

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to vegetable gardens; creating s.
 3 604.71, F.S.; providing legislative intent;
 4 prohibiting local governments from regulating
 5 vegetable gardens on residential properties except as
 6 otherwise provided by law; specifying that such
 7 regulations are void and unenforceable; providing
 8 applicability; defining the term "vegetable garden";
 9 providing an effective date.

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

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 13 Section 1. Section 604.71, Florida Statutes, is created to
 14 read:

15 604.71 Local regulation of vegetable gardens.—

16 (1) The Legislature intends to encourage the development
 17 of sustainable cultivation of vegetables and fruits at all
 18 levels of production, including for personal consumption, as an
 19 important interest of the state.

20 (2) Except as otherwise provided by law, a county,
 21 municipality, or other political subdivision of this state may
 22 not regulate vegetable gardens on residential properties. Any
 23 such local ordinance or regulation regulating vegetable gardens
 24 on residential properties is void and unenforceable.

25 (3) This section does not preclude the adoption of a local

26 | ordinance or regulation of a general nature that does not
27 | specifically regulate vegetable gardens, including, but not
28 | limited to, regulations and ordinances relating to water use
29 | during drought conditions, fertilizer use, or control of
30 | invasive species.

31 | (4) As used in this section, the term "vegetable garden"
32 | means a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, or
33 | vegetables are cultivated for human ingestion.

34 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.