

May 13, 2009

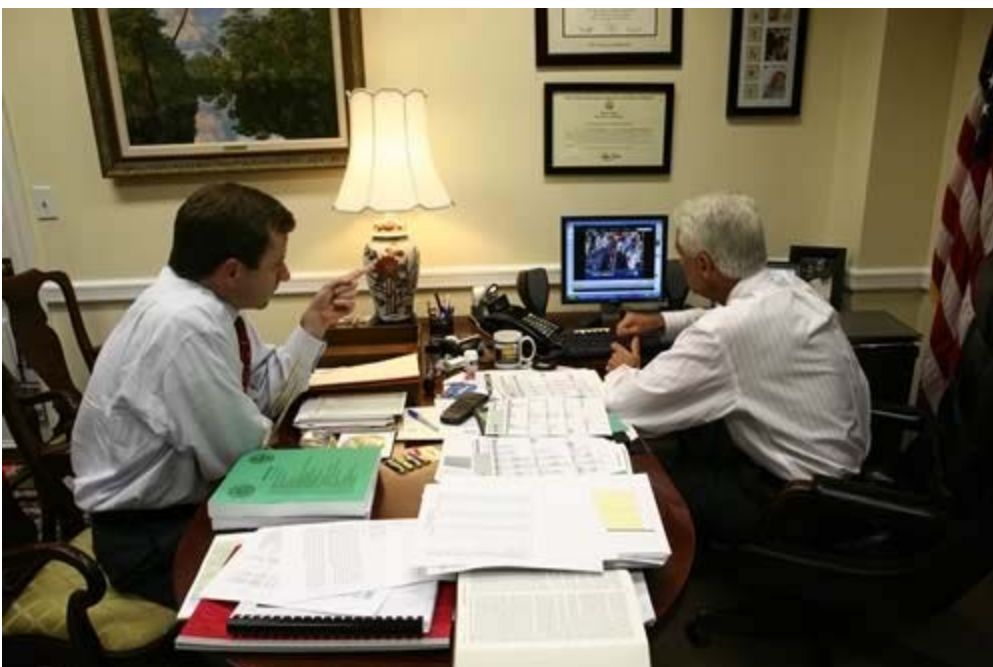
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**Statement by  
GOVERNOR CHARLIE CRIST  
Regarding the South Florida Water Management District's Vote**

"I want to express my appreciation to the Governing Board for their courage in taking the historic step today to acquire land that is essential for the restoration and revival of the Everglades. I thank the members for their careful reflection and their eagerness to seize this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. By gaining access to hundreds of square miles of prime property, the River of Grass and the wildlife that depend on it face a brighter and more secure future."



*Governor Charlie Crist and Chief of Staff Eric Eikenberg watch historic South Florida Water Management District vote online from Tallahassee.*

*(Click on pictures above for larger version.)*

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