

Senate Bill sb2188er

ENROLLED

2004 Legislature CS for CS for SB 2188, 1st Engrossed

Highlights:

Amends chapter [163.3177](#)(11)(d), F.S.:

1. Provides that the rural land stewardship area designation should be *specifically encouraged* as an overlay on the future land use maps for all Florida counties;
2. Requires the Department of Community Affairs, in cooperation with other specified state agencies, to provide assistance to local governments in implementing provisions relating to rural land stewardship areas; assistance may include, but is not limited to:
 - Assistance from the Department of Environmental Protection and water management districts in creating the geographic information systems land cover database and aerial photogrammetry needed to prepare for a rural land stewardship area;
 - Support for local government implementation of rural land stewardship concepts by providing information and assistance to local governments regarding land acquisition programs that may be used by the local government or landowners to leverage the protection of greater acreage and maximize the effectiveness of rural land stewardship areas; and
 - Expansion of the role of the Department of Community Affairs as a resource agency to facilitate establishment of rural land stewardship areas in smaller rural counties that do not have the staff or planning budgets to create a rural land stewardship area.
3. Encourages coordinated regional stewardship planning by providing for multi-county rural land stewardship areas;
4. Provides that a local government, in conjunction with a regional planning council, a stakeholder organization of private land owners, or another local government, may initiate the rural lands stewardship planning process by notifying the Department of Community Affairs of its intent to pursue this planning option;
5. Changes minimum acreage threshold from 50,000 to 10,000 acres and eliminates maximum acreage threshold (previously 250,000 acres) for designating a rural land stewardship area; and
6. Provides that transferable rural land use credits may be assigned at different ratios according to the natural resource or other beneficial use characteristics of the land.