



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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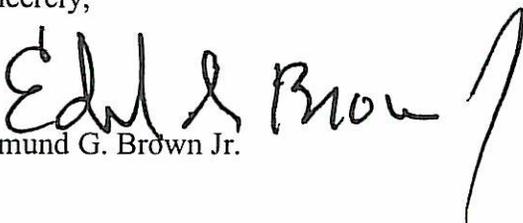
To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 388 without my signature.

This bill would allow peace officers and firefighters who have witnessed an alleged misconduct incident to have a representative present during questioning if there is a chance that the witness could become the subject of punitive action.

The need for this bill is unclear. Under current law, as soon as an employer learns during an interview that the witness is subject to punitive action, questioning must stop until a representative is provided if requested by the employee. If this doesn't happen, any information obtained can be excluded at trial.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.