



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SENATOR JEFF ATWATER
President

September 10, 2009

The Honorable Charlie Crist
Governor of Florida
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor:

The Senate has completed its initial review of the proposed compact you signed on behalf of the State of Florida with the Seminole Tribe of Florida, dated August 31, 2009. We share your desire to do what is best for the State and appreciate the effort you have put into this process.

As provided by section 285.710, Florida Statutes, the compact is not valid until ratified by the Legislature. The Senate is thereby obliged to fully examine the terms of this proposed compact to ensure that it comports with Florida law, to clarify the intent and effect of various terms and provisions in the proposed compact, and to satisfy ourselves that the best interests of all Floridians are sufficiently represented. The Senate will exercise due diligence in its examination of the proposed compact so that the Legislature can responsibly act on the issue.

Our initial review has prompted questions that require further clarification. I have directed Senate staff to submit a series of written questions to your staff regarding the terms of the proposed compact.

I know you agree that the State benefits from the resolution of any outstanding issues. Therefore, I am respectfully requesting you to direct your staff to expedite a complete and comprehensive response to our written questions. The receipt of such response by October 9, 2009, will provide Senate staff sufficient time to review the information and advise our Members of its findings or, if necessary, to seek further clarification.

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All of us share the goal of completing our negotiations in good faith with a resolution that benefits all Floridians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Atwater". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jeff Atwater
President

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