

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2013 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED
Committee on Agriculture

CS/CS/HB 203 — Agricultural Lands

by Local and Federal Affairs Committee; Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee; and Rep. Beshears and others (CS/SB 1190 by Appropriations Committee; and Senators Brandes, Sachs, and Evers)

CS/CS/HB 203 revises the Agricultural Lands and Practices Act which was adopted by the Legislature in 2003. The bill prohibits counties from adopting or enforcing any duplicative policy that limits activity of a *bona fide* farm or farm operation on agricultural land if the activity is already regulated by the state or federal government. This bill expands the prohibition to include not just counties but all governmental entities, with the exception of water management districts and water control districts. In addition, the bill prohibits governmental entities from charging fees on *bona fide* agricultural activities of such farms or farm operations.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2013.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-3