



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 12 2019

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 199 without my signature.

This bill extends the sunset date for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Office of the Safety Advocate (OSA) from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025. This bill also modifies the OSA's duties to include safety trainings for CPUC staff and requires the CPUC and OSA to report to the Legislature annually on their activities under this bill.

OSA was created in 2016 to advocate for and recommend improvements to utility safety policies adopted by CPUC. Over the past few years, several measures have aimed at improving utility safety and oversight, leading to the establishment and improvement of offices or divisions within the CPUC strictly focused on this critical mission. At this juncture, the CPUC is working to implement these new requirements, and the OSA is now duplicative of the many of the duties of the Office of the Energy Infrastructure Safety. Allowing the OSA to sunset does not mean that its important work will not continue. Rather, those duties will be effectively integrated into CPUC.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom