

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WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)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

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Intergovernmental Affairs
Subcommittee

Representative Borrero offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**Section 1. Section 163.2525, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:**

163.2525 Infill Redevelopment Act.—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) QUALIFYING PARCELS.—

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

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

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

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

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

1. Designated agricultural land.

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

3. Land outside an urban growth boundary.

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

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

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

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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.

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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:

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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.

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

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

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

An act relating to infill redevelopment; creating s. 163.2525, F.S.; providing a short title; providing legislative findings; defining terms; providing applicability; requiring a local government to permit the development of certain qualifying parcels up to a certain density and intensity; requiring a local government to approve an application for the subdivision of a qualifying parcel under certain circumstances; prohibiting a local government from using the subdivision process to restrict development in a certain manner; requiring developers of qualifying parcels to maintain a specified buffer between new developments and single-family homes and

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townhouses under certain circumstances; providing requirements for such buffer areas; requiring developers of qualifying parcels to establish that certain recreational facilities and areas reserved for recreational use have not been in operation or use for a certain timeframe, to pay double the parks and recreational facilities impact fees for a certain purpose, and to provide certain written notice to certain property owners; requiring property owners who receive such written notice to exercise an option to purchase certain parcels or portions thereof within a specified timeframe or forfeit the option; limiting the price at which such parcels or portions of parcels may be offered to the property owners for purchase; requiring the administrative approval of certain proposed developments; authorizing local governments to apply certain local regulations under certain circumstances; requiring development on qualifying parcels to meet concurrency requirements; requiring each local government to maintain a certain policy on its website; providing applicability; providing construction; prohibiting a local government from adopting or enforcing certain local laws, ordinances, or regulations; providing an effective date.