



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 25 2014

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 543 without my signature.

This bill would require the Office of Planning and Research to prepare and develop recommended amendments to the CEQA Guidelines that would establish criteria for a lead agency to assess the need for translating certain notices into non-English languages.

Translating public notices and other important information is often good practice. In fact, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Government Code Section 11135 require lead agencies to do just that. The High Speed Rail Project and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan are examples of projects where the lead agency determined that translation of environmental review documents was merited.

Existing federal and state laws already provide guidance to lead agencies regarding the circumstances which give rise to the need for translating public documents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.