



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

July 2, 2013

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner
Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

2013 JUL -2 PM 5:23
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FILED

Dear Secretary Detzner:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, and Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objections to Committee Substitute for House Bill 1009, enacted during the 115th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2013, and entitled:

An act relating to Fellsmere Water Control District, Indian River County...

This bill substantially expands the Fellsmere Water Control District's scope of authority beyond water drainage to include those powers traditionally the responsibility of a city or county.

A special district is a unit of local government that operates for a special purpose as opposed to counties or cities, which operate for general purposes. The Fellsmere Water Control District is a special district created in 1919 for the special purpose of providing drainage and water control services in a 27,000 acre area of land in Indian River County. Expanding the District's granted powers to include items as varied as community development, transit, mosquito control, fire control, and emergency medical services, is counter to the express purpose of a special district. These services are traditionally provided by the local city or county government. The litany of additional powers that the bill provides the District will lead to multiple local governments competing to provide the same or similar services, which will result in duplicative taxation and an increased cost of living for families in Indian River County.

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner
July 2, 2013
Page Two

Expanding the scope of authority of a water control district is not the most appropriate means for residents to receive the desired services and there are other avenues to which residents of the District may pursue. I look forward to working with the local legislative delegation and residents of the District to help facilitate these needs.

For these reasons, I withhold my approval of Committee Substitute for House Bill 1009 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rick Scott
Governor