



Crist in 2007

A look at Gov. Charlie Crist's performance in his first year.

ISSUE	PERFORMANCE	SUMMARY
Property taxes	« »	Next month's statewide vote on the property tax plan is panned as helping those who need it least (homesteaders) and possibly jeopardizing basic services. Crist calls it "a start," and many hope he's right.
Property insurance	»	New law exposes taxpayers to multibillion-dollar risk if catastrophic storm strikes. Crist's promise of a steep drop in premiums hasn't happened. His new tactic: threatening a class-action suit against insurers.
Education	« »	After vetoing a 5 percent increase in college tuition, he agreed to tuition hikes after college presidents and lawmakers demanded it. Crist largely shielded public schools from budget cuts, but he has no firm plan to protect funding if the property tax amendment passes. Next year, an FCAT overhaul might be on the agenda.
Open government	»	Crist pushed bureaucrats to provide public records faster and created a panel to seek more ways to increase public access to government.
Leadership	»	Nonpartisan approach has improved behavior in hyperpartisan Capitol. But Crist is too eager to let legislators do most heavy lifting (taxes and budget cuts), and sound bites often substitute for substance.

Steve Bousquet, Tallahassee bureau chief