



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2023

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

2023 JUN 30 PM 4: 58
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FILED

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 transmit my objection to Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1188 (CS/CS/SB 1188), enacted during the 125th Session of the Legislature of Florida during the Regular Session 2023 and entitled:

An act related to contract liability

Establishing a statutory cap on vendor liability unnecessarily hampers agencies in contract negotiations, potentially putting taxpayers at risk of harm at the hands of irresponsible vendors.

The Department of Management Services has existing authority to establish standard contract terms for use by state agencies which is outlined in the Florida Administrative Code. Current rules limit vendor liability as a starting point while giving agencies the flexibility to alter such terms when in the best interest of the state, protecting taxpayer funds.

Given that these rules have not been updated in some time, I am directing the Department to immediately initiate rulemaking to modernize these provisions. Doing so will allow the vendor community and impacted state agencies to provide feedback.

For these reasons, I withhold my approval of CS/CS/SB 1188 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Ron DeSantis
Governor