



**RICK SCOTT**  
GOVERNOR

May 26, 2011

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

**FILED**  
2011 MAY 26 PM 1:23  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Dear Secretary Browning:

By the authority vested in me as the Governor of Florida, and 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 to, Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 2116, enacted during the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Legislature of Florida, convened under the Constitution of 1968, during the Regular Session of 2011 and entitled:

An act relating to State Judicial System....

While this legislation addresses five areas of the state judicial system, I do not agree with the language relating to the creation of a direct support organization for Regional Conflict Counsels for the following reasons:

- The language was not considered in the Criminal Justice Committees of either chamber. Instead it was presented as one part of a budget conforming bill with no direct link of the direct support organization to a budgetary issue.
- The language was only requested by one (Region 3) of the five regional conflict counsels with a principal benefactor in mind, and the primary benefactor's name and affiliation would only be divulged upon signature by the Governor, making it impossible to know whether there could be potential for a conflict of interest.
- The remaining regional conflict counsels may not have access to similar benefactors and there could be a difference in the quality of services delivered in those districts. Further, Florida laws relating to appropriations contained in Chapter 216 would not apply to the direct support organization.

Each of the other four sections of the bill, while addressing issues which could be of assistance to their respective parties, do not rise to a level of importance to that justifies my approval of the entire bill.

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For these reasons, I withhold my approval of Senate Bill 2116, and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,  


Rick Scott  
Governor