



Northwest Florida Office

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[www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org)

May 28, 2020

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis  
The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  
Via: [GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:GovernorRon.DeSantis@eog.myflorida.com)

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of Defenders of Wildlife (Defenders), we writing to respectfully urge you to please veto Senate Bill 410 dealing with growth management. Founded in 1947, Defenders is a national non-profit conservation organization focused solely on wildlife and habitat conservation and the safeguarding of biodiversity. Defenders has more than 117,000 members and supporters in Florida.

This act will mandate each Florida local government adopt property rights elements in their comprehensive plan which will be costly to prepare, create more bureaucratic red tape, and are unnecessarily duplicate already-existing state and federal laws. It will undermine the authority of many county governments to protect rural areas from development, even if voters approved that protection.

It will allow previously approved (and built-out) developments of regional impact to be modified so that developers can seek land uses changes outside of the DRI process undermining state and local management of development. Finally, it will promote imprudent development in rural areas by promoting sprawl tied to M-CORES toll roads and utility corridors.

Please veto SB 410. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent L. Wimmer, AICP

Senior Representative, Northwest Florida

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