CS/HB 203 2013

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to agricultural lands; amending s. 163.3162, F.S.; revising a definition; prohibiting a governmental entity from adopting or enforcing any prohibition, restriction, regulation, or other limitation or from charging an assessment or fee on the activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (b) through (j) of subsection (3) of section 163.3162, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (c) through (k), respectively, paragraph (d) of subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) are amended, and a new paragraph (b) is added to subsection (3) of that section, to read:

163.3162 Agricultural Lands and Practices.-

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:(d) "Governmental entity" has the same meaning as provided

in s. 164.1031. The term does not include <u>a water management</u>

<u>district</u>, a water control district established under chapter

298, or a special district created by special act for water

25 management purposes.

(3) DUPLICATION OF REGULATION.—Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 487.051(2), and notwithstanding

any other law, including any provision of chapter 125 or this

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chapter:

- (a) A governmental entity county may not exercise any of its powers to adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution, regulation, rule, or policy to prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit an activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if such activity is regulated through implemented best management practices, interim measures, or regulations adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program; or if such activity is expressly regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- (b) A governmental entity may not charge an assessment or fee upon an activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if such activity is regulated through implemented best management practices, interim measures, or regulations adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program; or if such activity is expressly regulated by the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.