



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**OCT 07 2023**

To the Members of the California State Senate

I am returning Senate Bill 842 without my signature.

This bill amends provisions of SB X1-2 (Skinner), enacted during the 2022-2023 Special Session on high gasoline prices, related to the California Energy Commission's (CEC) development of regulations governing oil and gasoline refinery turnaround and maintenance. This bill would require the CEC to consult with the Department of Industrial Relations in addition to other entities already required by SB X1-2, and to consider the existing statutory process safety management standards when evaluating ways to manage refinery maintenance.

I support the bill's intent to avoid any adverse impacts to the safety of employees and surrounding communities in the development of regulations. This is why SB X1-2 already provides several safeguards to that effect, including a requirement to consult with the State Labor and Workforce Development Agency and labor and industry stakeholders. It would be imprudent to sign this bill so soon after the effective date of SB X1-2 and before the CEC has fully contemplated implementation of the refinery maintenance portions of that law.

This has become more relevant than ever with the recent and somewhat sudden price increases of gasoline observed and shared publicly by our new Division of Petroleum Market Oversight created with the new authorities provided by SB X1-2. This bill could create a barrier to the CEC's ability to protect consumers from unnecessary gasoline price spikes caused by interruptions in petroleum supply.



For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Gavin Newsom