June 2, 2014

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

Dear Secretary Detzner:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objections to Senate Bill 392, enacted during the 116th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2014 and entitled:

An act relating to state speed zones....

This legislation authorizes the Florida Department of Transportation to increase speed limits on Florida’s roadways under specific conditions. Although the bill does not mandate higher speed limits, allowing for the possibility of faster driving on Florida’s roads and highways could ultimately and unacceptably increase the risk of serious accidents for Florida citizens and visitors. I strongly respect the opinion of state and local law enforcement officers who have contacted me to warn about the possible serious negative consequences should this bill become law. While the evidence suggests that increased driving speeds are not the sole cause of traffic accidents, they clearly contribute to the increased severity of vehicle crash outcomes in the form of needless injuries and deaths. Maintaining our current speed limits will allow the Department of Transportation and our law enforcement officials to continue the state’s focus on maintaining a safe traffic environment for every driver on Florida’s roads.
For the reasons stated above, I withhold my approval of Senate Bill 392 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott
Governor