OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 638 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to identify natural and manmade water storage facilities vulnerable to climate change, quantify those impacts of climate change where possible, and identify mitigation strategies for anticipated adverse impacts. Upon appropriation, AB 638 also requires DWR to mitigate or to make grants available for mitigation of the adverse impacts to water storage facilities identified.

I agree with the need to address the challenges that our new climate reality presents to our water supply. While this bill focuses on an important component of water resiliency, it is only one piece of the State’s water portfolio. While this may be a valuable endeavor, we must evaluate it in the context of the whole water portfolio and instead take a holistic approach to securing California’s water future.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom