



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

June 27, 2011

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

FILED
2011 JUN 27 PM 4: 26
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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, House Bill 4045, enacted during the 43rd Session of the Legislature of Florida, convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2011 and entitled:

An Act Relating to Assisted Living Facilities...

Assisted living facilities play a critical role in the spectrum of residential options and services available to Florida's seniors. For the most part, Florida's assisted living facilities provide safe, high quality housing for their residents and House Bill 4045 furthers the worthy goal of reducing unnecessary regulations and paperwork for these facilities. However, there have been recent reports of certain facilities falling short of what is currently required by statutes and rules and what should reasonably be expected by residents.

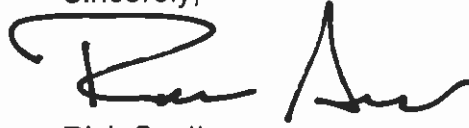
Until a more deliberate examination of the regulation and oversight of assisted living facilities is conducted, I do not believe it is prudent to relax any reporting requirements for assisted living facilities. Towards that end, I will be forming an assisted living facility task force for the purpose of examining current assisted living regulations and oversight. The task force will be directed to develop recommendations to improve the state's ability to monitor quality and safety in assisted living facilities and ensure the well being of their residents.

Additionally, I previously directed the Agency for Health Care Administration to develop a more robust online information system for consumers and family members seeking information about the quality of care and regulatory track record of assisted living facilities. This enhanced system became operational in June.

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For these reasons, I withhold my approval of, and do hereby veto, House Bill
4045.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rick Scott
Governor