



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

June 6, 2017

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

2017 JUN -6 PM 7:06
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
FILED

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 House Bill 1089, enacted during the 119th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2017 and entitled:

An act relating to Ocean Highway and Port Authority, Nassau County...

The Ocean Highway and Port Authority was created as an independent special district in 1941, and operates the Port of Fernandina in Nassau County. Since becoming Governor, I have committed to record funding of Florida ports through the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Work Program and have strategically prioritized projects with the greatest return on investment to Florida taxpayers.

The bill considerably expands the Ocean Highway and Port Authority's powers by authorizing the construction of infrastructure that is outside the scope of FDOT's Work Program and does not guarantee a return on investment for Florida families. Furthermore, the bill allows the Authority to construct infrastructure not only in Nassau County, but in the state of Georgia. Additionally, by providing the Authority the ability to issue bonds to finance projects like toll roads, bridges, and telecommunications facilities, the bill may result in increased taxes for Floridians who live and work in the district.

For the reasons stated above, I withhold my approval of House Bill 1089 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rick Scott", written over a large, loopy initial "R".

Rick Scott
Governor