



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1963, which requires the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to complete a re-evaluation of paraquat dichloride by January 1, 2029, and make the determination to retain, cancel, or suspend its registration, or to place new restrictions on the use of pesticide products containing the active ingredient paraquat.

Earlier this year, I signed Assembly Bill 2113 (Chapter 60, Statutes of 2024), which, among other provisions, helped address DPR's long-standing structural imbalance, requires DPR to annually initiate a set number of formal pesticide re-evaluations and complete them in specified timeframes, and brings transparency into the timelines for re-evaluation. While I am signing this bill, moving forward, I believe the selection of pesticides for re-evaluation must be done through the department-led, data-driven investigatory process agreed upon under Assembly Bill 2113. Making the decision to place a pesticide into re-evaluation should be a holistic, public process, which takes into consideration multiple factors, such as the development of alternatives. We must allow DPR to utilize this process, as it is critical to support the systemwide adoption of sustainable pest management.

I appreciate the author's and stakeholders' ongoing commitment to this issue, and I am confident that through the implementation of the provisions of Assembly Bill 2113, DPR will continue its mission to protect human and



environmental health by appropriately and expeditiously placing pesticides under re-evaluation.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newcom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newcom', written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'G' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.