



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

June 13, 2007

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

2007 JUN 13 PM 5:23
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
FILED

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 Council Substitute for House Bill 455, 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 organ and tissue donation ...

This bill transfers the organ and tissue donor registry from the Agency for Health Care Administration (the Agency) to the Florida Coalition on Donation (the Coalition), a non-profit alliance of Florida's organ, tissue and eye donor programs.

I am firmly committed to protecting state dollars and providing transparent, efficient government services. While I support improving the administration of the organ and tissue donor registry, I have concerns with this legislation regarding the degree of oversight the state will maintain over taxpayers' dollars. Accordingly, I encourage the legislature to consider measures to assure that all programs administered by and for the state are conducted with the highest standards, oversight and accountability through a fair and competitive process. Further, at my direction the Agency for Health Care Administration will implement measures to enhance the quality of Florida's organ donor registry.

For these reasons, I withhold my approval of Council Substitute for Council Substitute for House Bill 455, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist

CC/dmm