

June 10, 2005

Ms. Glenda E. Hood
Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
R. A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Secretary Hood:

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 with my objections, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 328, enacted during the 37th Session of the Legislature of Florida convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2005, and entitled:

An act relating to automated external defibrillators in law enforcement vehicles . . .

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 328 authorizes the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to administer a matching grant program that would enable law enforcement agencies to place automated external defibrillators in their vehicles.

I am vetoing the bill because it is contrary to good governmental policy to have programs in existence that are not funded. Previously, I vetoed funding for this project from the state's budget because I believe responsibility for development of this program lies at the local level. In fact, on June 1, 2005 I was pleased to approve legislation authorizing development of this program at the local level: Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1436 authorizes local governments to use funds from forfeitures to purchase automated external defibrillators for law enforcement vehicles.

Signing this bill, however, would enact a program statutorily that cannot be put into effect. Without a state funding source, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 328 is superfluous and a veto is warranted. For this reason, I withhold my approval of Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 328, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Jeb Bush