

CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

June 28, 2007

Mr. Kurt S. Browning
Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

FILED
2007 JUN 28 PM 12:02
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Dear Secretary Browning:

By the authority vested in me as Governor 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 Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1030, enacted during the 39th session of the Legislature of Florida, convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2007, and entitled:

An act relating to court costs...

This bill increases court costs for certain criminal and non-criminal violations of law and earmarks the additional funds for criminal justice training programs. The funding for these programs has remained stable at approximately \$80 per officer for several years, even as our police force has grown dramatically. The increases sought by this bill would result in another \$1.5 million for these programs – 52% of that increase would be borne by criminals and 48% by non-criminal violations.

While imposing increases on criminals is fair punishment, placing an additional financial burden on someone who may have only violated a swimming or diving regulation is unreasonable. Increased costs imposed on our citizens for non-criminal acts place a significant burden on many who are struggling financially.

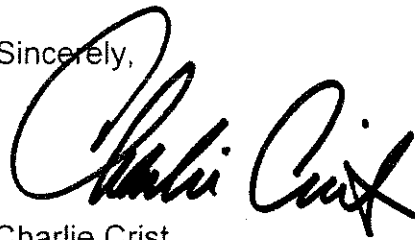
While I support providing as many tools as possible for our police officers, I do not support doing it on the backs of Floridians who have committed non-criminal violations. Instead, I respectfully suggest that the Legislature next year provide greater increases on criminals than is contemplated in this bill in order to increase funding for these important training programs.

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While I support providing as many tools as possible for our police officers, I do not support doing it on the backs of Floridians who have committed non-criminal violations. Instead, I respectfully suggest that the Legislature next year provide greater increases on criminals than is contemplated in this bill in order to increase funding for these important training programs.

For the reasons stated above, I am hereby withholding my approval of Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1030, and do hereby veto the same. I encourage the Legislature to carefully consider the financial burdens placed on non-criminal offenses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Crist". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C".

Charlie Crist

CC/dmm