



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

June 26, 2007

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

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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 transmit to you with my signature, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1972, enacted during the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Legislature of Florida and convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2007 and entitled:

An act relating to the leasing of private property by state agencies . . .

The Department of Management Services administers the state's private leasing program for state facilities. The state leases a total of 8.4 million square feet in private sector leases with an annual rent of \$140 million. Of that total, 7.3 million square feet requires competitive solicitation. The annual rent for the competitively solicited leases is \$119 million.

The bill requires the Department to develop and implement a statewide strategic leasing plan to forecast agency space needs and identify opportunities for reducing costs through consolidation, relocation, reconfiguration, capital investment, and the building or acquisition of state-owned space. It also allows the state to negotiate leases in a manner designed to obtain the best value for the state.

The efficient and effective use of the people's tax money is important to me, and I applaud the leadership of Secretary Linda South and the Legislature in crafting a bill that will make leases more efficient, more effective, and a better deal for the state and the people.

I hereby transmit with my approval, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1972.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist

CC/dmm