



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

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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 1281, enacted during the 115th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2013, and entitled:

An act relating to East County Water Control District, Hendry and Lee Counties...

This bill expands the East County Water Control District's powers in order to authorize the District to construct street lighting and sidewalk facilities.

East County Water Control District is an independent special district, which was created for the specific purpose of providing drainage and water control services. The authority to install and construct street lighting and sidewalk facilities falls outside of the District's specific grant of authority, and is traditionally a function of the local city or county. The bill's expansion of the District's authority allows multiple local governments to provide the same or similar services, resulting in the potential for duplicative taxation and an increased cost of living for families in Lee County.

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 1281 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

THE CAPITOL

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