A bill to be entitled

An act relating to property development; amending s. 125.01055, F.S.; prohibiting a county from adopting or imposing a requirement in any form relating to affordable housing which has specified effects; providing an exception; providing construction; amending s. 125.022, F.S.; requiring that a county review certain applications for completeness and issue a certain letter within a specified time period after receiving an application for approval of a development permit or development order; providing procedures for addressing deficiencies in, and for approving or denying, the application; authorizing parties to request and extend the time periods; providing an exception to the required time periods; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; defining the term "development order"; amending s. 166.033, F.S.; requiring that a municipality review the application for completeness and issue a certain letter within a specified period after receiving an application for approval of a development permit or development order; providing procedures for addressing deficiencies in, and for approving or denying, the application; authorizing parties to request and extend the time periods; providing an exception to the required time

periods; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; defining the term "development order"; amending s. 166.04151, F.S.; prohibiting a municipality from adopting or imposing a requirement in any form relating to affordable housing which has specified effects; providing an exception; providing construction; amending s. 166.045, F.S.; prohibiting a municipality from purchasing specified real properties under certain circumstances; amending s. 171.042, F.S.; prohibiting a municipality from annexing specified areas under certain circumstances; amending s. 163.3167, F.S.; requiring certain comprehensive plans to incorporate and comply with the terms of existing development orders; amending s. 163.3202, F.S.; requiring local land development regulations to incorporate certain existing development orders; amending s. 163.3180, F.S.; revising the requirements for a valid mobility fee-based funding system; requiring a local government to credit certain contributions, constructions, expansions, or payments toward any other impact fee or exaction imposed by local ordinance for public educational facilities; providing requirements for the basis of the credit; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; providing minimum requirements to be satisfied by certain entities

before adopting an impact fee; requiring local government to credit against the collection of impact fees certain contributions related to public education facilities; specifying the calculation; requiring a local government to increase certain impact fee credits previously awarded if it increases its impact fee rates; authorizing a county, municipality, or special district to provide certain exemptions or waivers of impact fees in certain circumstances; exempting water and sewer connection fees from the Florida Impact Fee Act; amending s. 163.3215, F.S.; specifying use of summary procedure in certain development order cases; amending s. 252.363, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which a state of emergency declaration tolls and extends the remaining period for certain permits and authorizations; amending s. 420.502, F.S.; providing legislative intent; amending s. 420.503, F.S.; defining the term "essential services personnel"; amending s. 420.5095, F.S.; removing the definition of the term "essential services personnel"; amending s. 553.791, F.S.; providing and revising definitions; providing legislative intent regarding the payment of reduced fees for certain owners and contractors under certain circumstances; prohibiting a local jurisdiction from

charging fees for certain building inspections; revising the timeframe an owner or contractor must notify the building official that he or she is using a private provider; revising the type of affidavit form to be used by private providers under certain circumstances; revising the timeframe within which a building official has to approve or deny a permit application; limiting a building official's review of a resubmitted permit application to previously identified deficiencies; authorizing a contractor to petition the circuit court to enforce the terms of certain building code inspection service laws; limiting the number of times a building official may audit a private provider, with exceptions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 125.01055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.01055 Affordable housing.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a county may adopt and maintain in effect any law, ordinance, rule, or other measure that is adopted for the purpose of increasing the supply of affordable housing using land use mechanisms such as

inclusionary housing ordinances. Except in the area designated in s. 380.0552, a county may not, however, adopt or impose a requirement in any form, including, without limitation, by way of a comprehensive plan amendment, ordinance, or land development regulation or as a condition of a development order or development permit, which has any of the following effects:

(a) Mandating or establishing a maximum sales price or lease rental for privately produced dwelling units;

(b) Requiring the allocation or designation, whether directly or indirectly, of privately produced dwelling units for sale or rental to any particular class or group of purchasers or tenants; or

(c) Requiring the provision of any onsite or offsite workforce or affordable housing units or a contribution of land or money for such housing, including, but not limited to, the payment of any flat or percentage-based fee, whether calculated on the basis of the number of approved dwelling units, the amount of approved square footage, or otherwise.

(2) This section does not limit the authority of a county to create or implement a voluntary density bonus program or any other voluntary incentive-based program designed to increase the supply of workforce or affordable housing units.

Section 2. Section 125.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.022 Development permits and development orders.—

(1) Within 30 days after receiving an application for approval of a development permit or development order, a county must review the application for completeness and issue a letter indicating that all required information has been submitted or specifying with particularity any areas that are deficient. If the application is deficient, the applicant has 30 days to address the deficiencies by submitting the required additional information. Within 120 days after the county has deemed the application complete, or 180 days for applications that require final action through a quasi-judicial hearing or public hearing, the county must approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application for a development permit or development order. Both parties may agree to a reasonable request for an extension of time, particularly in the event of a force majeure or other extraordinary circumstance. An approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the application for a development permit or development order must include written findings supporting the county's decision. The timeframes contained in this subsection do not apply in an area of critical state concern, as designated in s. 380.0552.

(2) ~~(1)~~ When reviewing an application for a development permit or development order that is certified by a professional listed in s. 403.0877, a county may not request additional information from the applicant more than three times, unless the applicant waives the limitation in writing. Before a third

request for additional information, the applicant must be offered a meeting to attempt to resolve outstanding issues. Except as provided in subsection (5) ~~(4)~~, if the applicant believes the request for additional information is not authorized by ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority, the county, at the applicant's request, shall proceed to process the application for approval or denial.

(3) ~~(2)~~ When a county denies an application for a development permit or development order, the county shall give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit or order.

(4) ~~(3)~~ As used in this section, the terms ~~term~~ "development permit" and "development order" have ~~has~~ the same meaning as in s. 163.3164, but do ~~does~~ not include building permits.

(5) ~~(4)~~ For any development permit application filed with the county on or after July 1, 2012, a county may not require as a condition of processing or issuing a development permit or development order that an applicant obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal agency unless the agency has issued a final agency action that denies the federal or state permit before the county action on the local development permit.

(6) ~~(5)~~ Issuance of a development permit or development

order by a county does not in any way create any rights on the part of the applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency and does not create any liability on the part of the county for issuance of the permit if the applicant fails to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the obligations imposed by a state or federal agency or undertakes actions that result in a violation of state or federal law. A county shall attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of a development permit and shall include a permit condition that all other applicable state or federal permits be obtained before commencement of the development.

(7) ~~(6)~~ This section does not prohibit a county from providing information to an applicant regarding what other state or federal permits may apply.

Section 3. Section 166.033, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

166.033 Development permits and development orders.—

(1) Within 30 days after receiving an application for approval of a development permit or development order, a municipality must review the application for completeness and issue a letter indicating that all required information has been submitted or specifying with particularity any areas that are deficient. If the application is deficient, the applicant has 30 days to address the deficiencies by submitting the required additional information. Within 120 days after the municipality

has deemed the application complete, or 180 days for applications that require final action through a quasi-judicial hearing or public hearing, the municipality must approve, approve with conditions, or deny the application for a development permit or development order. Both parties may agree to a reasonable request for an extension of time, particularly in the event of a force majeure or other extraordinary circumstance. An approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the application for a development permit or development order must include written findings supporting the municipality's decision. The timeframes contained in this subsection do not apply in an area of critical state concern, as designated in s. 380.0552 or by chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code.

(2) ~~(1)~~ When reviewing an application for a development permit or development order that is certified by a professional listed in s. 403.0877, a municipality may not request additional information from the applicant more than three times, unless the applicant waives the limitation in writing. Before a third request for additional information, the applicant must be offered a meeting to attempt to resolve outstanding issues. Except as provided in subsection (5) ~~(4)~~, if the applicant believes the request for additional information is not authorized by ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority, the municipality, at the applicant's request, shall proceed to process the application for approval or denial.

(3) ~~(2)~~ When a municipality denies an application for a development permit or development order, the municipality shall give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit or order.

(4) ~~(3)~~ As used in this section, the terms ~~term~~ "development permit" and "development order" have ~~has~~ the same meaning as in s. 163.3164, but do ~~does~~ not include building permits.

(5) ~~(4)~~ For any development permit application filed with the municipality on or after July 1, 2012, a municipality may not require as a condition of processing or issuing a development permit or development order that an applicant obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal agency unless the agency has issued a final agency action that denies the federal or state permit before the municipal action on the local development permit.

(6) ~~(5)~~ Issuance of a development permit or development order by a municipality does not in any way create any right on the part of an applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency and does not create any liability on the part of the municipality for issuance of the permit if the applicant fails to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the obligations imposed by a state or federal agency or undertakes actions that

result in a violation of state or federal law. A municipality shall attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of development permits and shall include a permit condition that all other applicable state or federal permits be obtained before commencement of the development.

(7) ~~(6)~~ This section does not prohibit a municipality from providing information to an applicant regarding what other state or federal permits may apply.

Section 4. Section 166.04151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

166.04151 Affordable housing.—

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a municipality may adopt and maintain in effect any law, ordinance, rule, or other measure that is adopted for the purpose of increasing the supply of affordable housing using land use mechanisms such as inclusionary housing ordinances. Except in an area designated in s. 380.0552, or by chapter 28-36, Florida Administrative Code, a municipality may not, however, adopt or impose a requirement in any form, including, without limitation, by way of a comprehensive plan amendment, ordinance, or land development regulation or as a condition of a development order or development permit, which has any of the following effects:

(a) Mandating or establishing a maximum sales price or lease rental for privately produced dwelling units;

(b) Requiring the allocation or designation, whether directly or indirectly, of privately produced dwelling units for sale or rental to any particular class or group of purchasers or tenants; or

(c) Requiring the provision of any onsite or offsite workforce or affordable housing units or a contribution of land or money for such housing, including, but not limited to, the payment of any flat or percentage-based fee, whether calculated on the basis of the number of approved dwelling units, the amount of approved square footage, or otherwise.

(2) This section does not limit the authority of a municipality to create or implement a voluntary density bonus program or any other voluntary incentive-based program designed to increase the supply of workforce or affordable housing units.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 166.045, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (3), and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

166.045 Proposed purchase of real property by municipality; confidentiality of records; procedure.—

(2) Except as otherwise provided in s. 171.205, a municipality may not purchase real property within another municipality's jurisdictional boundaries without the other municipality's consent.

Section 6. Subsection (4) is added to section 171.042, Florida Statutes, to read:

171.042 Prerequisites to annexation.—

(4) Except as otherwise provided in s. 171.205, a municipality may not annex an area within another municipal jurisdiction without the other municipality's consent.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 163.3167, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3167 Scope of act.—

(3) A municipality established after the effective date of this act shall, within 1 year after incorporation, establish a local planning agency, pursuant to s. 163.3174, and prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan of the type and in the manner set out in this act within 3 years after the date of such incorporation. A county comprehensive plan is ~~shall be deemed~~ controlling until the municipality adopts a comprehensive plan in accordance ~~accord~~ with this act. A comprehensive plan adopted after January 1, 2019, and all land development regulations adopted to implement the comprehensive plan, must incorporate each development order existing before the comprehensive plan's effective date, may not impair the completion of a development in accordance with such existing development order, and must vest the density and intensity approved by such development order existing on the effective date of the comprehensive plan without limitation or modification.

Section 8. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (2) of section 163.3202, Florida Statutes, 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 at a minimum:

(j) Incorporate preexisting development orders identified pursuant to s. 163.3167(3).

Section 9. Paragraph (i) of subsection (5) and paragraph (h) of subsection (6) of section 163.3180, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.3180 Concurrency.—

(5)

(i) If a local government elects to repeal transportation concurrency, it is encouraged to adopt an alternative mobility funding system that uses one or more of the tools and techniques identified in paragraph (f). Any alternative mobility funding system adopted may not be used to deny, time, or phase an application for site plan approval, plat approval, final subdivision approval, building permits, or the functional equivalent of such approvals provided that the developer agrees to pay for the development's identified transportation impacts via the funding mechanism implemented by the local government. The revenue from the funding mechanism used in the alternative system must be used to implement the needs of the local government's plan which serves as the basis for the fee imposed. A mobility fee-based funding system must comply with the

requirements of s. 163.31801 governing ~~the dual rational nexus test applicable to~~ impact fees. An alternative system that is not mobility fee-based shall not be applied in a manner that imposes upon new development any responsibility for funding an existing transportation deficiency as defined in paragraph (h).

(6)

(h)1. In order to limit the liability of local governments, a local government may allow a landowner to proceed with development of a specific parcel of land notwithstanding a failure of the development to satisfy school concurrency, if all the following factors are shown to exist:

a. The proposed development would be consistent with the future land use designation for the specific property and with pertinent portions of the adopted local plan, as determined by the local government.

b. The local government's capital improvements element and the school board's educational facilities plan provide for school facilities adequate to serve the proposed development, and the local government or school board has not implemented that element or the project includes a plan that demonstrates that the capital facilities needed as a result of the project can be reasonably provided.

c. The local government and school board have provided a means by which the landowner will be assessed a proportionate share of the cost of providing the school facilities necessary

to serve the proposed development.

2. If a local government applies school concurrency, it may not deny an application for site plan, final subdivision approval, or the functional equivalent for a development or phase of a development authorizing residential development for failure to achieve and maintain the level-of-service standard for public school capacity in a local school concurrency management system where adequate school facilities will be in place or under actual construction within 3 years after the issuance of final subdivision or site plan approval, or the functional equivalent. School concurrency is satisfied if the developer executes a legally binding commitment to provide mitigation proportionate to the demand for public school facilities to be created by actual development of the property, including, but not limited to, the options described in sub-subparagraph a. Options for proportionate-share mitigation of impacts on public school facilities must be established in the comprehensive plan and the interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.31777.

a. Appropriate mitigation options include the contribution of land; the construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition or construction of a public school facility; the construction of a charter school that complies with the requirements of s. 1002.33(18); or the creation of mitigation banking based on the construction of a public school facility in

exchange for the right to sell capacity credits. Such options must include execution by the applicant and the local government of a development agreement that constitutes a legally binding commitment to pay proportionate-share mitigation for the additional residential units approved by the local government in a development order and actually developed on the property, taking into account residential density allowed on the property prior to the plan amendment that increased the overall residential density. The district school board must be a party to such an agreement. As a condition of its entry into such a development agreement, the local government may require the landowner to agree to continuing renewal of the agreement upon its expiration.

b. If the interlocal agreement and the local government comprehensive plan authorize a contribution of land; the construction, expansion, or payment for land acquisition; the construction or expansion of a public school facility, or a portion thereof; or the construction of a charter school that complies with the requirements of s. 1002.33(18), as proportionate-share mitigation, the local government shall credit such a contribution, construction, expansion, or payment toward any other impact fee or exaction imposed by local ordinance for public educational facilities ~~the same need~~, on a dollar-for-dollar basis at fair market value. The credit must be based on the total impact fee assessed and not upon the impact

fee for any particular type of school.

c. Any proportionate-share mitigation must be directed by the school board toward a school capacity improvement identified in the 5-year school board educational facilities plan that satisfies the demands created by the development in accordance with a binding developer's agreement.

3. This paragraph does not limit the authority of a local government to deny a development permit or its functional equivalent pursuant to its home rule regulatory powers, except as provided in this part.

Section 10. Section 163.31801, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.31801 Impact fees; short title; intent; minimum requirements; audits; challenges ~~definitions; ordinances levying impact fees~~.—

(1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Impact Fee Act."

(2) The Legislature finds that impact fees are an important source of revenue for a local government to use in funding the infrastructure necessitated by new growth. The Legislature further finds that impact fees are an outgrowth of the home rule power of a local government to provide certain services within its jurisdiction. Due to the growth of impact fee collections and local governments' reliance on impact fees, it is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that, when a

county or municipality adopts an impact fee by ordinance or a special district adopts an impact fee by resolution, the governing authority complies with this section.

(3) At a minimum, an impact fee adopted by ordinance of a county or municipality or by resolution of a special district must satisfy all of the following conditions~~, at minimum~~:

(a) The local government must calculate ~~require that the calculation of~~ the impact fee ~~be~~ based on the most recent and localized data.

(b) The local government must provide for accounting and reporting of impact fee collections and expenditures. If a local government ~~governmental entity~~ imposes an impact fee to address its infrastructure needs, the local government must ~~entity shall~~ account for the revenues and expenditures of such impact fee in a separate accounting fund.

(c) The local government must limit administrative charges for the collection of impact fees to actual costs.

(d) The local government must provide ~~Require that~~ notice ~~be provided~~ no less than 90 days before the effective date of an ordinance or resolution imposing a new or increased impact fee. A county or municipality is not required to wait 90 days to decrease, suspend, or eliminate an impact fee.

(e) The local government may not require payment of the impact fee before the date of issuance of the building permit for the property that is subject to the fee.

(f) The impact fee must be reasonably connected to, or have a rational nexus with, the need for additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated by the new residential or commercial construction.

(g) The impact fee must be reasonably connected to, or have a rational nexus with, the expenditures of the funds collected and the benefits accruing to the new residential or commercial construction.

(h) The local government must specifically earmark revenues generated by the impact fee to acquire, construct, or improve capital facilities to benefit new users.

(i) The local government may not use revenues generated by the impact fee to pay existing debt or for previously approved projects unless the expenditure is reasonably connected to, or has a rational nexus with, the increased impact generated by the new residential or commercial construction.

(4) The local government must credit against the collection of the impact fee any contribution, whether identified in a proportionate share agreement or other form of exaction, related to public education facilities, including land dedication, site planning and design, or construction. Any contribution must be applied to reduce any education-based impact fees on a dollar-for-dollar basis at fair market value.

(5) If a local government increases its impact fee rates, then the holder of any impact fee credits, whether such credits

are granted under s. 163.3180, s. 380.06, or otherwise, which were in existence before the increase, is entitled to the full benefit of the intensity or density prepaid by the credit balance as of the date it was first established.

(6) ~~(4)~~ Audits of financial statements of local governmental entities and district school boards which are performed by a certified public accountant pursuant to s. 218.39 and submitted to the Auditor General must include an affidavit signed by the chief financial officer of the local governmental entity or district school board stating that the local governmental entity or district school board has complied with this section.

(7) ~~(5)~~ In any action challenging an impact fee, the government has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the imposition or amount of the fee meets the requirements of state legal precedent or this section. The court may not use a deferential standard.

(8) A county, municipality, or special district may provide an exception or waiver for an impact fee for the development or construction of housing that is affordable, as defined in s. 420.9071. A county, municipality, or special district providing such an exception or waiver is not required to use any revenues to offset the impact.

(9) This section does not apply to water and sewer connection fees.

Section 11. Subsections (8) and (9) of section 163.3215, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (9) and (10) respectively, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

163.3215 Standing to enforce local comprehensive plans through development orders.—

(8)(a) In any proceeding under subsection (3), either party is entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011, and the court shall advance the cause on the calendar, subject to paragraph (b).

(b) Upon a showing by either party by clear and convincing evidence that summary procedure is inappropriate, the court may determine that summary procedure does not apply.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 252.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.363 Tolling and extension of permits and other authorizations.—

(1)(a) The declaration of a state of emergency issued by the Governor for a natural emergency tolls the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for the duration of the emergency declaration. Further, the emergency declaration extends the period remaining to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for 6 months in addition to the tolled period. This paragraph applies to the following:

1. The expiration of a development order issued by a local government.

2. The expiration of a building permit.

3. The expiration of a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part IV of chapter 373.

4. The buildout date of a development of regional impact, including any extension of a buildout date that was previously granted as specified in s. 380.06(7)(c).

Section 13. Subsection (8) of section 420.502, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.502 Legislative findings.—It is hereby found and declared as follows:

(8)(a) It is necessary to create new programs to stimulate the construction and substantial rehabilitation of rental housing for eligible persons and families.

(b) It is necessary to create a state housing finance strategy to provide affordable workforce housing opportunities to essential services personnel in areas of critical state concern designated under s. 380.05, for which the Legislature has declared its intent to provide affordable housing, and areas that were designated as areas of critical state concern for at least 20 consecutive years prior to removal of the designation. The lack of affordable workforce housing has been exacerbated by the dwindling availability of developable land, environmental

constraints, rising construction and insurance costs, and the shortage of lower-cost housing units. As this state's population continues to grow, essential services personnel vital to the economies of areas of critical state concern are unable to live in the communities where they work, creating transportation congestion and hindering their quality of life and community engagement.

Section 14. Subsections (18) through (42) of section 420.503, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (19) through (43), respectively, and a new subsection (18) is added to that section, to read:

420.503 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(18) "Essential services personnel" means natural persons or families whose total annual household income is at or below 120 percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, and at least one of whom is employed as police or fire personnel, a child care worker, a teacher or other education personnel, health care personnel, a public employee, or a service worker.

Section 15. Subsection (3) of section 420.5095, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.5095 Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program.—

(3) For purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Workforce housing" means housing affordable to

natural persons or families whose total annual household income does not exceed 140 percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, or 150 percent of area median income, adjusted for household size, in areas of critical state concern designated under s. 380.05, for which the Legislature has declared its intent to provide affordable housing, and areas that were designated as areas of critical state concern for at least 20 consecutive years prior to removal of the designation.

(b) ~~"Essential services personnel" means persons in need of affordable housing who are employed in occupations or professions in which they are considered essential services personnel, as defined by each county and eligible municipality within its respective local housing assistance plan pursuant to s. 420.9075(3)(a).~~

~~(c)~~ "Public-private partnership" means any form of business entity that includes substantial involvement of at least one county, one municipality, or one public sector entity, such as a school district or other unit of local government in which the project is to be located, and at least one private sector for-profit or not-for-profit business or charitable entity, and may be any form of business entity, including a joint venture or contractual agreement.

Section 16. Subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection (2), and subsections (4), (5), (6), (7), and (18) of section 553.791, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (d) is

added to subsection (15), to read:

553.791 Alternative plans review and inspection.—

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

(a) "Applicable codes" means the Florida Building Code and any local technical amendments to the Florida Building Code but does not include the applicable minimum fire prevention and firesafety codes adopted pursuant to chapter 633.

(b) "Audit" means the process to confirm that the building code inspection services have been performed by the private provider, including ensuring that the required affidavit for the plan review has been properly completed and affixed to the permit documents and that the minimum mandatory inspections required under the building code have been performed and properly recorded. The ~~term does not mean that the~~ local building official may not ~~is required to~~ replicate the plan review or inspection being performed by the private provider, unless expressly authorized by this section.

(c) "Building" means any construction, erection, alteration, demolition, or improvement of, or addition to, any structure or site work for which permitting by a local enforcement agency is required.

(d) "Building code inspection services" means those services described in s. 468.603(5) and (8) involving the review of building plans as well as those services involving the review of site plans and site work engineering plans or their

functional equivalent, to determine compliance with applicable codes and those inspections required by law of each phase of construction for which permitting by a local enforcement agency is required to determine compliance with applicable codes.

(e) "Duly authorized representative" means an agent of the private provider identified in the permit application who reviews plans or performs inspections as provided by this section and who is licensed as an engineer under chapter 471 or as an architect under chapter 481 or who holds a standard certificate under part XII of chapter 468.

(f) "Immediate threat to public safety and welfare" means a building code violation that, if allowed to persist, constitutes an immediate hazard that could result in death, serious bodily injury, or significant property damage. This paragraph does not limit the authority of the local building official to issue a Notice of Corrective Action at any time during the construction of a building project or any portion of such project if the official determines that a condition of the building or portion thereof may constitute a hazard when the building is put into use following completion as long as the condition cited is shown to be in violation of the building code or approved plans.

(g) "Local building official" means the individual within the governing jurisdiction responsible for direct regulatory administration or supervision of plans review, enforcement, and

inspection of any construction, erection, alteration, demolition, or substantial improvement of, or addition to, any structure for which permitting is required to indicate compliance with applicable codes and includes any duly authorized designee of such person.

(h) "Permit application" means a properly completed and submitted application for the requested building or construction permit, including:

1. The plans reviewed by the private provider.

2. The affidavit from the private provider required under subsection (6).

3. Any applicable fees.

4. Any documents required by the local building official to determine that the fee owner has secured all other government approvals required by law.

(i) "Plans" means building plans, site engineering plans, or site plans, or their functional equivalent, submitted by a fee owner or fee owner's contractor to a private provider or duly authorized representative for review.

(j) ~~(i)~~ "Private provider" means a person licensed as a building code administrator under part XII of chapter 468, as an engineer under chapter 471, or as an architect under chapter 481. For purposes of performing inspections under this section for additions and alterations that are limited to 1,000 square feet or less to residential buildings, the term "private

provider" also includes a person who holds a standard certificate under part XII of chapter 468.

(k) ~~(j)~~ "Request for certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion" means a properly completed and executed application for:

1. A certificate of occupancy or certificate of completion.

2. A certificate of compliance from the private provider required under subsection (11).

3. Any applicable fees.

4. Any documents required by the local building official to determine that the fee owner has secured all other government approvals required by law.

(l) "Site work" means the portion of a construction project that is not part of the building structure, including, but not limited to, grading, excavation, landscape irrigation, and installation of driveways.

(m) ~~(k)~~ "Stop-work order" means the issuance of any written statement, written directive, or written order which states the reason for the order and the conditions under which the cited work will be permitted to resume.

(2)

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that owners and contractors pay reduced fees ~~not be required to pay extra costs~~ related to building permitting requirements when hiring a

private provider for plans review and building inspections. A local jurisdiction must calculate the cost savings to the local enforcement agency, based on a fee owner or contractor hiring a private provider to perform plans reviews and building inspections in lieu of the local building official, and reduce the permit fees accordingly. The local jurisdiction may not charge fees for building inspections if the fee owner or contractor hires a private provider.

(4) A fee owner or the fee owner's contractor using a private provider to provide building code inspection services shall notify the local building official at the time of permit application, or no less than 2 ~~7~~ business days before ~~prior to~~ the first scheduled inspection by the local building official or building code enforcement agency for a private provider performing required inspections of construction under this section, on a form to be adopted by the commission. This notice shall include the following information:

(a) The services to be performed by the private provider.

(b) The name, firm, address, telephone number, and facsimile number of each private provider who is performing or will perform such services, his or her professional license or certification number, qualification statements or resumes, and, if required by the local building official, a certificate of insurance demonstrating that professional liability insurance coverage is in place for the private provider's firm, the

private provider, and any duly authorized representative in the amounts required by this section.

(c) An acknowledgment from the fee owner in substantially the following form:

I have elected to use one or more private providers to provide building code plans review and/or inspection services on the building or structure that is the subject of the enclosed permit application, as authorized by s. 553.791, Florida Statutes. I understand that the local building official may not review the plans submitted or perform the required building inspections to determine compliance with the applicable codes, except to the extent specified in said law. Instead, plans review and/or required building inspections will be performed by licensed or certified personnel identified in the application. The law requires minimum insurance requirements for such personnel, but I understand that I may require more insurance to protect my interests. By executing this form, I acknowledge that I have made inquiry regarding the competence of the licensed or certified personnel and the level of their insurance and am satisfied that my interests are adequately protected. I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the local

government, the local building official, and their building code enforcement personnel from any and all claims arising from my use of these licensed or certified personnel to perform building code inspection services with respect to the building or structure that is the subject of the enclosed permit application.

If the fee owner or the fee owner's contractor makes any changes to the listed private providers or the services to be provided by those private providers, the fee owner or the fee owner's contractor shall, within 1 business day after any change, update the notice to reflect such changes. A change of a duly authorized representative named in the permit application does not require a revision of the permit, and the building code enforcement agency shall not charge a fee for making the change. In addition, the fee owner or the fee owner's contractor shall post at the project site, before ~~prior to~~ the commencement of construction and updated within 1 business day after any change, on a form to be adopted by the commission, the name, firm, address, telephone number, and facsimile number of each private provider who is performing or will perform building code inspection services, the type of service being performed, and similar information for the primary contact of the private provider on the project.

(5) After construction has commenced and if the local building official is unable to provide inspection services in a timely manner, the fee owner or the fee owner's contractor may elect to use a private provider to provide inspection services by notifying the local building official of the owner's or contractor's intention to do so no less than 2 ~~7~~ business days before ~~prior to~~ the next scheduled inspection using the notice provided for in paragraphs (4)(a)-(c).

(6) A private provider performing plans review under this section shall review the ~~construction~~ plans to determine compliance with the applicable codes. Upon determining that the plans reviewed comply with the applicable codes, the private provider shall prepare an affidavit or affidavits on a form reasonably acceptable to ~~adopted by~~ the commission certifying, under oath, that the following is true and correct to the best of the private provider's knowledge and belief:

(a) The plans were reviewed by the affiant, who is duly authorized to perform plans review pursuant to this section and holds the appropriate license or certificate.

(b) The plans comply with the applicable codes.

(7)(a) No more than 5 ~~30~~ business days after receipt of a permit application and the affidavit from the private provider required pursuant to subsection (6), the local building official shall issue the requested permit or provide a written notice to the permit applicant identifying the specific plan features that

do not comply with the applicable codes, as well as the specific code chapters and sections. If the local building official does not provide a written notice of the plan deficiencies within the prescribed 5-day ~~30-day~~ period, the permit application shall be deemed approved as a matter of law, and the permit shall be issued by the local building official on the next business day.

(b) If the local building official provides a written notice of plan deficiencies to the permit applicant within the prescribed 5-day ~~30-day~~ period, the 5-day ~~30-day~~ period shall be tolled pending resolution of the matter. To resolve the plan deficiencies, the permit applicant may elect to dispute the deficiencies pursuant to subsection (13) or to submit revisions to correct the deficiencies.

(c) If the permit applicant submits revisions, the local building official has 3 ~~the remainder of the tolled 30-day period plus 5~~ business days from the date of resubmittal to issue the requested permit or to provide a second written notice to the permit applicant stating which of the previously identified plan features remain in noncompliance with the applicable codes, with specific reference to the relevant code chapters and sections. Any subsequent review by the local building official is limited to the deficiencies cited in the written notice. If the local building official does not provide the second written notice within the prescribed time period, the permit shall be deemed approved as a matter of law, and ~~issued~~

~~by~~ the local building official must issue the permit on the next business day.

(d) If the local building official provides a second written notice of plan deficiencies to the permit applicant within the prescribed time period, the permit applicant may elect to dispute the deficiencies pursuant to subsection (13) or to submit additional revisions to correct the deficiencies. For all revisions submitted after the first revision, the local building official has 3 ~~an additional 5~~ business days from the date of resubmittal to issue the requested permit or to provide a written notice to the permit applicant stating which of the previously identified plan features remain in noncompliance with the applicable codes, with specific reference to the relevant code chapters and sections.

(15)

(d) If the local jurisdiction fails to comply with the provisions set forth in this section, the fee owner's contractor that has requested to use a private provider to provide building code inspection services under this section may petition the circuit court for the local jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this section by writ of injunctive or other equitable relief.

(18) Each local building code enforcement agency may audit the performance of building code inspection services by private providers operating within the local jurisdiction. However, the same private provider may not be audited more than four times in

a calendar year unless the local building official determines a condition of a building constitutes an immediate threat to public safety and welfare. Work on a building or structure may proceed after inspection and approval by a private provider if the provider has given notice of the inspection pursuant to subsection (9) and, subsequent to such inspection and approval, the work shall not be delayed for completion of an inspection audit by the local building code enforcement agency.

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.