

CHAPTER 2026-87

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 425

An act relating to the Historic Cemeteries Program; amending s. 267.21, F.S.; requiring local governments to approve applications from historic African-American cemeteries to change the land use category and zoning district of excess vacant land under certain conditions to allow development consistent and compatible with adjacent land uses; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 267.21, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (4), and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

267.21 Historic Cemeteries Program.—

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a historic African-American cemetery recorded in the Florida Master Site File pursuant to this section with excess vacant land sells or enters into a contract to sell such land for the express purpose of funding the cemetery's long-term maintenance and upkeep, the county or municipality where such cemetery is located must administratively approve an application to rezone or change the land use designation of such land to allow development consistent and compatible with adjacent land uses. A county or municipality may use reasonable discretion in determining the new zoning or land use designation, provided that the zoning or land use designation is consistent and compatible with the surrounding area.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor May 21, 2026.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 21, 2026.