



**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2020

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

2020 JUN 30 PM 5:33

FILED

Secretary Laurel Lee  
Florida Department of State  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Lee:

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 Committee Substitute for House Bill 1049, enacted during the 122<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2020 and entitled:

An act relating to the Office of the Judges of Compensation Claims...

The Legislature passed CS/HB 1049 - Office of the Judges of Compensation Claims, which increases the salary of each full-time judge of compensation claims equal to that of a county court judge (with the exception of each Deputy Chief Judge of Compensation Claims whose salary will be \$1,000 greater than the judges of compensation claims). I have already approved a 3% pay raise for all state workers which includes the judges of compensation claims. CS/HB 1049 provides an additional pay increase to the judges of compensation claims that equates to a \$27,258 or 22% increase over their current salary. While I commend the work of all our judges of compensation claims, a 22% salary increase, in addition to the 3% pay raise, is problematic given the changes to our state budget outlook due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To be fiscally responsible, I withhold my approval of CS/HB 1049 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis  
Governor