SEP 9  2015

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 142 without my signature.

This bill would enact trespass liability for anyone flying a drone less than 350 feet above real property without the express permission of the property owner, whether or not anyone’s privacy was violated by the flight.

Drone technology certainly raises novel issues that merit careful examination. This bill, however, while well-intentioned, could expose the occasional hobbyist and the FAA-approved commercial user alike to burdensome litigation and new causes of action.

Before we go down that path, let’s look at this more carefully.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.