

DEAS LAND AND CATTLE LLC

6480 SW 122ND STREET

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

Date: 1/13/2010

The Honorable Buddy Irby

Alachua County Charter Review Committee:

As the Committee works to complete the final recommendations for proposed changes to the Charter for presentation to the voters of Alachua County, the Board of Directors of the Alachua County Farm Bureau would like to support three issues currently under consideration by the Committee and submit a new, and very important one. The ACFB Board voted unanimously to support the following changes to the County Charter;

1. Amend the charter to divide the county into five single member districts that provide equal representation to the population groups consisting of the three urban and two rural districts that provide for the rural and agricultural areas. Each district shall be established on the equitable distribution of county population among the districts.
2. Eliminate duplication of government programs and regulatory functions conducted by the County. For example, current EPD programs duplicate existing Water Management Districts, State Department of Environmental Protection, Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Corps of Engineers regulatory and permitting programs. County property owners pay state and federal taxes to support these agencies, and also pay county taxes for a duplication of these programs.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration and favorable disposition with respect to the aforementioned recommendations. These issues have particular significance to the rural community of Alachua County and will address the issue of fair a democratic representation throughout the County.

Sincerely,

William Deas

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Deas Land and Cattle LLC

Owner, Operator