



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

June 24, 2009

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

Dear Secretary Browning:

By the authority vested in me as the Governor of Florida, and 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, Senate Bill 166, enacted during the 41<sup>th</sup> Session of the Legislature of Florida, convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2009 and entitled:

An act relating to public records...

Senate Bill 166 creates a public records exemption for information that identifies a donor or a prospective donor of a donation made to benefit a publically-owned building or facility if the donor wants to remain anonymous. While Florida law currently provides several exemptions for donors under specific circumstances, all of those exemptions are for donations made to direct support organizations that must comply with federal reporting requirements. Federal reporting requirements provide an opportunity for public oversight without compromising the donor's confidentiality. This bill does not provide a sufficient mechanism for public oversight and accountability that would override the state's strong public policy for open and transparent government operations.

For this reason, I withhold my approval of Senate Bill 166, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist