



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 22 2022

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1078 without my signature.

This bill would extend, for one additional year, an exemption from the state's rooftop photovoltaic requirement (solar requirement) for residential buildings damaged or destroyed as a result of a disaster declared during the 2020 calendar year.

The solar requirement is an innovative and forward leaning policy that requires new residential buildings to install a minimum amount of cost-effective solar photovoltaic capacity to reduce homeowner energy costs, improve energy resiliency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Extending this exemption would nullify these positive outcomes and instead would increase homeowner energy costs at a time when many homeowners are facing rising electric rates and bills. This exemption also undermines the energy resiliency of homes, especially those in high-fire risk areas, and increases greenhouse gas emissions. Further, this exemption is overly broad and fails to assist those disaster victims who are the most disadvantaged. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

