

## RON DESANTIS GOVERNOR

June 2, 2022

Secretary Cord Byrd Secretary of State R.A. Gray Building 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Byrd:

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 withhold my approval from the following specific appropriation contained within Senate Bill 2526 (lines 78-93):

(2) Beginning in the 2022-2023 fiscal year, and annually through the 2052-2053 fiscal year, the sum of \$20 million is appropriated and shall be transferred to the Board of Directors of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute for construction and development of Moffitt's Pasco County life sciences park. Monies transferred to the Board of Directors of the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute pursuant to this subsection may be used to secure financing to pay costs related to the construction and development of Moffitt's Pasco County life sciences park. Such financing may include the issuance of tax-exempt bonds or other forms of indebtedness by a local authority, municipality, or county pursuant to parts II and III of chapter 159. Such bonds shall not constitute state bonds for purposes of s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution, but shall constitute bonds of a local agency as defined in s. 92 159.27(4).

I do hereby sign and transmit the remainder of Senate Bill 2526 enacted during the 124th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2022 and entitled:

## An act relating to health

The Freedom First Budget provides \$100,000,000 to support the Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers Program, of which the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute is one of three eligible institutions. This funding represents an increase of \$37,771,257 over the previous year. I requested this additional funding because I am committed to enhancing Florida's competitiveness in cancer research and care at

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national and international levels to ensure that all Floridians have access to the highest quality of care.

However, I do not support the provision of funding that will tie the state to a long-term, thirty-year commitment that inhibits budget flexibility. These state funds could be used to support more than \$300 million of bonding capacity that would impact the state's debt capacity without any state oversight.

For the reasons stated above, the \$20,000,000 appropriation contained in Senate Bill 2526 is hereby vetoed, and I hereby approve the remainder of the Act.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

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