



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

June 30, 2020

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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FILED

Secretary Laurel Lee
Florida Department 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 objections to Committee Substitute for House Bill 1049, enacted during the 122nd Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2020 and entitled:

An act relating to the Office of the Judges of Compensation Claims...

The Legislature passed CS/HB 1049 - Office of the Judges of Compensation Claims, which increases the salary of each full-time judge of compensation claims equal to that of a county court judge (with the exception of each Deputy Chief Judge of Compensation Claims whose salary will be \$1,000 greater than the judges of compensation claims). I have already approved a 3% pay raise for all state workers which includes the judges of compensation claims. CS/HB 1049 provides an additional pay increase to the judges of compensation claims that equates to a \$27,258 or 22% increase over their current salary. While I commend the work of all our judges of compensation claims, a 22% salary increase, in addition to the 3% pay raise, is problematic given the changes to our state budget outlook due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To be fiscally responsible, I withhold my approval of CS/HB 1049 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor