



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

June 28, 2007

Mr. Kurt S. Browning
Secretary of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
JULY 1 2007

Dear Secretary Browning:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby withhold my approval of and transmit to you my objections to, Council Substitute for House Bill 1395, enacted during the 109th Session of the Legislature of Florida, since statehood in 1845, during the Regular Session of 2007 and entitled:

An act relating to Coral Springs Improvement District, Broward County . . .

This bill alters election procedures for the district's board of supervisors, increases compensation for board members, and revises competitive bidding requirements of the district.

A special district has considerable power over property under its jurisdiction. These powers have been contemplated by the Legislature and specific provisions have been placed in statute in order to protect landowners and those who reside within such districts. This bill ignores current law which requires a referendum to transition a board of supervisors for a special district from a board elected by a one-acre/one-vote basis to a board elected by registered voters who reside within the district. Furthermore, this bill disregards statutory requirements to increase the size of the board after such a transition.

Additionally, I have concerns about an increase in the compensation of board members and an increase in the competitive procurement threshold from \$4,000 to \$150,000 occurring without a referendum. The need for a referendum is heightened when any change to a special district's practices could lead to increased financial costs through taxes or special assessments, to landowners and those who reside within the district.

For the reasons stated above, I am hereby withholding my approval of Council Substitute for House Bill 1395 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist

CC/dmm