



December 1, 2025

Via Email Delivery

The Honorable Keith Truenow
Florida Senate
306 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Re: SB 290 – Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
12.02.2025 Agenda, Senate Committee on Agriculture

Dear Chair Truenow:

On behalf of the Florida League of Cities and the municipalities we represent, thank you for your commitment to strengthening Florida's economy and supporting responsible land stewardship. While cities share these goals, several provisions in SB 290 impose broad statewide restrictions on routine local decision-making. Sections 2 and 3 expand state control in areas that are more appropriately managed at the local level.

Preserving Local Authority to Manage Noise, Public Safety, and Quality-of-Life Issues

The regulatory preemptions in section 2 go far beyond protecting agricultural operations and unintentionally restrict cities from enforcing basic time-of-day ordinances in residential neighborhoods. Cities rely on these regulations that apply universally across all equipment types to protect nearby homes, schools, and healthcare facilities – not to regulate agricultural practices. Without this authority, cities lose a tool needed to stop early-morning or late-night disturbances, undermining the peace and quiet Floridians expect in their neighborhoods.

Impacts on Local Land Disposition, Redevelopment, and Housing Initiatives

Section 3 adds a new state approval step whenever a municipality seeks to sell its own surplus land and prohibits cities from transferring development rights if the State's Acquisition and Restoration Council finds the parcel suitable for agriculture. Cities often use these transfers as a market-based tool to support infill redevelopment and lower the cost of workforce housing. Weakening this tool reduces local flexibility, slows private investment, and pushes development outward, ultimately increasing costs for taxpayers.

Cities must maintain the authority to manage community standards in ways that support economic growth, protect taxpaying residents, and ensure neighborhood safety. We respectfully request that SB 290 be amended to address these concerns and welcome the opportunity to work with you on targeted refinements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Singer".

Matthew Singer
Legislative Advocate
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

cc: Vice Chair Grall and Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture

