

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 2 9 2022

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 334 without my signature.

This bill would create a rebuttable presumption of industrial causation for skin cancer currently extended to active lifeguards under the workers' compensation system to specified peace officers of the Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Parks and Recreation.

A presumption is not required for an occupational disease to be compensable. Such presumptions should be provided sparingly and should be based on the unique hazards or proven difficulty of establishing a direct relationship between a disease or injury and the employee's work. Although well-intentioned, the need for the presumption envisioned by this bill is not supported by clear and compelling evidence.

Gavin Mewsom

Sincere