



FRA CALL-TO-ACTION ALERT - STRONGLY OPPOSE HB 579 VOTE NO

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Dear FRA Leaders, Members, Family, and Friends,

On Tuesday April 22, 2025, HB 579 will be heard and voted on in the House Commerce Committee, which is dangerously close to becoming law—putting Florida's agricultural land and rural communities at serious risk. THEREFORE, FRA STRONGLY OPPOSES HB 579 BILL.

General Bill by Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee and Overdorf
Local Government Land Development: Requires counties & municipalities, respectively, to meet
specified requirements regarding minimum information necessary for certain zoning
applications; revises timeframes for processing applications for approvals of development
permits or development orders; provides refund parameters in situations where county or
municipality, respectively, fails to meet certain timeframes; prohibits school district from
collecting, charging, or imposing any alternative fee for concurrency for educational facilities
that does not meet certain requirements; provides standard of review for legal action
challenging such fees.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 579 (2025), sponsored by Representative Toby Overdorf (R-Palm City), initially focused on other regulatory matters but was amended to include provisions related to "agricultural enclaves" as defined under Florida Statute 163.3164. These enclaves are parcels of agricultural land surrounded by at least 50% developed land (industrial, commercial, or residential) and not exceeding 700 acres. The amendment, as described in web sources, modifies the process for converting such land for development. Overdorf claims the amendment adds safeguards by requiring:

- 1. A public hearing to certify the land as an agricultural enclave.
- 2. A local government votes to confirm the designation.
- 3. Limiting eligible parcels to those already designated as enclaves by January 1, 2025.

4. A sunset clause repealing the provisions by January 1, 2027.

CALL-TO-ACTION | MAGAPHONE TIME | LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Please CALL, EMAIL, AND TWEET aka "X" the following Republican members of the House Commerce Committee and let them know these so-called safeguards are superficial, with the public hearing and vote serving as a formality due to the checklist-based certification process. Once certified, the land could be approved for residential development without further community input, potentially undermining local control and accelerating agricultural land loss, which is why FRA STRONGLY OPPOSES HB 579. Encourage committee members to VOTE NO ON HB 579 and thank them for their support and hard work.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

James Buchanan (850) 717-5074 Juan Carlos Porras (850) 717-5119 Chase Tramont (850) 717-5030 Yvette Benarroch (850) 717-5081 Erika Booth (850) 717-5035 David Borrero (850) 717-5111 Robert Charles "Chuck" Brannan III (850) 717-5010 Wyman Duggan (850) 717-5012 Tiffany Esposito (850) 717-5077 Mike Giallombardo (850) 717-5079 Peggy Gossett-Seidman (850) 717-5091 Chip LaMarca (850) 717-5100 Randall Scott "Randy" Maggard (850) 717-5054 Vanessa Oliver (850) 717-5076 Michelle Salzman (850) 717-5001 Jason Shoaf (850) 717-5007 Tyler I. Sirois 850) 717-5031 David Smith (850) 717-5038 Bradford Troy "Brad" Yeager (850) 717-5056

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TWITTER AKA "X" HANDLES: @RepBuchanan @JuanPorrasFL @ChaseTramontFL @Yvette4FL @erikaboothFL @DavidBorreroFL @Chuck Brannan @WymanDuggan @TiffanyForFL

@MikeGiallombar3 @GossettSeidman @LamarcaChip @RepMaggard @Vanessa4Florida @michellesalzman @JasonShoafFL@tylersirois @ElectSmith28 @PascoCountyPIO

RETWEET HERE: https://x.com/TyphoonLou

Please feel free to CALL me if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for your valuable time, understanding, and making a difference.

Sincerely,

