

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 979 (2026)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION _____ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT _____ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)

OTHER

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Intergovernmental Affairs
2 Subcommittee

3 Representative Borrero offered the following:

5 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

6 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

7 **Section 1. Section 163.2525, Florida Statutes, is created**

8 **to read:**

9 163.2525 Infill Redevelopment Act.—

10 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Infill
Redevelopment Act."

12 (2) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.—The Legislature finds that this
13 state's urban areas lack sufficient land for the development of
14 additional residential uses, which has led to a shortage of
15 supply; that parcels of land within or near urban areas are
16 difficult to develop or redevelop because of environmental

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Amendment No.

17 issues and local regulations; and that facilitating the
18 expedited permitting of such parcels, particularly in areas in
19 which multiple local governments have jurisdiction, serves
20 important public interests in remediating environmentally
21 challenged land and increasing the supply of housing.

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

23 (a) "Adjacent to" means located next to another parcel of
24 land or portion thereof, including where the parcels are
25 separated only by a roadway, railroad, or other public or
26 private right-of-way or easement.

27 (b) "Density" has the same meaning as in s. 163.3164.

28 (c) "Designated agricultural land" means a parcel of land
29 within a zoning district that allows for agricultural uses such
30 as farming, raising livestock, or aquaculture as the main
31 permitted uses and which land is classified as agricultural land
32 under s. 193.461.

33 (d) "Environmentally impacted land" means a parcel of land,
34 any portion of which:

35 1. There is a detection of a containment or pollutant above
36 the applicable local, state, or federal residential clean up
37 levels; or

38 2. Is, or, prior to or concurrent with development, would
39 be subject to environmental cleanup or site rehabilitation
40 requirements pursuant to chapter 376, chapter 403, or local
41 environmental ordinances or regulations, as a result of the

Amendment No.

42 presence of environmental containment or pollution present above
43 applicable cleanup target levels; or

44 3. Is located in a brownfield area designated pursuant to
45 s. 376.80.

46 (f) "Local government" means a county, municipality,
47 special district, or political subdivision of the state.

48 (g) "Parcel of land" has the same meaning as in s.
49 163.3164.

50 (h) "Qualifying parcel" means a parcel of land to which
51 this section applies under subsection (4).

52 (i) "Recreational facilities" means one or more parcels of
53 land any portion of which was previously used as a golf course,
54 tennis court, swimming pool, or clubhouse, or another similar
55 use.

56 (j) "Townhouse" means a single-family dwelling unit that
57 is constructed in a series or group of attached units with
58 property lines separating such units.

59 (k) "Urban growth boundary" means a boundary established
60 by a comprehensive plan or land development regulation beyond
61 which the provision of urban services or facilities is limited.
62 The term includes, but is not limited to, urban development
63 boundaries and urban service boundaries.

64 (4) QUALIFYING PARCELS.—

65 (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), this section
66 applies to environmentally impacted land consisting of at least

Amendment No.

67 5 acres that is adjacent to a zoning district within the same
68 jurisdiction that permits residential uses as of right and is
69 within a county that meets both of the following requirements:

70 1. The county has a population of more than 1.475 million
71 people according to the most recent decennial census.

72 2. There are at least 15 municipalities within the county.

73 (b) This section does not apply to any of the following:

74 1. Designated agricultural land.

75 2. Land owned or operated by a local government for public
76 park purposes.

77 3. Land outside an urban growth boundary.

78 4. Land within one-quarter mile of a military installation
79 identified in s. 163.3175(2).

80 (5) DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.—Notwithstanding any local
81 law, ordinance, or regulation to the contrary, a local
82 government must permit a qualifying parcel to be developed with
83 residential uses. The density of development pursuant to this
84 section shall not exceed the average density of all zoning
85 districts within the same jurisdiction that allow residential
86 uses as of right adjacent to the qualifying parcel, and its
87 intensity must comply with the standards of any adjacent zoning
88 district.

89 (6) SUBDIVISION APPROVAL.—A local government must approve
90 an application for the subdivision of a qualifying parcel if the
91 application satisfies the requirements of chapter 177. A local

Amendment No.

92 government may not use the subdivision process to restrict
93 development below the density and intensity authorized under
94 subsection (5).

95 (7) BUFFER FROM RESIDENTIAL USES. - If a qualifying parcel
96 is adjacent to single-family homes and/or townhomes on all
97 sides, the developer must provide a buffer of at least 20 feet
98 between the new development and the existing single-family homes
99 and/or townhomes. The buffer area shall be measured from lot
100 line to lot line and must be maintained as open space or
101 improved with passive recreational facilities accessible to the
102 community. Swales and water retention areas shall be considered
103 open space.

104 (8) RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.—

105 (a) If a qualifying parcel includes recreational
106 facilities or areas reserved for recreational use and such
107 recreational facilities or areas are adjacent to single-family
108 homes on all sides, the developer must do all of the following:

109 1. Establish that such facilities or areas, or portions
110 thereof, located on the qualifying parcel have not been in
111 operation or in use for a period of at least 12 consecutive
112 months.

113 2. Pay double the applicable parks or recreational
114 facilities impact fee that would otherwise apply to the proposed
115 development, to compensate for the loss of open or recreational
116 space.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 979 (2026)

Amendment No.

117 3. Provide written notice delivered by certified mail to
118 all owners of property adjacent to the recreational facilities
119 or areas, which notice includes all of the following
120 information:

121 a. That the developer intends to develop the parcel in
122 accordance with this section.

123 b. That the adjacent property owners may elect to purchase
124 the parcel or portion thereof containing recreational facilities
125 or areas for the purpose of maintaining the parcel, or portions
126 thereof, as recreational areas or open space within 90 days
127 after the date the notice is mailed.

128 c. The price at which the adjacent property owners may
129 purchase the property.

130 (b) Property owners who receive the notice required under
131 subparagraph (a)3. and wish to exercise the option to purchase
132 the parcel or portion thereof containing the recreational
133 facilities or areas must exercise the option and close on the
134 property, including requiring the property to be maintained as a
135 recreational area or open space for at least 30 years through
136 acceptance of a deed restriction or recording of a restrictive
137 covenant, within 90 days after the notice is mailed or forfeit
138 the option. The parcel or portion thereof must be offered to
139 such property owners for purchase at a price that may not exceed
140 the greater of:

Amendment No.

141 1. An amount equal to the price paid by the property owner
142 plus 10 percent; or

143 2. An amount equal to a bona fide offer to purchase the
144 property received by the property owner within the last 12
145 months plus 10 percent.

146 (9) DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS.—The proposed development of
147 a qualifying parcel which complies with the requirements of this
148 section must be administratively approved, and no further action
149 by the governing body of a local government is required. A local
150 government may administratively require a proposed development
151 to comply with local regulations relating to architectural
152 design, such as required color palettes or architectural style,
153 provided such standards would apply to, and are generally
154 applicable to, comparable residential development within the
155 jurisdiction and do not affect the density or intensity of the
156 proposed development. Developers shall be required to establish
157 consistency with applicable concurrency requirements before the
158 issuance of a building permit for any project developed pursuant
159 to this section. Each local government shall maintain on its
160 website a policy containing procedures and expectations for
161 administrative approval under this subsection.

162 (10) APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION.—This section applies
163 retroactively to any local law, ordinance, or regulation that is
164 contrary to this section or its intent and must be liberally
165 construed to effectuate its intent.

Amendment No.

166 (11) PREEMPTION.—A local government may not adopt or
167 enforce a local law, an ordinance, or a regulation that applies
168 or has the effect of applying a more restrictive or burdensome
169 requirement or procedure to the development of a qualifying
170 parcel which is administratively approved pursuant to this
171 section. Any such law, ordinance, or regulation contrary to this
172 section is void.

173 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

175 -----
176 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

177 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:
178 An act relating to infill redevelopment; creating s.
179 163.2525, F.S.; providing a short title; providing
180 legislative findings; defining terms; providing
181 applicability; requiring a local government to permit
182 the development of certain qualifying parcels up to a
183 certain density and intensity; requiring a local
184 government to approve an application for the
185 subdivision of a qualifying parcel under certain
186 circumstances; prohibiting a local government from
187 using the subdivision process to restrict development
188 in a certain manner; requiring developers of
189 qualifying parcels to maintain a specified buffer
190 between new developments and single-family homes and

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 979 (2026)

Amendment No.

191 townhouses under certain circumstances; providing
192 requirements for such buffer areas; requiring
193 developers of qualifying parcels to establish that
194 certain recreational facilities and areas reserved for
195 recreational use have not been in operation or use for
196 a certain timeframe, to pay double the parks and
197 recreational facilities impact fees for a certain
198 purpose, and to provide certain written notice to
199 certain property owners; requiring property owners who
200 receive such written notice to exercise an option to
201 purchase certain parcels or portions thereof within a
202 specified timeframe or forfeit the option; limiting
203 the price at which such parcels or portions of parcels
204 may be offered to the property owners for purchase;
205 requiring the administrative approval of certain
206 proposed developments; authorizing local governments
207 to apply certain local regulations under certain
208 circumstances; requiring development on qualifying
209 parcels to meet concurrency requirements; requiring
210 each local government to maintain a certain policy on
211 its website; providing applicability; providing
212 construction; prohibiting a local government from
213 adopting or enforcing certain local laws, ordinances,
214 or regulations; providing an effective date.