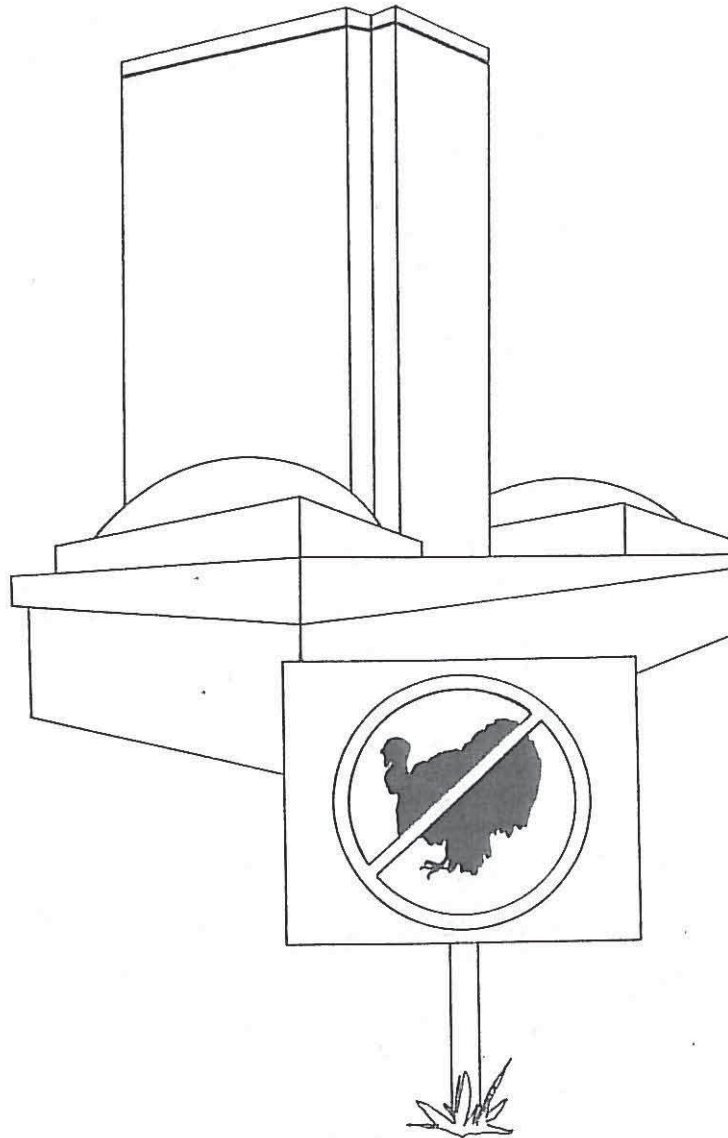


1990 TURKEY WATCH



1990-91 State Budget Includes 401 Turkeys Worth \$112 Million

June 20, 1990

Updated to include June 26, 1990 Governor's vetoes.

Florida
TaxWatch
Inc.

The logo for Florida TaxWatch Inc. features the text "Florida TaxWatch Inc." with "TaxWatch" in a larger, bold font. To the right of the text is a stylized map of the state of Florida.

ABOUT FLORIDA TAXWATCH

Florida TaxWatch is the only statewide organization devoted entirely to Florida taxing and spending issues. Since its inception in 1979, Florida TaxWatch has become widely recognized as the watchdog of citizens' hard earned tax dollars. An article published in the nationally distributed *City and State* magazine and its poll of the nation's statewide government taxpayer research centers highlighted Florida TaxWatch as one of the six most influential and respected national taxpayer institutions in the nation.

Florida TaxWatch is a private, non-profit, non-partisan research institute supported entirely by voluntary, tax-deductible membership contributions and philanthropic foundation grants. Membership is open to any organization or individual interested in supporting a credible research effort that promotes an effective, responsive government which is accountable to the citizens it serves.

Florida TaxWatch is supported by all types of taxpayers – homeowners, small businesses, large corporations, professional firms, associations, individuals and philanthropic foundations – representing a wide spectrum of Florida's citizens.

Florida TaxWatch is well-known and respected for its empirically sound research products which recommend productivity enhancements and explain statewide impact of economic and tax and spend policies and practices.

Without lobbying, Florida TaxWatch has worked diligently and effectively to reduce government inefficiency and promote responsible, cost effective improvements which add value for the benefit of taxpayers.

With your help, we will continue our diligence to make certain your tax investments are fair and beneficial to you, the taxpaying customer who supports Florida's government.

TaxWatch is ever present to ensure that taxes are equitable, not excessive, that their public benefits and costs are weighed, and that government agencies are more responsive and productive in their use of public funds.

This report is a combined effort of the Florida TaxWatch research team.

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Gobblers Galore

1990-91 State Budget Includes 401 Turkeys Worth \$112 Million

Despite a promise made before the start of the 1989 Legislative Session to cut down on turkeys, over 300 made their way into the state budget. If taxpayers found last year's broken pledge to be frustrating, they have every right to find this year's proliferation of turkeys downright disgraceful. And why not? As of 4:00 a.m. on June 2, 1990, in the waning hours of the Session, only four copies of the state budget were being shared by over 150 legislators.

Despite the largest tax increase in the state's history, following a \$300 million revenue shortfall in 1989-90 that wiped out the state's only rainy day reserves, lawmakers grabbed all the pork they could find and scurried back to their home districts with dreams of re-election dancing in their heads. Their priorities were satisfied: they brought the goodies home to their constituents. They won; but citizens who depend upon state services lost.

Out of the \$27.4 billion budget, at least \$112 million was appropriated for some 400 non-priority items which are either funded outside the legislatively mandated planning and budget review process or are for many reasons not good uses for state funds. Categorized by funding source, \$30.2 million came from General Revenue, \$25.6 million from Lottery/Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO), \$15.4 million from the State Infrastructure Fund (SIF), \$37 million from other trust funds and \$4.6 million from the Working Capital Fund.

As we have noted in previous years, turkeys used to be a privilege reserved for a few. Now they go with every legislators' territory; a perk used with impunity to placate backers and impress the folks back home. They bring home the bacon while the budget fries. Thousands of children are on waiting lists for day care. Schools and prisons are dangerously overcrowded.

The blame for turkeys, however, does not fall only on the shoulders of Florida legislators. Florida voters who place greater importance on projects within their community, at the expense of clearly more important projects for the state community, must share in the responsibility of the turkey fiasco. Legislators, however well-intentioned and noble when first elected, learn very swiftly that petty parochialism pays off when voters tally the score of legislative sessions. Voters, businesses, editorial boards, special interest groups and campaign contributors who reward the turkey-prone lawmakers with re-election are no less guilty of abuse of the state's trust than are the lawmakers themselves. The time has come, today, for all Floridians to reach for higher ground, a common ground where all are equal members of the Community of Florida, and where lawmakers who break the faith with that state community are not rewarded but retired.

Floridians deserve the kind of leadership that places the good of the many over the good of the few. As Calvin Coolidge observed: "Nothing is easier than spending public money." These days, public money is repeatedly being spent for inappropriate, low-priority and sometimes detrimental pet projects. This shameful practice continues to erode citizens' confidence in the government they support with their tax

Special Note: The Governor's Vetoes

85 Turkeys Carved -- Lots of Leftovers

Florida TaxWatch's 1990 Turkey Watch was originally released on June 20, 1990. On June 26, Governor Bob Martinez vetoed 85 turkeys from the budget representing over \$81 million. The Governor's veto list included 52 (61%) of the items Florida TaxWatch spotted worth just under \$37 million. These are denoted in this report by a red "vetoed" stamp. But despite the Governor's effort, over 300 "turkey leftovers" remain behind, representing over \$30 million which could have been spent to address critical statewide needs.

dollars. And it prevents the state from funding the many legitimate, high-priority programs that citizens need and deserve.

This year, TaxWatch calculated the average cost of turkeys for Floridians. The average price tag for a 1990 turkey is over \$280,000; the average cost for each Florida household is \$21; the average cost for every man, woman and child in Florida is over \$8.00.

Turkeys are expensive -- both in dollars and reduced service delivery when essential programs are sometimes cut to make way for privately funded events and local projects. Floridians should remind their legislators that turkeys have no justifiable place in the state's already overtaxed budget, and that future inclusion by lawmakers or chief executives will not be tolerated.

Summary of Recommendations

- Governor Martinez should take advantage of his veto power and carve the turkeys from the budget. Vetoing the turkeys funded in General Revenue, the State Infrastructure Fund and the Working Capital Fund would add \$50,267,285 to the Working Capital Fund, bringing the total from \$170 million to \$220 million.
- The Governor and Legislature should establish a true capital budget with a comprehensive prioritization process. All Fixed Capital Outlay appropriations should disclose the full cost of the project from planning through completion/occupancy.
- All phased-in appropriations (for new programs, pay packages, or operating costs for new prisons) should disclose the 12-month cost.
- All appropriations must disclose if they are funded by non-recurring revenues.
- The newly established Taxation and Budget Reform Commission should consider the above recommendations and make curbing turkeys a high priority.

What Else Could A Turkey Buy?

To help show how much \$112 million is in terms of a \$27 billion budget, let's look at one underfunded area of state need - children's programs. These items total only \$82 million.

- **Child Day Care** - \$27.5 million could buy 12,100 child care slots, representing 50% of the current waiting list.
- **Therapeutic Services** - \$23.7 million could provide therapeutic counseling, substance abuse treatment and special developmental services for nearly 2,500 children in state custody.
- **Emergency Shelter** - \$13.9 million could buy 856 placement slots for abused and neglected children.
- **Foster Care** - \$3.5 million could provide foster care for 786 children.
- **Rate Increases** - \$2.7 million could provide a 10% increase for emergency shelter and foster care homes.
- **AFDC** - \$10.6 million could give a 5% increase to children currently receiving less than \$3.25 per day.

Source: Florida Center for Children and Youth.

What is a Turkey?

It must be noted that the "turkey" label is not a blanket condemnation of the worthiness of a particular project. But with vast needs and limited resources the question must be "is this the best use of Floridians' state tax dollars?" The priorities of all citizens must be considered.

Turkeys are usually tacked onto the state budget during the legislative session, circumventing the normal planning and budgeting process which, by necessity, requires close scrutiny by state agencies, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting and legislative committees and staff. We have expanded our definition of what constitutes sufficient budgetary review to include passage of substantive legislation regarding local projects, and substantial review at legislative committee hearings.

Turkeys generally fall under one or more of the following categories.

TURKEY CRITERIA

- 1. Projects or programs that did not go through any review process allowing for proper evaluation: agency budget requests, Governor's recommended budget, or Legislative committee hearings.*
- 2. Subsidies to private organizations, councils or committees which can and should obtain funding from private sources.*
- 3. Local government projects benefitting local area residents but lacking significant local funding support and/or overall benefit to the state as a whole.*
- 4. Projects having no empirically demonstrated public benefit, and are, instead, of benefit to some special interest.*
- 5. Low priority projects that get funded over higher priority items.*
- 6. Fiscally offensive appropriations - e.g., only partially funded with a large annualized cost in subsequent years, funded from inappropriate funding source, duplicative of existing program, etc.*

Is the State Doing Anything?

Representative T.K. Wetherell, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, has noted the turkey problem. Last year, he stated that the "absence of policy in special project appropriations promotes unequal and arbitrary decision making." Heading into the 1990 session he proposed a set of policies for considering special projects (turkeys). These include more time for subcommittee review, line item display of special projects, establishing a maximum special project allocation for each subcommittee, limiting grants to a single applicant, requiring local match and retention of interest earned on state funds for local projects.

Although some of these policies were used at least partially this session, notably more subcommittee testimony and line item display, no statute or rule was created to institutionalize them. Florida TaxWatch commends Rep. Wetherell and challenges the Legislature to make such policies standard operating procedure.

Another positive anti-turkey step was included in the transportation package passed this session. From now on, any transportation project identified by specific appropriation in the General Appropriation Act shall be deducted from the funds annually distributed to that district.

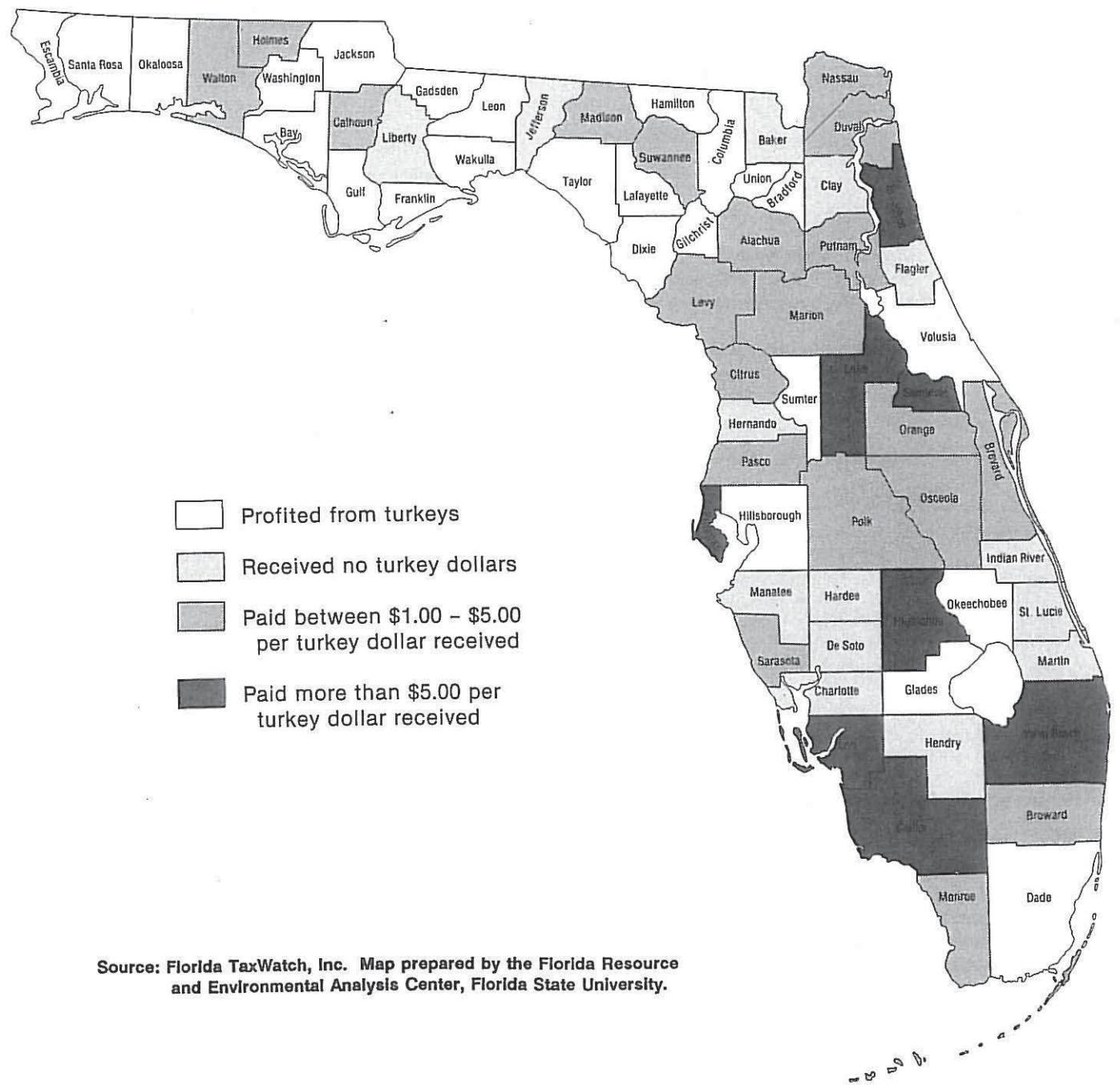
The Legislature should also be commended for showing restraint in the appropriation of the new transportation revenue. Very few specific projects were included in the budget. Additions to DOT's work plan must come from the Legislature's MOTION Plan. While there may be turkeys in there, each addition to the work plan must be reviewed by the Governor, the Legislature, the Transportation Commission and the Department of Community Affairs (for consistency with local comprehensive plans.)

Florida residents paid an average of \$8.41 for the 1990 batch of turkeys. Accordingly, residents of nearly two-thirds of Florida's counties paid more than a dollar for every dollar received from turkey projects. Taxpayers should be righteously indignant about such a waste of their tax dollars. No one wins in the turkey appropriation process because limited state resources are squandered, and coordinated, statewide efforts to solve serious problems are hampered to the detriment of all Floridians. Even residents of counties receiving apparent short-term gains from turkeys actually lose. For example, Dade, Hillsborough, Escambia, Volusia and Leon counties all paid less than a dollar for a dollar's turkey value. Together, these five counties account for \$67 million, or 60%, of the turkey dollars statewide. Could that money have been better spent in those five counties? You betcha'.

In those five counties: 8,415 children are on waiting lists for state subsidized day care; children need 925 beds for residential substance abuse treatment for 5,550 children, and 740 beds for residential mental health treatment to serve 4,440 children; and, prenatal care could have reduced by 75% the number of low birthweight babies born, from 4,593 to 1,148.

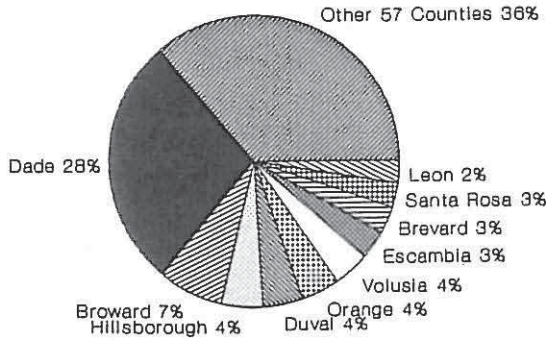
If all of these services had been funded in these five counties, they would have cost \$33.4 million, half the cost of this year's turkey crop for these five counties.

The map below and chart on the opposite page show the turkey distribution process by county.



Source: Florida TaxWatch, Inc. Map prepared by the Florida Resource and Environmental Analysis Center, Florida State University.

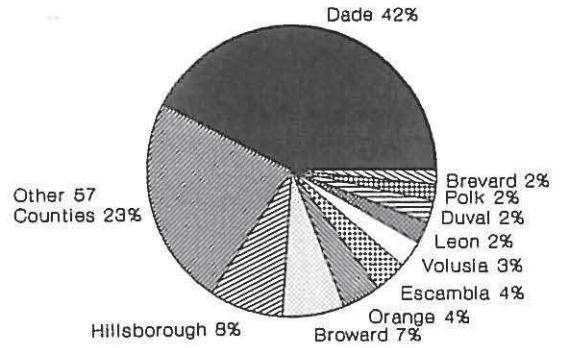
WHERE THE TURKEYS WENT (based on Turkey projects per county)



Top Ten Turkey Recipients (401 Total)

Source: Florida TaxWatch, Inc.

WHERE THE TURKEYS WENT (based on Turkey dollars per county)



Top Ten Turkey Recipients (77% of Total)

Source: Florida TaxWatch, Inc.

County	Population	Dollars Paid			County	Population	Dollars Paid		
		Turkey \$\$ Received	Per Dollar Received	Turkeys in County			Turkey \$\$ Received	Per Dollar Received	Turkeys in County
ALACHUA	193,349	622,973	2.61	6	LAKE	153,413	150,000	8.60	2
BAKER	19,912	0	****	0	LEE	344,964	167,500	17.32	1
BAY	145,762	1,315,000	0.93	3	LEON	191,954	2,768,757	0.58	10
BRADFORD	25,078	400,000	0.53	1	LEVY	25,910	52,500	4.15	1
BREVARD	427,395	1,725,000	2.08	12	LIBERTY	4,934	0	****	0
BROWARD	1,279,142	7,771,229	1.38	29	MADISON	16,225	75,000	1.82	2
CALHOUN	11,271	75,000	1.26	2	MANATEE	200,475	0	****	0
CHARLOTTE	105,830	0	****	0	MARION	203,305	666,761	2.56	3
CITRUS	97,213	195,000	4.19	2	MARTIN	101,277	0	****	0
CLAY	111,971	0	****	0	MONROE	81,695	375,000	1.83	2
COLLIER	151,132	99,000	12.84	1	HASSAU	50,259	125,000	3.38	3
COLUMBIA	44,018	500,000	0.74	2	OKALOOSA	169,039	1,510,000	0.94	8
DADE	1,914,312	47,579,584	0.34	112	OKEECHOBEE	31,728	325,000	0.82	4
DESOTO	24,771	0	****	0	ORANGE	680,642	4,913,750	1.16	17
DIXIE	10,906	230,000	0.40	2	OSCEOLA	110,156	295,000	3.14	4
DUVAL	719,692	2,745,304	2.20	18	PALM BEACH	923,096	794,894	9.77	8
ESCAMBIA	298,927	4,035,000	0.62	13	PASCO	288,917	760,000	3.20	5
FLAGLER	25,512	0	****	0	PINELLAS	873,904	305,000	24.10	4
FRANKLIN	8,917	110,000	0.68	2	POLK	427,505	2,052,000	1.75	5
GADSDEN	48,074	1,570,000	0.26	8	PUTNAM	63,851	163,500	3.28	2
GILCHRIST	7,762	150,000	0.44	1	SANTA ROSA	70,465	1,527,500	0.39	11
GLADES	8,012	100,000	0.67	1	SARASOTA	275,175	794,109	2.91	3
GULF	12,792	375,000	0.29	5	SEMINOLE	300,948	260,000	9.73	2
HAMILTON	10,329	350,000	0.25	4	ST. JOHNS	90,771	20,000	38.17	1
HARDEE	23,323	0	****	0	ST. LUCIE	151,002	0	****	0
HENDRY	27,502	0	****	0	SUMTER	32,054	650,750	0.41	3
HERNANDO	101,627	0	****	0	SUWANNEE	28,072	100,000	2.36	2
HIGHLANDS	72,833	110,000	5.57	2	TAYLOR	19,580	200,000	0.82	1
HILLSBOROUGH	889,949	9,183,435	0.81	18	UNION	10,616	550,000	0.16	3
HOLMES	18,037	80,000	1.90	1	VOLUSIA	377,527	3,431,400	0.93	16
INDIAN RIVER	96,879	0	****	0	WAKULLA	15,422	265,000	0.49	2
JACKSON	45,512	564,891	0.68	5	WALTON	30,884	87,500	2.97	2
JEFFERSON	12,727	0	****	0	WASHINGTON	16,627	935,100	0.15	8
LAFAYETTE	5,363	166,000	0.27	3					

Turkey Trivia

GENERAL

Florida TaxWatch tagged 401 items worth \$112,392,344 as turkeys this year.

The average turkey cost \$280,280.

Each Florida household pays an average of \$20.77 for budgetary turkeys.

The average cost of a turkey is \$8.41 for every man, woman and child in Florida.

COUNTIES

Five counties with slightly more than one-third (37.9%) of the state's population received nearly two-thirds (65.4%) of the turkey dollars. These five counties (Dade, Hillsborough, Broward, Orange and Escambia) received \$73.5 million worth of turkey projects.

Fourteen counties paid \$8.5 million for turkeys and did not receive any turkey projects.

Twenty counties paid between \$1.00 and \$5.00 for every turkey dollar they received. These counties combined paid \$42.3 million for turkeys and received 121 projects worth \$23.7 million, for an average of \$1.79 paid for every dollar in turkey projects received.

Eight counties paid more than \$5.00 for every turkey dollar they received. These counties combined paid \$24.5 million for turkeys and received 21 projects worth \$1.9 million, for an average of \$12.84 spent for every dollar in turkey projects received.

Twenty-five counties paid less than \$1.00 for every \$1.00 in turkey projects they received. These counties paid \$37.1 million for turkeys and received 246 projects worth \$78.8 million, for an average of 47 cents paid for every dollar in turkey projects they received.

Thus, 42 counties paid more for turkeys than they received, while 25 counties received more turkey dollars than they paid for.

Dade County received the most turkey projects, both in numbers (112, or 27.9%) and in dollars (\$47.6 million, or 42.4%). Residents of Dade County paid 34 cents on the dollar for their turkey projects.

In contrast to Dade, residents of the following counties received no turkey projects despite having paid \$8.41 per person for such projects: Baker, Charlotte, Clay, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Indian River, Jefferson, Liberty, Manatee, Martin and St. Lucie.

St. Johns County paid \$763,384 for turkeys and received one project worth \$20,000. Accordingly, residents of St. Johns County paid \$38.17 on the dollar for that project.

Other counties which paid a high price for turkeys: Pinellas, \$24.10 for every turkey dollar received; Lee, \$17.32; Collier, \$12.84; Palm Beach, \$9.77; Seminole, \$9.73; Lake, \$8.60; and Highlands, \$5.57.

AGENCIES

The Department of Natural Resources wound up with the most turkey projects, at 112 worth \$10.6 million. But the Department of Education had the most turkey dollars sent its way, \$36.6 million for 92 projects.

MISCELLANY

The most expensive turkey is the \$15 million appropriation for the Royal Trust Tower in Dade County.

The tiniest turkey is the \$1,400 for the Indian River Music Concert in Volusia County.

Florida TaxWatch's 1990 Turkey List

Take an Ax to the Gobblers

ADMINISTERED FUNDS



Special Pay Study - Agriculture. This item funds pay grade adjustments for selected regulatory job classes in the Department of Agriculture based on a study by the Department and approved by the Department of Administration. However, this may be camouflage for a very costly turkey.

Proviso language in Section 2 of the Appropriations Bill passed by the Legislature states that these funds are for "...competitive pay adjustments to selected positions ... to be distributed at the discretion of the Commissioner of Agriculture." This proviso language no longer limits the increase to pay grade adjustments for all positions in the recommended classes, but rather, broadens this issue to increases in base salary (competitive pay adjustments) for selected positions (not classes) at the discretion of the Commissioner.

And who is the Commissioner of Agriculture? It depends on the time of the year since the current Commissioner is not running for re-election. Since these increases will be effective December 1, 1990, after the election, the new Commissioner could have a fat pot of money to reward selected employees at his discretion.

One other point, since these increases are effective December 1, 1990, the full twelve month cost is not \$2,500,000, but more than \$6,000,000!

Note: Subsequent to the release of our report, Commissioner of Agriculture Doyle Conner has assured TaxWatch that the implementation of these salary increases in the Department of Agriculture will be in accordance with the Special Pay Study, and by exception, in critical areas based on personnel market conditions. The Commissioner is to be commended for his actions.

\$2,500,000



Health Insurance for Attorneys. This item exempts Career Service attorneys in the Division of Administrative Hearings (Hearing Officers) and the Public Employees Relations Commission from the payment of health insurance premiums. Currently, all Career Service employees are required to pay a portion of the health insurance premium cost; \$273 per year for Individual coverage and \$1,002 a year for Family Coverage. Attorneys in DOAH and PERC remained in Career Service (with its associated employment protection) when other attorney classes were moved to a new pay plan, Selected Exempt Service (serve at the pleasure) in 1986. SES employees are exempt from payment of health insurance premiums to partly compensate them for higher risk employment.

This is an equity issue. It is unfair to exempt one group of employees from a cost that all others in the same pay plan must pay. A Career Service clerk earning \$10,000 with Family Health Insurance coverage pays more than 10% of their salary in health insurance premiums, while an attorney earning \$30,000 only pays 3%.

The entire issue of exempting certain state employees (Selected Exempt, Senior Management, the Legislature and staff and spouses when both are state employees) from the payment of health insurance premiums should be examined. TaxWatch has previously recommended that all employees should pay a portion of this cost. This equal treatment of all employees could save the State \$10 million.

\$53,432

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES



International Market Horticulture. This item, which assists the ornamental horticulture industry with overseas marketing, is making its third appearance on our Turkey list. This has been an ongoing appropriation since 1984, and we began citing it because the industry should begin using the increased revenue from the larger market base made possible by years of state money to finance future promotional activities. This did not appear in the legislative budget until conference. The Governor recommended funding but with proviso language that a \$100,000 match was required and that funding be subject to a state audit. That language was unwisely removed.

\$200,000



Lake County Water Quality Project. Water quality projects are generally Water Management District concerns and should be funded through the state's Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Program. The department also has Soil and Water Action Projects (SWAP) and this project was not among its requests. Sidestepping these programs bypasses the competitive evaluation process appropriations should go through. This was vetoed last year.

\$50,000



Nassau County Ag Building Goes for Four. This has appeared on our turkey list for three straight years. It has also been vetoed three times. The central air conditioning needed by this building should be paid for by the county not from the State Infrastructure Fund.

\$50,000



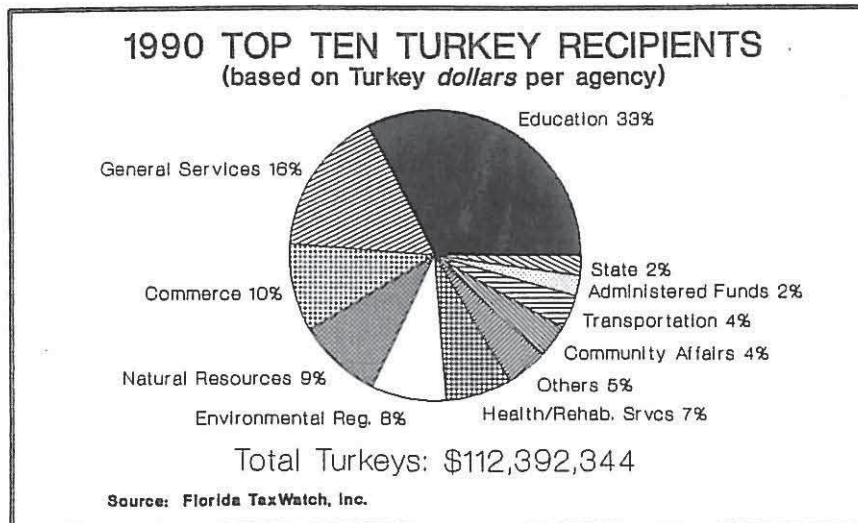
Livestock Pavilions. Livestock pavilions bring together the agricultural community and the general public. The pavilions enhance local economies and should be supported by local dollars, not state infrastructure money. These two items were cited by TaxWatch last year and were also vetoed.

- Lafayette County Livestock Pavilion \$66,000
- Wakulla County Livestock Pavilion \$165,000



More local Ag projects. These are more examples of questionable use of limited state infrastructure fund dollars. These local government and private projects should be funded with local public and private dollars. At the minimum these projects should carry a significant matching requirement to demonstrate local commitment. These projects lack that commitment. The Century project was not requested by the department.

- Jacksonville Agricultural Fairgrounds \$165,000
- Citrus County Fair Association \$165,000
- Century Agricultural Market \$165,000
- Collier County Agriculture Center \$99,000 (vetoed last year.)
- Sumter Fair Association \$132,000
- Chipley Farmers' Market \$66,000
- Walton County Fair \$50,000 (vetoed last year.)



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Sport Grants. Professional motor sports, halls of fame, and sports foundations are all great for morale and lucrative to local pocketbooks. But while they meet the Department of Commerce's ongoing goal to bring professional sports into Florida, the agency has repeatedly insisted they do not favor funding these events and entities with state dollars. The Legislature, and maybe some citizens from the areas in question, did not agree, so statewide taxpayers could get stuck with the tab. The agency has no grant application review process to ensure proper use of funds.

- 1994 World Cup Soccer Games \$1,020,000
- Florida Sports Hall of Fame \$250,000
- Florida Sports Foundation \$10,000
- Miami Grand Prix \$200,000
(Fifth year on Turkey list)
- St. Petersburg Grand Prix \$125,000
- Miami Motorcycle Grand Prix \$125,000
- International Motor Sports Assn. \$125,000

This last one was a TaxWatch Turkey last year, and was not vetoed. Although it was intended to attract auto racing funds to the state, the \$250,000 allocated last year in reality paid for a catered reception, teak and rosewood executive desks and computers for the Sports Association. This year, an additional \$125,000 has been requested, supposedly to help the state's economy. TaxWatch believes the state's economy would be better served if the Governor uses the veto ax on this pernicious Turkey.



CAMACOL. Miami's Latin Chamber of Commerce acts as an "incubator" for small and minority businesses. The center stimulates development of these businesses and assists them in making overseas contacts. Although the Department of Commerce, for the third year in a row, commends this effort, the agency did not request these funds. As we stated in last year's Turkey Watch, only local businesses and the local economy benefit from this appropriation. It should be funded locally.

\$300,000



Football Turkeys. Last year, promotional money was sought for the Florida Classic, which is joined this year by the Orange Blossom Classic. Florida A & M and Bethune Cookman Universities meet annually in Tampa's Florida Classic football game. The Department of Commerce did not request these items, all of which are self-supporting and of local benefit. This year, a particularly purile request has been made for a Super Bowl Task Force. Needless to say, this multi-million dollar event is not bereft of funds. Its presence on this year's list is shameful and hopefully making its first and last appearance.

- Super Bowl Task Force \$250,000
- Florida Classic \$100,000
(Third year on the Turkey list)
- Orange Blossom Classic (Miami) \$250,000



Aquatic Complex/Broward County. A \$2 million appropriation for this project was flagged in last year's Turkey list and was not vetoed. This year, an additional \$2 million is being requested -- for a swimming pool. The question is, with all the other challenges facing the state, do we really need to spend this money on a pool?

\$2,000,000



Economic Development Transportation Project. These funds would be used to build a road in Daytona Beach to access the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) facility. But the law concerning the use of Economic Development Transportation Trust Funds, 288.063(3) F.S., states that: "...such transportation projects shall be approved only as a consideration to attract new employment opportunities to the state or expand employment in existing companies operating within the state." The LPGA was scheduled to move its headquarters here before this appropriation was made. TaxWatch submits that the \$2 million would be better used elsewhere.

\$2,000,000



Florida Seed Capital Board. This board was set up by the 1985 Legislature to invest \$1.5 million in fledgling, high-tech companies. By 1988, the Board had invested in only eight companies at \$50,000 each, but no great returns were seen. The 1988 Legislature shut down the investment activities of the Board in order to study the problem. During the 1990 Session, two programs were introduced to return investment duties to the Board, however it was found that it was less costly for the department to implement these programs.

A House bill put Commerce in charge of the funds, while the Senate put the Board in charge. But the end of the Session came with no resolution. Funding for these programs was left in the appropriations bill but there is no program to fund. On top of that, the current balance in the Florida Seed Capital Trust Fund is \$1.3 million. Perhaps the Legislature ought to decide what they want to do with this program before they ask for more money to fund it.

\$1,033,475



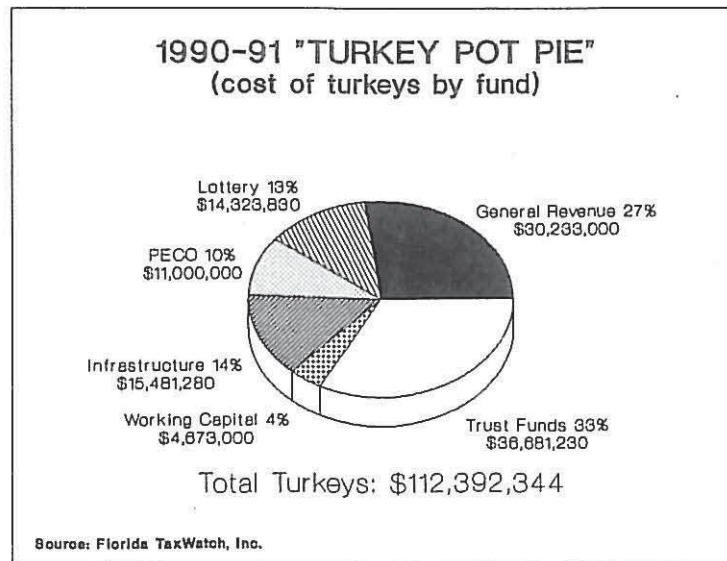
Multi-Use Civic Center in Panama City. This project, the funding of which would come from the State Infrastructure Fund, is local in origin, local in impact and local in benefit. It was not requested by the agency, nor was it included in the Governor's recommendations. TaxWatch strongly believes these badly needed state funds could be put to more appropriate use on statewide programs.

\$1,200,000




More Economic Development Projects. Some of these turkeys are making a fifth appearance on the turkey list. As usual, they represent the attempts of local interests to obtain state funding for projects or programs which are of local benefit or should be locally funded. Almost \$14 million has been spent on these or similar projects over the last three years.

- **Daytona Beach Economic Development Center** \$50,000
- **International Trade Grant (Orlando) (Fifth year on Turkey list)** \$150,000
- **Okeechobee Economic Development Center (Second year on Turkey List)** \$75,000
- **1990 International Travel Conference** \$400,000
- **Tampa International Trade Fair (Fifth year on Turkey list)** \$200,000
- **International Trade Grant (Jacksonville)** \$100,000
- **Central Florida Commuter Rail Authority** \$350,000
- **Tampa Commuter Rail Authority** \$250,000
- **Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce** \$175,000
- **Productivity Improvement Center (Hialeah Latin Chamber of Commerce)** \$150,000




DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS


 **Grants and Aid to Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations.** None of the following projects, consisting of over \$3 million in local programs and projects, were requested by the Department. TaxWatch could find no review system in place to justify or determine the necessity or prioritization of these programs.

- **N. Miami Beach Rebeautification and Redevelopment** \$178,280
- **Keaton Beach/Balboa Road Bridge** \$200,000
- **Safe Neighborhood Improvements:**
 - Ali-Baba Triangle \$500,000
(Second year on the turkey list)
 - Neighborhood Improvement Dist. (Ft. Lauderdale) \$500,000
 - Neighborhood Improvement Dist. (Miami Beach) \$500,000
 - Safe Neighborhood/Wynwood \$100,000
 - **Safe Neighborhood Watch** \$10,000
 - **City of Jacksonville Victim Services Division** \$200,000
 - **Emergency Management Washington Co.** \$200,000
 - **Emergency Management Union County** \$200,000
 - **Holmes County Infrastructure Improvements** \$80,000
(Second year on TaxWatch turkey list)
 - **Woodlawn Community Center** \$20,000
 - **Little Havana Activities Center** \$185,000
 - **Lafayette Co. Courthouse** \$50,000
 - **New Smyrna Bch Community Center** \$10,000

- **So. Daytona Beach Community Center** \$10,000
- **Jacob Municipal Building** \$50,000
- **Florida Housing Cooperative** \$200,000
- **Escambia Clean Community Commission** \$9,000
- **Navarre Sound Side Park (Santa Rosa Co.)** \$100,000
- **City of Cottondale Community Center** \$150,000
- **Dade Day Shelter for Homeless** \$300,000
- **Land o' Lakes Community Center** \$150,000
- **Mercy Drive Comm Center (Orlando)** \$100,000
(Second year on TaxWatch turkey list)

 **Science Museum.** These funds would help Okaloosa County's Junior League determine the feasibility of a science museum in that area. Since the agency did not request this item and the Senate, which originated this appropriation, is rather vague about its merit, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to see that this one should be funded locally from private sources.

\$10,000

 **Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan to Sunrise.** The agency did not request this item and had no information about it. Neither did the House or Senate Community Affairs Committee or anyone in either House or Senate Appropriations.

\$200,000

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



Gadsden County Drug Abuse Task Force.

The Task Force received two appropriations this year. The first represents recurring operating funds for an incarceration alternative program that the Gadsden County Drug Abuse Task Force is promoting. The intent is to provide drug treatment/rehabilitation within this community. Besides the fact that this represents recurring state money to operate a local government project, it was not requested or even recommended by either chamber, but just appeared after the conference committee. So, the item did not receive a thorough evaluation. It is also interesting to note the facility the county wants to renovate for this program is not expected to be completed for at least another year. Should operating funds be provided prior to the completion of the facility?

Additional money was provided to renovate a jail facility in Gadsden County to house this program. It was not requested by the Department or recommended by the Governor. It is difficult to imagine that an outdated jail facility that the county was forced to close down could be renovated for \$400,000. No plans or designs have even been developed yet. DOC needs to be provided with all relevant information to allow for a thorough evaluation of this proposed renovation project.

VETOED
Operating Costs

\$850,000

VETOED
Renovation Planning

\$400,000



Purchase of Probation and Restitution Center.

This appropriation would allow the Department to purchase a PRC facility that it currently rents. It is estimated that after ten years the state could realize savings of \$30,000 annually. Though DOC has expressed interest in the past in such a purchase, it was not requested or originally recommended but first appeared rather late during the conference committee. It is therefore doubtful that the merits of this proposed purchase were adequately addressed.

\$450,000

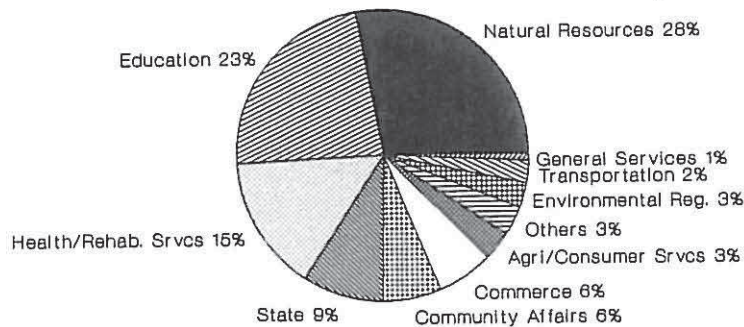


RFP for Private Adult Correctional Facility.

The Governor, House and Senate recommended funds for DOC to conduct the RFP (request for proposal) process for construction and operation of a single cell facility. The final appropriation, however, represents twice the recommended level of spending. The proviso grants an additional \$200,000 to the Board of County Commissioners of Gadsden County to contract with a private vendor for a close security, single cell institution near the city of Gretna. Economic assistance for the city of Gretna is used to justify the additional funds. Not only was this proviso language nowhere to be found until after the conference committee bill was released, it does not contain the same cost-effective and annual review contingencies as the language for the original facility.

\$200,000

1990 TOP TEN TURKEY RECIPIENTS (based on Turkey projects per agency)



Total Turkey Projects: 401

Source: Florida TaxWatch, Inc.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



College Outreach Program. This is the second year this item is on the TaxWatch list. Proviso earmarks \$288,000 to Florida A & M University and \$290,000 to FSU. Since all nine state universities participate in this program, and successful programs funded in one year can receive funding for an additional one or two years, these earmarks are unnecessary and circumvent the grant process.

\$578,000



Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources Centers. Proviso language in this item earmarks an additional \$100,000 to the University of South Florida Multidisciplinary Educational Services Center to establish regional, non residential resource and service outreach activities for autistic individuals. The primary emphasis is on coordinating the delivery of services. While this may be a worthy purpose, increased funding for actual services to autistic individuals as provided by HRS Developmental Services would be more appropriate.

\$100,000



Private Schools/Programs Funded Without PEPC Approval. This is the third year TaxWatch has identified this issue, and unfortunately, the inappropriate funding of private schools and programs without the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission approval continues. Although proviso in this years item does require PEPC review, programs that fail to meet minimum standards of quality will only have corrective actions identified, probably necessitating the expenditure of more state funds, not the cancellation of funding that would be the more appropriate action.

- Bethune Cookman College Challenger Program \$350,000
- Bethune Cookman College of Education \$350,000
- UM Medical School Minority Affairs Office \$200,000
- Edward Waters Upgrade \$250,000
- UM - Comprehensive Drug Prevention \$100,000
- Nova University \$525,015
- Edward Waters Building Restitution (duplicates another appropriation) \$500,000
- International Oceanographic Foundation \$250,000



Literacy Centers. This item funds non-instructional adult literacy centers in the Community College system. These centers identify, contact, counsel and refer persons lacking basic or functional skills to service providers; they provide no direct literacy instruction. There are 4 centers presently funded in the system, with an additional 3 funded in the Public School system. Proviso in this item earmarks a new center at Lake-Sumter Community College. Although the Department of Education did request an expansion in the number of centers, they specifically stated that it should be done on a competitive basis, and in accordance with the requirements of s. 228.0725, F.S.

\$100,000



Miami Book Fair International. This is the second year this item is on the TaxWatch list. This is a joint venture between Miami-Dade Community College and the City of Miami that is a week-long series of activities attracting international authors and publishers. Our request for information on how state funds appropriated in 1989-90 were spent has gone unanswered.

\$100,000



Appleton Museum - Central Florida Community College. This item funds operating expenses for a museum that is to be owned by FSU and the Central Florida Community College Foundation. They will share operations. Plans include instructional programs such as student exhibitions, courses, etc. This item conflicts with Legislative policy concerning obligating the state for operating expenses of non state-owned educational facilities.

\$194,287



Lannon Museum - Palm Beach Community College. This item funds the operating expenses of a museum that is owned by the Palm Beach Community College Foundation. Activities include instructional programs such as student exhibitions, courses, etc. This item conflicts with Legislative policy concerning obligating the state for operating expenses of non state-owned educational facilities.

\$38,162

VETOED



FAMU/Miami-Dade 2+2 Program. This would start a new program in Construction Engineering Technology that was not requested by the Board of Regents.

\$100,000



School Bus Replacement for Public Schools. This item provides funding to school districts to replace aging buses. Allocation is by a formula based on the number of buses in each district, with priority given to replacing pre-1977 school buses (these buses do not meet federal safety standards). As of April, 1990, there were 904 pre-1977 school buses in districts (335 in daily service and 629 spares).

Proviso in this item would circumvent the equitable allocation of these funds by providing an additional \$1,000,000 to Okaloosa and Santa Rosa counties for "transportation safety." This has the effect of reducing by 35 the number of unsafe buses that could be replaced in the other 65 school districts in 1990-91.

\$1,000,000



Warm Mineral Springs. This item funds an underwater archeological project near Sarasota. The project has been funded for a number of years, first in the Community College system and for the last two years in the University system. Worthwhile University system projects of this nature are normally funded by research grants from private foundations such as the Smithsonian Institution, the National Geographic Society, etc. This item was not requested by the Department of Education nor was it recommended by the Governor.

\$264,109



IFAS Challenge to Increase Enrollment. proviso on page 132 earmarks \$222,973 from these line items as a challenge to the Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences to increase enrollment by 50 full-time equivalent students (FTEs). The need for this funding is not apparent since enrollment at IFAS has held steady or shown a slight increase over the last few years. If the goal is to attract more students to the agriculture industry, the more appropriate location would be the Public School system where postsecondary educational counseling and career counseling take place. In addition, an industry sponsored and funded public awareness program would also be an appropriate way to attract students to educational programs in agriculture. Finally, expending \$222,973 to increase enrollment by 50 FTEs works out to a cost of \$4,460 per FTE; granting scholarships would be a much more direct, and probably cheaper, route to attract students.

\$222,973



Microcomputer Education for the Disabled. This item supplements funding at the Miami-Dade Community College for a program that trains severely disabled unemployed individuals in microcomputer applications for the business sector. It is a high cost program because of the special needs of the students (note takers, tutors, lab technicians, etc.). The program is in its first year of operation at the college and is expected to serve 40 students in a year-long program at a total cost of \$300,000. Prior experience indicates that the placement rate for program completers approaches 90%, with starting salaries averaging \$23,000 a year. However, funding for this program should come from the funds allocated to the college, which exceeds \$100 million. It is difficult to believe that the Miami-Dade Community College could not appropriately fund this very worthwhile program within this amount.

\$50,000



Community College Endowment Matching Fund. Proviso in this item earmarks \$250,000 to Lake City Community College to establish a golf course and landscape operations endowment program. This circumvents the intent of s. 240.36, F.S. which provides all community colleges with an equal opportunity to begin and fund challenge grant programs for academic improvement.

\$250,000



High Technology R & D. Proviso language in this item earmarks \$200,000 to Valencia Community College, \$200,000 to Okaloosa-Walton Community College and \$500,000 to the University of Central Florida. The purpose of this program is to promote greater collaboration between private industry and the universities of the state in the application of new technologies. Section 240.539, F.S. requires that applied research grants be awarded on a competitive basis as recommended by the Florida High Technology and Industry Council to the Board of Regents. These earmarks circumvent this process.

\$900,000

How to Hide a Turkey

These are two examples of dubious appropriations buried in bigger, worthy line items. This practice effectively renders such turkeys veto-proof. Although the Governor can't get at them, TaxWatch suggests that those responsible for expenditure of these funds (Chancellor Charles Reed and Community College Boards of Trustees) not spend them.



Lump Sum - Instruction and Research. Buried within this \$650 million lump sum appropriation is an issue to create an Office of Education Analysis for the purpose of reviewing the effects of educational reform in the state. It is purported that this office will employ the soon retiring Senator Curtis Peterson and three staff persons. The creation of a position specifically for Senator Peterson is an ethics issue that the Legislature itself should address. Our concern with this issue is that it duplicates the efforts of the professional staffs in the Department of Education, the Governor's Office and the Legislature, literally dozens of persons. This office was not requested, not needed and not wanted.

\$325,757



Community College Program Fund. This item, funded in excess of \$570 million, is the major funding source for the 28 state community colleges. Each college gets a lump-sum amount based on an enrollment formula. Within this item is \$1,550,000 for four colleges to begin new co-curricular (inter-collegiate athletics) programs.

Actual implementation of programs and expenditure of funds is controlled by the Board of Trustees of each college. TaxWatch strongly urges that these new athletic programs not be started this year, and the \$1,550,000 saved be used to provide an education to almost 500 more students.

● Florida Keys Community College	\$250,000
● Okaloosa-Walton Community College	\$400,000
● Pasco-Hernando Community College	\$400,000
● Tallahassee Community College	<u>\$500,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,550,00



Dropout Prevention. It is projected that in 1990-91, the state will spend in excess of \$278 million on school-based dropout prevention programs. In addition to this, s. 230.2316, F.S. provides for funding of community based dropout prevention programs selected by the Department of Education on a competitive basis. However, grants must be applied for, meet program requirements and if funded, be evaluated at the end of the grant period for demonstrated results - a good process, seldom adhered to by the Legislature. In 1988-89, 24 special interest projects that circumvented this process were funded by the Legislature (20 were vetoed by the Governor). Twenty-five were funded in 1989-90 (the Governor reversed himself and didn't veto any). This year the list has grown to 31 projects - this already fat turkey is getting bloated.

\$4,159,267



Instructional Strategies Enhancement. This worthwhile program allocates funds to school districts for the purchase of computers and instructional software on an equitable basis. However, special interest earmarks without statewide benefit distort the equitable allocation. This years special interest earmarks are:

- Project Vision in Santa Rosa County \$150,000
- Dade County Instructional Technology Project \$4,020,126
- "School District with Greatest Need" \$2,000,000

Proviso language for this last item requires that a partnership must be established with a "highly qualified software producer." TaxWatch wonders if one hasn't already been selected.



Public Education Facilities. The following list of facilities were not judged to be of high enough priority to justify inclusion in the Department of Education's or Board of Regents' three year capital facilities plan for funding. Certain projects funded outside the three year priority plan were not included in this list because of unique circumstances to the project such as matching funding requirements, contingent programs, natural disaster damage and cost effective project substitution.

Public Schools


Dixie High School Roof Repair	\$155,000
Bradford - Gym Renovation	\$400,000
Union - Roof Repair	\$300,000
Wakulla - Sopchoppy Gym	\$100,000
Washington - Vernon Elementary	\$199,000
Escambia - Century High School	\$500,000
Hillsborough - Howard Blake Community Center	\$100,000
Escambia - Earnest Ward High School	\$26,000
Sumter - Comprehensive High School	\$500,000
Broward - NW Broward Field Enhancements	\$125,000
Washington - Vo-Tech Center	\$100,000
Brevard - Residential Magnet School	\$1,200,000

Community Colleges


Chipola Junior College Land Acquisition	\$200,000
Valencia Community College - Physical Education Bldg	\$2,600,000

Colleges and Universities


USF - Purchase Eye Institute	\$7,000,000
FAU - Water Supply and Wastewater Lines (Davie Campus)	\$1,200,000
Edward Waters College	\$500,000
FSU - National High Magnetic Field Laboratory	\$1,000,000
TOTAL (18 projects)	\$16,205,000

 **SE Florida Higher Education Consortium Strategic Plan.** This item funds the first year of a two-year study by a consortium of public and private colleges and universities in Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties concerning the integration of postsecondary education and economic development to market the image of the region.


\$225,888

 **Center for Health Technologies.** This item funds administrative costs (an executive director, staff, professional consultants, office rental and operating capital outlay) of an existing program for a bio-medical/technology research center to be administered by "a statutory teaching hospital in Dade County" (also known as the University of Miami). The program is already receiving financial and managerial support from private industry and postsecondary educational institutions. The Governor vetoed this item in 1989-90, but did recommend funding for 1990-91 in the Department of Commerce budget. This item was not requested by the Department of Education.


\$350,000

 **Foundation on Active Aging.** This item would fund a foundation that is not yet in existence (funding is contingent on certificate of incorporation) for health related services. A similar appropriation was vetoed by the Governor in 1989-90. This may duplicate a similar program at the University of Miami.


\$50,000

 **Panhandle Area Education Cooperative.** This item is on the TaxWatch list for the second year. Funded at \$250,000 in 1989-90, this turkey has grown by \$100,000. PAEC is a consortium of several panhandle area school districts that act together to provide services that they would be unable to afford individually. The concept is worthwhile, however, the districts should combine their own resources, not look to the state for supplemental funding.


\$350,000

 **African and Afro-Caribbean Scholarship Program.** Proviso language in this item earmarks \$10,000 for scholarships for students from Cape Verde. This circumvents the process in s. 240.4145, F.S.


\$10,000

 **Education/Business Cooperation.** Proviso earmarks \$200,000 for the Children's Science Center, and \$75,000 for Masters Classes sponsored by the Concert Association of Greater Miami. These circumvent the competitive grant process and matching requirements of this program required under s. 229.602, F.S.


\$275,000

 **International Education Programs.** Proviso earmarks \$100,000 for a feasibility study for the establishment of a Florida/Africa linkage institute and \$50,000 for the establishment of a Florida/Russia linkage institute at the University of Central Florida/Lake-Sumter Community College. These continue the expansion of this program without an analysis of demonstrated need, or if such programs could be implemented within existing resources. With more than 200 countries in the world, can the taxpayers of the state anticipate an additional 190 "linkage institutes" being funded by the Legislature?

\$60,000

 **Humanities Outreach - Tampa.** This item funds performing arts programs in the city of Tampa (Tampa Bay Performing Arts, Inc.) to be incorporated into the curricula of school children in Hillsborough County. This was not requested by the Department of Education nor recommended by the Governor.

\$250,000

 **Arts in Education Grants.** This appears to be grants to school districts for arts programs. However, art programs are already provided in the normal public school curricula. In addition, this duplicates appropriation #1853A in the Cultural Affairs Division, Department of State.

\$250,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION



NW Florida Water Management District - Wellfield Assessment. The NFWMD plans to use this appropriation to fund a study to examine decreased water tables and increased sodium levels in the coastal areas of Okaloosa and Santa Rosa counties. DER generally requests and evaluates direct state appropriations to the WMD's it oversees, but did not in this case. This appears to be the responsibility of either the respective local governments or the WMD through their ad valorem, permit fee or other revenue sources.

\$60,000



City of Surfside Stormwater Drainage System. This appropriation is to address a drainage and flood problem in the community of Surfside at the intersection of Collins and Harding Avenues. The proposed funding source is the Sewage Treatment Loan Trust Fund, a state administered revolving federal loan program. The Department distributes money from this fund through a local government application process which allows all such requests to be evaluated and prioritized accordingly. Not only did this item circumvent the established process, it would not have been approved anyway because it is not a sewage treatment project.

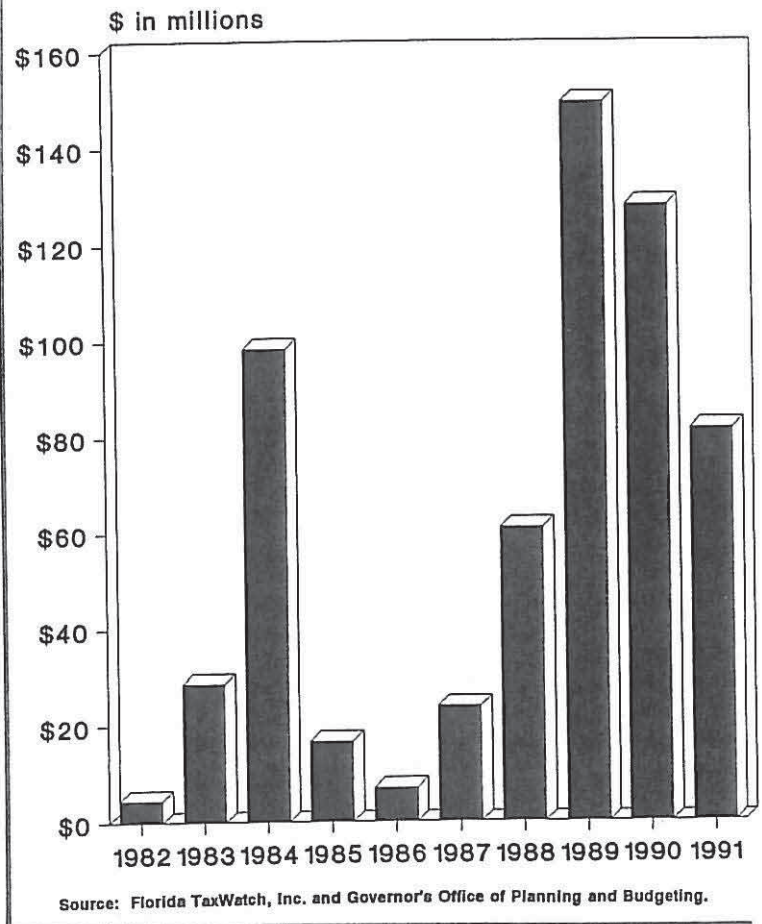
\$2,500,000



City of North Miami - Graves Tract. This generous appropriation is intended to fund two-thirds of the cost of a plan to remedy seepage problems occurring at this landfill. It was not requested by the Department and it pretty much taps dry the current balance of this trust fund. The money in this fund is to be used first to restore polluted areas that were the subject of DER legal actions. The Graves Tract has not been the subject of any DER legal action. The Southeast district (where the Graves Tract is located) has a total allocation of \$1.5 million and therefore would not have a sufficient amount available for this appropriation, if this area had been the subject of a DER legal dispute.

\$6,000,000

TEN YEAR VETO HISTORY



Water and Sewage Projects. This appropriation provides funding for eight separate local community sewage (3), drainage (1), and water (4) projects. These are all local government responsibilities that DER did not request, consequently there are no established criteria to evaluate the merits of these projects relative to other similar projects.

\$775,000

GAME AND FRESHWATER FISH COMMISSION



Phosphate Pit Fisheries Management. This item funds a study of the feasibility of fishing in phosphate mining areas. It was not requested by the commission, not recommended by the Governor, and not funded in the House budget bill. Further, there is no indication of which Phosphate pits will be studied or what the criteria will be for selection.

\$200,000

"Nothing is easier than spending public money. It does not appear to belong to anybody; the temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody."

Calvin Coolidge

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



Royal Trust Tower. Two line items appropriate total funds of \$17,200,907 to purchase an office building in Dade County contingent on the owner renovating to bring the building in compliance with building codes, providing all tenant modifications, paying for the removal of asbestos (if any), and terminating all leases (private and federal government) prior to the closing of the sale. Because of the small likelihood that all these contingencies can be met in 1990-91, it seems that the process is "bass-ackwards." At best these appropriations are premature, at worst appropriating \$3,573,000 for this purpose from the Working Capital Fund is questionable.

\$17,200,907



Polk County School Purchase. This item appropriates \$1,000,000 from the State Infrastructure Fund to purchase an old school house owned by Polk County to provide office space for state services. Last year, \$50,000 was appropriated out of the department OPS budget to study the potential use of this building for this purpose. The consultant estimated that the building would need to be renovated at a probable cost of \$7,000,000. This building is so old that it could apply for the registry of historic properties.

\$1,000,000

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE



Commission on International Affairs. Proviso in this item earmarks \$10,000 for the promotion of consular affairs, \$10,000 for planning of a Florida-West Africa Linkage Institute and \$10,000 to develop a debt-for-education swap program for Florida. No information has been obtained to properly evaluate the need for these issues. In addition, the planning for a Florida-West Africa linkage Institute duplicates proviso in item #380.

- Promotion of Consular Affairs \$10,000
- FL-West Africa Linkage Institute \$10,000
- Debt for Education SWAP Program \$10,000

"Public money ought to be touched with the most scrupulous conscientiousness of honor. It is not the produce of riches only, but of the hard earnings of labor and poverty."

Thomas Paine

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

Note: HRS is appropriately authorized by the Legislature to contract with many community-based programs for social services to meet state needs. However, many of the following items made the turkey list for one, two or all three of the following reasons: 1) they were not identified by the HRS needs assessment process; 2) they were not part of a coordinated state effort to address social needs; 3) they were projects which will use state money with no state oversight. The latter concern is paramount: projects such as these receive a blank check from Florida's taxpayers with no strings attached. Once the money leaves the state's coffers it is gone with no assurance that it will be used properly.



University of Miami Challenge Project Van. This money is to buy a van for a program at the University of Miami for a researcher to conduct basic health screening in a mobile unit. While a worthy concept, this type of spot funding of private projects ultimately frustrates HRS efforts to develop coordinated, comprehensive statewide programs.

\$15,000



Study of Alternative Uses for North Miami Medical Facility. For reasons that elude HRS officials, this appropriation within the office of the Deputy Secretary for Health is to be used by the City of North Miami to "study alternative uses for the medical facility which is located within the City of North Miami." This turkey begs a veto for lack of specificity and for being amazingly local.

\$30,000



Casa de los Municipios. This item is similar to the turkey that TaxWatch recommended for a veto last year. The Casa is an association for exiled Cuban municipal officials. In 1987, the group received \$100,000 through the Department of Community Affairs to begin construction of its headquarters. Last year, the Casa received \$165,000 from the Department of Commerce to finish the building where English and Cuban culture was to be taught. HRS does not know what this year's money is to be spent for.

\$150,000



Uplift Assistance, Inc., of Riviera Beach. Since 1986, Uplift Assistance has used grant money and private donations to provide numerous worthwhile services to its community in Palm Beach County. In addition to a full-time hot line, Uplift Assistance meets the needs of the homeless and those needing crisis assistance. It is also trying to provide a shelter for mothers and children. All of these are worthwhile projects and are appropriately funded through grants and donations. The one-time state appropriation to buy office equipment -- including a FAX and a photocopier -- represents an inappropriate use of state dollars.

\$6,000



Coconut Grove Family Health Center. The Governor traditionally vetoes state appropriations to federally funded centers. He should do so again.

\$75,000



Local Dollars for Local Needs. The following projects on substance abuse and mental health made it into the final budget. Often the projects duplicate services provided by HRS. They are projects of dubious statewide importance and should be funded locally.

- Florida Informed Parents for Drug-Free Youth \$35,000
- Parents Resources and Information of Lakeland 10,000
- Palm Beach Geriatric Crisis Intervention 40,000
- Alternative Human Services Hot Line 40,000
- Starlight Drug Abuse Center, Inc. 20,000

TOTAL

\$145,000



Liberty City Drug Awareness Intervention. This is an addition to current funding for this program which aims at prevention in elementary schools and with minorities. The appropriation of General Revenue did not go through the standard review process.

\$164,169



Hot lunches, cold turkey. HRS spent \$183,782 on programs providing meals for the elderly in the Aging and Adult Services budget last year. While the agency requested \$199,310 this year, the Governor recommended funding at last year's level. The Legislature adopted the Governor's recommendation to the penny, but tossed in these turkeys for constituents in Dade County. Such earmarking only ridicules coordinated state services. The Governor should trim the turkeys from Dade's diet.

- W Miami Community Cntr Hot Lunches \$65,000
- Hialeah Gardens Hot Lunch Program \$25,000



A Serious Offender. The Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Plan in Hillsborough County needs a new computer. Incredibly, somebody decided state taxpayers should pay for it.

\$4,300



Family Counseling Services. Agency officials don't know much about this appropriation for the Rainbow for Kids program in Dade County. They think it has to do with day care. We think it's far too local to be supported with state tax dollars. Somewhere on this side of the rainbow the veto pen should fly.

\$5,000



Osceola Children's Home. HRS has a contract with the Home for group care and shelter. This extra non-recurring appropriation did not show up until the final budget came out.

\$100,000



Space Coast Early Intervention Center. This is the second consecutive year that this Palm Bay center has received "non-recurring General Revenue." Such funds are theoretically to be appropriated just once. At least last year a 12.5 percent local match was required to receive the funds. This year's giveaway should be this item's final frontier. The Governor should boldly go where he's not gone before and veto this turkey.

\$25,000



Families Learning and Growing. Family counselling services for truant or runaway children provide preventative treatment and can keep the children from more costly psychiatric care. In Brevard County, a psychologist donated his time to provide the counselling to the HRS Youth Services Center. This money is to continue that counselling for about 50 families. However, the service should remain part of the HRS networked program for such contractual services. It is inappropriately placed here as a grant.

\$20,000



Don't Have Turkey for Easter. In 1988 the Governor wisely vetoed an appropriation for Volusia Easter Seals, Inc. In 1989, despite the TaxWatch recommendation that he again veto the appropriation, which was not requested by HRS nor recommended by his office, the Governor allowed the appropriation to stand. This year, Volusia is back and it brought a buddy. And why not? Bad policy begets bad policy. Agency officials are bewildered by these line items. Vetoing both projects would set things right.

- Volusia Easter Seals, Inc. \$25,000
- Easter Seal Society of Brevard County \$35,000



Hospice, Inc., Outreach Program. Providing people with AIDS treatment and care in a home environment should prove to help the patients and to keep down hospital costs. HRS says its network of AIDS patient care is linking all hospices and support groups. Nonetheless, Hospice, Inc., is receiving this General Revenue money to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of "comprehensive and coordinated home and inpatient services." The agency says the demonstration will be redundant and strongly objects to the removal of the money from Jackson Memorial Hospital's AIDS Patient Care budget. An agency official called this diversion of funds from Jackson to Hospice, Inc., "a big mistake."

\$1,400,000



Health Crisis Network, "TLC" Project. This Dade County appropriation is to assist parents in "educating and talking to their children about the risk of HIV infection." Schools and other programs could do the same statewide.

\$40,000



Hope House for Cocaine Babies. No one can reasonably oppose doing everything possible to help the tragic, innocent victims of adult cocaine abuse. However, the question that must be answered is: "What is the best way to help these children?" HRS is currently building an integrated statewide network with its Children, Youth and Family Services division. The network will keep in contact with the children until they are at least five years old, watching them, learning from them, keeping them safe and helping to treat developmental delays. A coordinated statewide effort is the "best way to help these children." Throwing ten grand into this facility in Volusia County is contrary to the coordinated policy that will best meet the needs of the children.

\$10,000



See the Light, Fund it Right. Sunlight Obstetrical Services of the East Pasco Medical Center is appropriated this General Revenue money for the purpose of providing prenatal care to medically indigent women. Obstetricians serving an underserved portion of the county have left, leaving a vacuum. The vacuum should be filled by the county, not the state.

\$50,000



Leon County Sickle Cell Foundation. HRS refers adults and children who show the sickle cell trait to the Foundation for education, counselling and outreach help if needed. The Foundation normally and appropriately receives state assistance for its work as part of the larger HRS Sickle Cell Education and Screening appropriation. This non-recurring General Revenue money was put in this year. As an agency official said, "I don't have any idea what that's for."

\$20,000



Harvey's more expensive than he looks. Jimmy Stewart's rabbit friend would be visibly piqued at the cost to state taxpayers of his namesake, a mannequin developed by a Miami doctor to train cardiologists. Opposed by the agency, this money in its budget requires HRS to turn money over to the Florida Hospital in Orange County and the North Broward Hospital District to buy "Harveys." Training cardiologists is a medical education issue and should not be funded by Florida taxpayers under the HRS Health Services budget. The Governor should make this turkey disappear.

\$240,000



Birds of a Feather Should be Vetoed Together. The Legislature has appropriated money for heliport construction and refueling in Escambia County and for heliport construction at Beaches Hospital in Duval County. HRS has never funded such local projects of limited statewide impact. Two vetoes would put responsibility for funding these worthwhile projects where it belongs . . . at the local level.

- Heliport Construction and Refueling \$515,000
- Heliport Construction, Beaches Hospital \$10,000



Local projects. The following projects made this year's turkey list largely because they are local projects that should be funded with local dollars. Repeated checks with legislative appropriation committees and assorted officials within HRS yielded information showing little to no knowledge or understanding of these gobblers.

- Federated Women's Club of Broward \$ 50,000
- Posnack Jewish Community Center 375,000
- LIFT, Inc. 25,000
- North Miami Foundation 14,000
- Southwest Social Services 100,000
- Informed Parents for Drug Free Youth 35,000
- Good Godmother Day Care Program 35,000
- Children with Exceptionalities 90,000
- Police Athletic Association 50,000
- ~~Little Group Home~~ 15,000
- Hialeah Youth and Family Services 35,000
- Teen Mother Project 45,000
- Total \$869,000



New Health Department Building. HRS says there is little doubt that Santa Rosa County could use the additional space that a new building would bring. But as an agency official said, "We have others that are about to fall down." Those others were on the HRS top 20 list. This one was not.

\$350,000



Turkeys Galore. The following projects arrived on the turkey list through the Fixed Capital Outlay portion of the HRS budget. Generally, they are for building purchases and renovation for projects which meet a greater local need than a statewide need. While the local needs are great, the local financial commitment is often scarce. All are funded from General Revenue.

● Citrus County Abuse Shelter Assoc.	\$ 30,000
● Oasis Older Adult Service, Inc.	250,000
● Space Coast Assoc. Physically Handicapped Fac.	100,000
● Sunrise of Pasco County, Inc.	25,000
● The Spring of Tampa Bay, Inc.	60,000
● Washington County Council on Aging	25,000
● Mount Sinai Medical Center	20,000
● Emergency Back-up Generator, Mental Health Services of Orange County, Inc.	35,000
● Four-C Child Care Facility (Orange)	75,000
● Allapattah Child Care Facility (Dade)	300,000
● Hands in Action/Manos En Accion Children's Center	50,000
● Accepting Commitment to Self-Help Enablement Center	100,000
● Police Athletic League Youth Programs Facility	250,000
● New Life Dwelling Center	35,000
● Youth and Families Alternatives	135,000
● Allapattah - Wynwood Child Care Fac.	150,000
● YMCA Activity Center, Hollywood	250,000
● Richard L. Wilson Youth Center (Duval)	50,000
● Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery - Halifax Medical Center (Volusia)	250,000
● Infant in Need Foundation, Inc. (Dade)	150,000
TOTAL:	\$2,315,000



Florida Institute for Drug and Substance Abuse. This item for operating costs for a Duval County juvenile drug treatment program did not appear until the final budget. It duplicates services offered by HRS. The General Revenue appropriated here would be better spent by providing it to the agency for a coordinated attack of juvenile drug abuse treatment needs.

\$300,000



Public Health Clinics. Overtown, Little Havana and Liberty City in Dade County sorely need public health units. HRS estimates each one would cost about \$4 million to build. The Legislature has provided only \$1.5 million to build all three, leaving the local units and HRS in a quandary. Rather than waste this taxpayer money, the item should be vetoed and done right next year.

\$1,500,000



Truly a PET project. The Miami Herald appropriately raised questions about this turkey, a piece of high-tech medical equipment called a Positive Emission Tomography to be purchased for Mercy Hospital in Dade County. Two other area hospitals are preparing to buy the same new technology with their own money.

\$1,500,000

"The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our own money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the dispensation of the public moneys."

Thomas Jefferson

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES



Low Priority Drivers License Office in Palm Beach County. Every year, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles issues its five-year fixed capital outlay budget request which assigns priority to each capital project it wants to undertake. The department requested 20 projects for this fiscal year. It got funding for 16 of these,

including seven in the Division of Driver Licenses. One of those, a Palm Beach County renovation, the department didn't even ask for this year. This was the department's 22nd priority. The department says that after about 12th, priorities begin to lose meaning. Still, it didn't even request funding for this until FY 1991-92.

\$120,732

JUDICIAL BRANCH



Court Reporter Certification. There are 2,500 to 3,000 court reporters in Florida. Supporters of certification say out-of-state court reporters move to Florida, fail to do good work, and give the industry a bad name. Although neither the agency nor the Governor requested the program, certification supporters were able to get funding for up to two positions in the Florida Supreme Court for new court reporter exams, certification and supervision. This is a certifiably low priority item. The marketplace should best decide whether individual court reporters are qualified.

\$175,000



Sarasota County Teen Court. This is a classic case of a local project turning to Florida taxpayers for a bail out. An excellent program which diverts juvenile offenders from the criminal justice system using teen-age jurors, Teen Court was originally funded by the Junior League. The League is not funding it this year, and although local support for the program is high, local funds have not been sought. They will be sought if this item is vetoed. Bring on the veto!

\$30,000

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT SECURITY



Duplicative Head Injury Education Program. This line item would provide a grant to the National Head Injury Foundation, Florida Association to provide information to head injured persons and their families. The state is already doing this through its State Spinal Cord and Head Injury Program. This duplicative appropriation was vetoed last year.

\$323,270

"That most delicious of all privileges -- spending other people's money."

John Randolph
(Early Nineteenth Century Member of Congress)

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



University of Miami Fish Hatchery. This represents a continuation of state funding that is once again not requested by the Department. The money is to be used for fisheries enhancement, research and general operating costs. The state provided funding assistance for the construction of the facility, but this is a privately run initiative and should not require state funds to supplement its operating needs.

\$250,000



Beach Projects. DNR has an established evaluation review process for funding local government beach management projects. Locals are required to submit an application for such assistance. DNR then submits - for approval to the Governor and Cabinet - a comprehensive beach management plan presenting projects recommended for funding on a priority basis. The projects cited below represent appropriations that either circumvented this established process altogether or applied through the process and were rejected.

- Beach Revegetation - Lamar Condo to Dade County Line \$82,500
- Dune Revegetation - Hollywood Hallandale Beach \$100,000
- Beach Walkway - Surfside \$80,000
- Dune Protection - Bethune Beach \$50,000



Florida Marine Research Institute - Northwest Florida Regional Laboratory. This appropriation is to be used to plan the construction of an additional DNR Marine Research facility somewhere in the northwest area of the state. The Department supports the appropriation, but not enough to request funding for it in its budget request. It was not recommended by the Governor, or included in the budget bills passed by the House and Senate. This good project didn't show up till Conference time.

\$100,000

"A turkey is an unnecessary, costly, special interest project...in someone else's district."

Anonymous



Transfer to Department of Agriculture/ Aquaculture Project/Dixie County. This is another local project funded in the current fiscal year though not reviewed or requested by the Department. It was cited in last year's Turkey Watch Report and is simply a continuation of state funding for the same project which is not a priority for DNR and should be funded locally.

\$75,000



Local recreation projects. The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Grant program exists to provide state matching grants for local recreation projects. The Department evaluates the applications and determines the most worthy projects from a statewide perspective. Once again the conference committee report includes a plethora of local projects that did not go through this established funding channel.

- Local Recreational Development Projects (106 projects) \$6,055,850
- Veterans' Memorial Park/Wall South \$1,100,000
- Navarre Sound Side Park - Santa Rosa \$100,000
- Okaloosa Island Wayside Park, John C. Beasley Park and 7th Beach Access Freeway \$700,000
- Dade County Tennis Complex \$1,000,000
- Recreational - Community Projects (10 projects) \$902,500

Note: Of the 106 local recreation project turkeys, the Governor vetoed two. These are Lake Wales Park and Round Lake Park.