



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

June 11, 2008

Secretary Kurt S. Browning
Secretary of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

FILED
2008 JUN 11 PM 1:05
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Dear Secretary Browning:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby withhold my approval of and transmit to you with my objections, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 996, enacted during the 40th Session of the Legislature of Florida and convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2008 and entitled:

An act relating to cosmetology . . .

The bill makes substantial changes to Florida's cosmetology statutes. It creates a new cosmetology license separated into specialty licenses for hair technicians, estheticians, nail technicians, and cosmetologists and provides specific education requirements for each.

Although I support efforts to protect the public, I am concerned that this bill is overly regulatory. Government exists to accomplish the will of the people, not to restrict economic or personal liberties. This bill increases the educational requirements that a person must meet before entering the workplace – in some cases, the increase in education is quite significant. I am concerned that this bill is overly burdensome and would have negative impacts on people's livelihoods. The legitimate public purpose for regulation is to protect the public, not to limit competition or act as state-sponsored protectionism against free enterprise.

For this reason, I withhold my approval of Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 996, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist