June 29, 2021

Secretary Laurel Lee
Secretary 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 objection to Senate Bill 146 (SB 146), enacted during the 123rd Session of the Legislature of Florida, during Regular Session 2021 and entitled:

An act relating to civic literacy education

My administration has worked hard to strengthen civics instruction and education in Florida’s kindergarten through postsecondary public schools. Indeed we have embedded strong civics curriculum in every grade level of Florida’s kindergarten through grade 12 English Language Arts standards, and implemented the national model Florida Civics and Debate Initiative. Moreover, the Department of Education is in the process of adopting new civics standards and developing high-quality curriculum aligned to those standards.

The proposed bill seeks to further so-called “action civics” but does so in a way that risks promoting the preferred orthodoxy of two particular institutions.

For these reasons, I withhold my approval of SB 146 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Ron DeSantis
Governor