



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
STATE OF FLORIDA

ALEX SINK

February 4, 2009

The Honorable Charles H. Bronson  
Commissioner  
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
The Capitol, Plaza 10  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Commissioner Bronson:

As you may know, during the recent Special Session the Legislature passed Senate Bill 44A, which was signed into law on January 27, 2009. One of the provisions of this legislation requires the Chief Financial Officer to “consider methods to ensure that state agencies receive the maximum amount of federal funds to which the state is entitled based on the services it currently provides” and to present an initial report to the Governor’s Office of Policy and Budget and the Legislature by March 3, 2009.

The law also requires state agencies to review their operations to ensure that the state maximizes the amount of federal funds to which agencies are entitled based on the services currently provided.

Pursuant to this law, please provide my office with the following information:

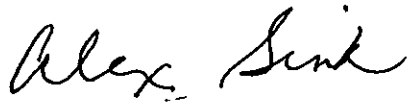
- The staff person or persons who monitor sources of federal funds that may be awarded to your agency;
- The total amount of federal financial assistance awarded to your agency during the last state fiscal year;
- Obstacles to the awarding of additional federal financial assistance to your agency, both programmatic (legal or regulatory obstacles) and budgetary (state or federal budget issues); and
- Your thoughts about how your agency could best draw down the maximum in federal financial assistance.

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Given the short time frame that the Legislature has provided for this review, I would appreciate it if you would provide my office with your responses no later than the close of business on February 13, 2009.

Thank you for your assistance on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alex Sink". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Alex Sink

cc: Senator J.D. Alexander  
Senator Carey Baker  
Representative Alan Hays  
Representative Marcelo Llorente  
Mr. Jerry McDaniel