



STATE OF FLORIDA

# Office of the Governor

THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0001

JEB BUSH  
GOVERNOR

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June 27, 2006

Ms. Sue Cobb  
Secretary of State  
R.A. Gray Building  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Cobb:

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 withhold my approval of and transmit to you my objections, Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1350, enacted during the 38th Session of the Legislature of Florida, convened under the constitution of 1968, during Regular Session of 2006 and entitled:

An act relating to Department of Transportation...

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1350 makes numerous revisions to fiscal policies and requirements related to the Department of Transportation to address rising costs of transportation needs and to improve the level of competition for contractor's biddings on transportation improvement projects in the State of Florida. Although these are important to the state's infrastructure needs, I cannot overlook the bill's provision that gives counties the option to impose a \$2 per day tax on rental cars, if approved by county-wide referendum.

After careful review and consideration of the hard work and good intentions the Legislature invested in this bill to provide additional funding for our state's transportation infrastructure, I cannot support the rental car tax increase. While I appreciate the inclusion of voter approval as a prerequisite to implementing the new tax, these taxes will be paid disparately by tourists visiting Florida, consequently creating taxation without representation on a large scale. Philosophically, I cannot support this.

Further, the Legislature made a significant commitment to growth management and transportation needs in 2005, creating a recurring funding source for growth related transportation infrastructure. More than \$1 billion of new funding was provided for transportation needs in fiscal year 2005-06 and nearly \$542 million of new funding is provided annually thereafter.



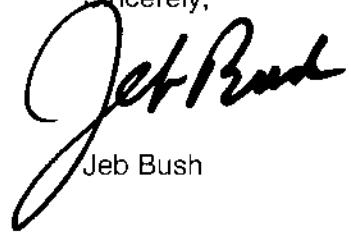
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Although the transportation issues included in this legislation are very important, the need for these changes are not immediate and will not impede the development of the Department of Transportation's five year Work Program if not signed into law this year.

For the reasons stated above, I am vetoing Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 1350.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeb Bush".

Jeb Bush