhoods. For schools serving predominantly rural counties, defined as a county with a population of 100,000 or fewer, an agricultural land use category shall be eligible for the location of public school facilities if the local comprehensive plan contains school siting criteria and the location is consistent with such criteria. Plan amendments that are needed to address requirements related to land assembly or adjustment of platted or subdivided lands or antiquated subdivisions shall be addressed prior to local government action to exercise such land assembly options or no later than the first evaluation and appraisal report which is due to be submitted at least 3 years after July 1, 2004.

- Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and subsection (3) of section 163.3202, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

 163.3202 Land development regulations.--
- (2) Local land development regulations shall contain specific and detailed provisions necessary or desirable to implement the adopted comprehensive plan and shall as a minimum:
- (a) Regulate the subdivision, assembly, reassembly, or adjustment of land, as defined in ss. 163.3164(32) and 177.101;
- (3) This section shall be construed to encourage the use of innovative land development regulations which include provisions such as transfer of development rights, incentive and

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inclusionary zoning, planned-unit development, impact fees, and performance zoning, and land assembly, reassembly, or adjustment, as described in chapter 177. These and all other such regulations shall be combined and compiled into a single land development code for the jurisdiction. A general zoning code shall not be required if a local government's adopted land development regulations meet the requirements of this section.

- Section 6. Subsections (9) and (10) 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:
- (9) "Community redevelopment" or "redevelopment" means undertakings, activities, or projects of a county, municipality, or community redevelopment agency in a community redevelopment area for the elimination and prevention of the development or spread of slums and blight, or for the reduction or prevention of crime, or for the provision of affordable housing, whether for rent or for sale, to residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, and may include slum clearance and redevelopment in a community redevelopment area or rehabilitation and revitalization of coastal resort and tourist areas that are deteriorating and economically distressed, or rehabilitation or conservation in a community redevelopment area, or the reassembly, platting, or replatting of lands, or any combination or part thereof, in accordance with a community redevelopment plan and may include the preparation of such a plan.

(10) "Community redevelopment area" means a slum area, a blighted area, or an area in which there is a shortage of housing that is affordable to residents of low or moderate income, including the elderly, an antiquated subdivision, or a coastal and tourist area that is deteriorating and economically distressed due to outdated building density patterns, inadequate transportation and parking facilities, faulty lot layout or inadequate street layout, or a pattern of platted or subdivided lots in an area that makes the area unsuitable for economically viable development or use, or a combination thereof, which the governing body designates as appropriate for community redevelopment.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 163.360, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 163.360 Community redevelopment plans.--
- (8) If the community redevelopment area consists of an area of open land to be acquired by the county or the municipality, such area may not be so acquired unless:
- (b) In the event the area is to be developed in whole or in part for nonresidential uses, the governing body determines that:
- 1. Such nonresidential uses are necessary and appropriate to facilitate the proper growth and development of the community in accordance with sound planning standards and local community objectives.
- 2. Acquisition may require the exercise of governmental action, as provided in this part, because of:

a. Defective, or unusual conditions of, title or diversity of ownership which prevents the free alienability of such land;

b. Tax delinquency;

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- c. Improper or antiquated subdivisions;
- d. Outmoded street patterns;
- e. Deterioration of site;
 - f. Economic disuse;
 - g. Unsuitable topography or faulty lot layouts;
- h. Lack of correlation of the area with other areas of a county or municipality by streets and modern traffic requirements; or
 - i. Any combination of such factors or other conditions which retard development of the area.
 - 3. Conditions of blight in the area contribute to an increase in and spread of disease and crime or constitute a menace to public health, safety, morals, or welfare.
 - Section 8. Subsection (12) is added to section 166.411, Florida Statutes, to read:
 - 166.411 Eminent domain; uses or purposes.--Municipalities are authorized to exercise the power of eminent domain for the following uses or purposes:
 - (12) The consolidation of platted or subdivided lots to allow replatting and reassembly for more appropriate development consistent with the public policies of the jurisdiction or for public use.
- Section 9. Section 177.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

deemed to establish consistent minimum requirements, and to create such additional powers in local governing bodies, as herein provided to regulate and control the platting, replatting, and reassembly of lands. The public health, safety, comfort, economy, order, appearance, convenience, morals, and general welfare require the harmonious, orderly, and progressive development of land within this state and its counties and incorporated municipalities. In furtherance of this general purpose, counties and incorporated municipalities, individually or in combination, may adopt, amend, or revise and enforce measures relating to platting and land assembly or adjustment.

- (1) The regulation of platting and land assembly or adjustment is intended to:
- (a) Aid in the coordination of land development in counties and municipalities in accordance with orderly physical patterns.
- (b) Discourage haphazard, premature, uneconomic, or scattered land development.
- (c) Encourage development of economically stable and healthful communities.
- (d) Ensure adequate utilities provision to all lands being developed.
- (e) Serve as one of the several instruments of the local comprehensive plan authorized by s. 163.3161.
- (2) This part establishes minimum requirements and does not exclude additional provisions or regulations by local ordinance, laws, or regulations.

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Section 10. Subsection (18) of section 177.031, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (23) is added to said section, to read:

- 177.031 Definitions.--As used in this part:
- three or more lots, parcels, tracts, tiers, blocks, sites, units, or any other division of land; and includes establishment of new streets and alleys, additions, and resubdivisions; and, when appropriate to the context, relates to the process of subdividing or to the lands or area subdivided.
- (23) "Land assembly or adjustment" means the consolidation of contiguous and noncontiguous platted or subdivided lots and the vacation or deplatting of all or a portion of such lots to allow replatting and reassembly for more appropriate development or use.
- Section 11. Section 177.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 177.091 Plats made for recording.--Every <u>approved</u> plat of a subdivision <u>shall be recorded in the public records of each county in which the property is situated and offered for recording shall conform to the following:</u>
 - (1) It must be:
- (a) An original drawing made with black permanent drawing ink; or
- (b) A nonadhered scaled print on a stable base film made by photographic processes from a film scribing tested for residual hypo testing solution to assure permanency.

Marginal lines, standard certificates and approval forms shall be printed on the plat with a permanent black drawing ink. A print or photographic copy of the original drawing must be submitted with the original drawing.

- (2) The size of each sheet shall be determined by the local governing body and shall be drawn with a marginal line, or printed when permitted by local ordinance, completely around each sheet and placed so as to leave at least a $^{1}/_{2}$ -inch margin on each of three sides and a 3-inch margin on the left side of the plat for binding purposes.
- (3) When more than one sheet must be used to accurately portray the lands subdivided, an index or key map must be included and each sheet must show the particular number of that sheet and the total number of sheets included, as well as clearly labeled matchlines to show where other sheets match or adjoin.
- (4) In all cases, the letter size and scale used shall be of sufficient size to show all detail. The scale shall be both stated and graphically illustrated by a graphic scale drawn on every sheet showing any portion of the lands subdivided.
- (5) The name of the plat shall be shown in bold legible letters, as stated in s. 177.051. The name of the subdivision shall be shown on each sheet included. The name of the professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity, along with the street and mailing address, must be shown on each sheet included.
- (6) A prominent "north arrow" shall be drawn on every sheet included showing any portion of the lands subdivided. The

bearing or azimuth reference shall be clearly stated on the face of the plat in the notes or legend, and, in all cases, the bearings used shall be referenced to some well established and monumented line.

- (7) Permanent reference monuments must be placed at each corner or change in direction on the boundary of the lands being platted and may not be more than 1,400 feet apart. Where such corners are in an inaccessible place, "P.R.M.s" shall be set on a nearby offset within the boundary of the plat and such offset shall be so noted on the plat. Where corners are found to coincide with a previously set "P.R.M.," the Florida registration number of the professional surveyor and mapper in responsible charge or the certificate of authorization number of the legal entity on the previously set "P.R.M." shall be shown on the new plat or, if unnumbered, shall so state. Permanent reference monuments shall be set before the recording of the plat. The "P.R.M.s" shall be shown on the plat by an appropriate symbol or designation.
- (8) Permanent control points shall be set on the centerline of the right-of-way at the intersection and terminus of all streets, at each change of direction, and no more than 1,000 feet apart. Such "P.C.P.s" shall be shown on the plat by an appropriate symbol or designation. In those counties or municipalities that do not require subdivision improvements and do not accept bonds or escrow accounts to construct improvements, "P.C.P.s" may be set prior to the recording of the plat and must be set within 1 year of the date the plat was recorded. In the counties or municipalities that require

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subdivision improvements and have the means of insuring the construction of said improvements, such as bonding requirements, "P.C.P.s" must be set prior to the expiration of the bond or other surety. If the professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity of record is no longer in practice or is not available due to relocation, or when the contractual relationship between the subdivider and professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity has been terminated, the subdivider shall contract with a professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity in good standing to place the "P.C.P.s" within the time allotted.

(9) Monuments shall be set at all lot corners, points of intersection, and changes of direction of lines within the subdivision which do not require a "P.R.M." or a "P.C.P."; however, a monument need not be set if a monument already exists at such corner, point, or change of direction or when a monument cannot be set due to a physical obstruction. In those counties or municipalities that do not require subdivision improvements and do not accept bonds or escrow accounts to construct improvements, monuments may be set prior to the recording of the plat and must be set at the lot corners before the transfer of the lot. In those counties or municipalities that require subdivision improvements and have the means of ensuring the construction of those improvements, such as bonding requirements, monuments shall be set prior to the expiration of the bond or other surety. If the professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity of record is no longer in practice or is not available due to relocation, or when the contractual relationship between the subdivider and professional surveyor

and mapper or legal entity has been terminated, the subdivider shall contract with a professional surveyor and mapper or legal entity in good standing who shall be allowed to place the monuments within the time allotted.

- (10) The section, township, and range shall appear immediately under the name of the plat on each sheet included, along with the name of the city, town, village, county, and state in which the land being platted is situated.
- (11) Each plat shall show a description of the lands subdivided, and the description shall be the same in the title certification. The description must be so complete that from it, without reference to the plat, the starting point and boundary can be determined.
- (12) The dedications and approvals required by ss. 177.071 and 177.081 must be shown.
- (13) The circuit court clerk's certificate and the professional surveyor and mapper's seal and statement required by s. 177.061 shall be shown.
- (14) All section lines and quarter section lines occurring within the subdivision shall be indicated by lines drawn upon the map or plat, with appropriate words and figures. If the description is by metes and bounds, all information called for, such as the point of commencement, course bearings and distances, and the point of beginning, shall be indicated. If the platted lands are in a land grant or are not included in the subdivision of government surveys, then the boundaries are to be defined by metes and bounds and courses.

(15) Location, width, and names of all streets, waterways, or other rights-of-way shall be shown, as applicable.

- (16) Location and width of proposed easements and existing easements identified in the title opinion or certification required by s. 177.041(2) shall be shown on the plat or in the notes or legend, and their intended use shall be clearly stated. Where easements are not coincident with property lines, they must be labeled with bearings and distances and tied to the principal lot, tract, or right-of-way.
- (17) All contiguous properties shall be identified by subdivision title, plat book, and page, or, if unplatted, land shall be so designated. If the subdivision platted is a part or the whole of a previously recorded subdivision, sufficient ties shall be shown to controlling lines appearing on the earlier plat to permit an overlay to be made; the fact of its being a replat shall be stated as a subtitle under the name of the plat on each sheet included. The subtitle must state the name of the subdivision being replatted and the appropriate recording reference.
- (18) All lots shall be numbered either by progressive numbers or, if in blocks, progressively numbered in each block, and the blocks progressively numbered or lettered, except that blocks in numbered additions bearing the same name may be numbered consecutively throughout the several additions.
- (19) Sufficient survey data shall be shown to positively describe the bounds of every lot, block, street easement, and all other areas shown on the plat. When any lot or portion of the subdivision is bounded by an irregular line, the major

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- (20) Curvilinear lot lines shall show the radii, arc distances, and central angles. Radial lines will be so designated. Direction of nonradial lines shall be indicated.
- (21) Sufficient angles, bearings, or azimuth to show direction of all lines shall be shown, and all bearings, angles, or azimuth shall be shown to the nearest second of arc.
- (22) The centerlines of all streets shall be shown as follows: noncurved lines: distances together with either angles, bearings, or azimuths; curved lines: arc distances, central angles, and radii, together with chord and chord bearing or azimuths.
- (23) Park and recreation parcels as applicable shall be so designated.
- (24) All interior excepted parcels as described in the description of the lands being subdivided shall be clearly indicated and labeled "Not a part of this plat."

(25) The purpose of all areas dedicated must be clearly indicated or stated on the plat.

- (26) When it is not possible to show line or curve data information on the map, a tabular form may be used. The tabular data must appear on the sheet to which it applies.
- (27) The plat shall include in a prominent place the following statements: "NOTICE: This plat, as recorded in its graphic form, is the official depiction of the subdivided lands described herein and will in no circumstances be supplanted in authority by any other graphic or digital form of the plat. There may be additional restrictions that are not recorded on this plat that may be found in the public records of this county."
- easements shall also be easements for the construction, installation, maintenance, and operation of cable television services; provided, however, no such construction, installation, maintenance, and operation of cable television services shall interfere with the facilities and services of an electric, telephone, gas, or other public utility. In the event a cable television company damages the facilities of a public utility, it shall be solely responsible for the damages. This section shall not apply to those private easements granted to or obtained by a particular electric, telephone, gas, or other public utility. Such construction, installation, maintenance, and operation shall comply with the National Electrical Safety Code as adopted by the Florida Public Service Commission.

(29) A legend of all symbols and abbreviations shall be shown.

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Section 12. Section 177.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 177.101 <u>Assembly, replat,</u> vacation, and annulment of plats subdividing land.--
- Whenever it is discovered, after the plat has been (1)recorded in the public records, that the developer has previously caused the lands embraced in the second plat to be differently subdivided under and by virtue of another plat of the same identical lands, and the first plat was also filed of public record at an earlier date, and no conveyances of lots by reference to the first plat so filed appears of record in such county, the governing body of the county is authorized and directed to and shall, by resolution, vacate and annul the first plat of such lands appearing of record upon the application of the developer of such lands under the first plat or upon application of the owners of all the lots shown and designated upon the second and subsequent plat of such lands, and the circuit court clerk of the county shall thereupon make proper notation of the annulment of such plat upon the face of such annulled plat.
- (2) Whenever it is discovered that after the filing of a plat subdividing a parcel of land located in the county, the developer of the lands therein and thereby subdivided did cause such lands embraced in said plat, or a part thereof, to be again and subsequently differently subdivided under another plat of the same and identical lands or a part thereof, which said

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second plat was also filed at a later date; and it is further made to appear to the governing body of the county that the filing and recording of the second plat would not materially affect the right of convenient access to lots previously conveyed under the first plat, the governing body of the county is authorized by resolution to vacate and annul so much of the first plat of such lands appearing of record as are included in the second plat, upon application of the owners and developer of such lands under the first plat or their successors, grantees, or assignees, and the circuit court clerk of the county shall thereupon make proper notation of the action of the governing body upon the face of the first plat. The approval of a replat by the governing body of a local government, which encompasses lands embraced in all or part of a prior plat filed of public record shall, upon recordation of the replat, automatically and simultaneously vacate and annul all of the prior plat encompassed by the replat.

(3) The governing bodies of the counties of the state may adopt resolutions vacating plats in whole or in part of subdivisions in said counties, returning the property covered by such plats either in whole or in part into acreage. Before such resolution of vacating any plat either in whole or in part shall be entered by the governing body of a county, it must be shown that the persons making application for said vacation own the fee simple title to the whole or that part of the tract covered by the plat sought to be vacated, and it must be further shown that the vacation by the governing body of the county will not

affect the ownership or right of convenient access of persons owning other parts of the subdivision.

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(4) Persons making application for vacations of plats either in whole or in part shall give notice of their intention to apply to the governing body of the county to vacate said plat by publishing legal notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the tract or parcel of land is located, in not less than two weekly issues of said paper, and must attach to the petition for vacation the proof of such publication, together with certificates showing that all state and county taxes have been paid. For the purpose of the tax collector's certification that state, county, and municipal taxes have been paid, the taxes shall be deemed to have been paid if, in addition to any partial payment under s. 194.171, the owner of the platted lands sought to be vacated shall post a cash bond, approved by the tax collector of the county where the land is located and by the Department of Revenue, conditioned to pay the full amount of any judgment entered pursuant to s. 194.192 adverse to the person making partial payment, including all costs, interest, and penalties. The circuit court shall fix the amount of said bond by order, after considering the reasonable timeframe for such litigation and all other relevant factors; and a certified copy of such approval, order, and cash bond shall be attached to the application. If such tract or parcel of land is within the corporate limits of any incorporated city or town, the governing body of the county shall be furnished with a certified copy of a resolution of the town council or city commission, as the case may be, showing

that it has already by suitable resolution vacated such plat or subdivision or such part thereof sought to be vacated.

- (5) Every such resolution by the governing body shall have the effect of vacating all streets and alleys which have not become highways necessary for use by the traveling public. Such vacation shall not become effective until a certified copy of such resolution has been filed in the offices of the circuit court clerk and duly recorded in the public records of said county.
- (6) All resolutions vacating plats by the governing body of a county prior to September 1, 1971, are hereby validated, ratified, and confirmed. Such resolutions shall have the same effect as if the plat had been vacated after September 1, 1971.
- (7)(a) The governing body of a county may order the assembly or adjustment of all or part of a subdivision within its jurisdiction to the provisions and objectives of the revised local comprehensive plan. It may order the assembly, replatting, or vacation of the acreage of the existing plat on any portion of the subdivision, including the vacation of streets, except any roads on the State Highway System, or other parcels of land dedicated for public purposes or any of such streets or other parcels, when:
- 1. The plat of the subdivision was recorded as provided by law, or approved pursuant to law but not recorded, not less than 25 years before the date of such action.
- 2. In the subdivision or a portion of the subdivision, not more than 20 percent of the total subdivision area has been

built into the uses of the subdivision's zoned or land use purposes.

- (b) Any persons or entities, other than the local governing body, pursuing reassembly of a parcel pursuant to this section must demonstrate that the persons or entities making application for such vacation own the fee simple title to at least 60 percent of the subdivision or portion of the tract covered by the plat sought to be vacated and must demonstrate that the vacation will not affect the ownership or right of convenient access of persons owning other parts of the subdivision.
- (c) Such action shall be based on a finding by the governing body that the proposed assembly or adjustment, or vacation and reversion to acreage of subdivided land, conforms to the comprehensive plan of the area and that the public health, safety, economy, comfort, order, convenience, and welfare will be promoted.

Section 13. Section 177.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

177.111 Instructions for filing plat.—After the approval by the appropriate governing body required by s. 177.071, the plat shall be <u>submitted to recorded by</u> the circuit court clerk or other recording officer <u>for recording in the public records</u> of the county upon submission thereto of such approved plat. The circuit court clerk or other recording officer shall maintain in his or her office a book of the proper size for such papers so that they shall not be folded, to be kept in the vault. A print or photographic copy must be filed in a similar book and kept in

his or her office for the use of the public. The clerk shall make available to the public a full size copy of the record plat at a reasonable fee.

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711 712 Section 14. Section 290.003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

290.003 Policy and purpose. -- It is the policy of this state to provide the necessary means to assist local communities, their residents, and the private sector in creating the proper economic and social environment to induce the investment of private resources in productive business enterprises located in severely distressed areas and to provide jobs for residents of such areas. In achieving this objective, the state will seek to provide appropriate investments, tax benefits, and regulatory relief of sufficient importance to encourage the business community to commit its financial participation. The purpose of ss. 290.001-290.016 is to establish a process that clearly identifies such severely distressed areas and provides incentives by both the state and local government to induce private investment in such areas. The Legislature, therefore, declares the revitalization of enterprise zones and antiquated subdivisions, through the concerted efforts of government and the private sector, to be a public purpose.

Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 290.0058, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

290.0058 Determination of pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress.--

(4) General distress shall be evidenced by describing adverse conditions within the nominated area, including antiquated subdivisions, other than those of pervasive poverty and unemployment. A high incidence of crime, abandoned structures, and deteriorated infrastructure: ex substantial population change; a high percentage of tax delinquent parcels; or inappropriate lot sizes to ensure a balance of land uses decline are examples of appropriate indicators of general distress.

Section 16. Subsection (8) of section 380.031, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (21) and (22) are added to said section, to read:

380.031 Definitions.--As used in this chapter:

- (8) "Land development regulations" include local zoning, subdivision, assembly, reassembly, or adjustment of platted or subdivided lands, building, and other regulations controlling the development of land.
- (21) "Land assembly or adjustment" means the consolidation of contiguous and noncontiguous platted or subdivided lots and the vacation or deplatting of all or a portion of these lots to allow replatting and reassembly for more appropriate development or use.
- (22) "Antiquated subdivisions" means subdivisions or large numbers of lots within platted and unplatted subdivisions that were recorded prior to 1980 in which the continued buildout of the subdivision would provide an imbalance of land uses and would be detrimental to the local and regional economies and

740	environment, hinder current planning practices, and lead to
741	inefficient development patterns.
742	Section 17. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
743	law.