



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 14 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1 of the Second Extraordinary Session, which addresses the problem of gas price spikes in California by giving the California Energy Commission (CEC) tools to require that gasoline refiners responsibly plan ahead for maintenance by backfilling supplies and maintain a minimum inventory of gasoline and fuel components to be prepared for unexpected shortages.

I applaud the members of the Senate and Assembly who studied this proposal thoroughly during a special legislative session. Amendments to the bill, which were developed in partnership between my Administration and the Legislature, emphasize the need for any regulations adopted by the CEC to protect the health and safety of employees, local communities, and the public. They preserve existing standards and rules that protect refinery workers, including rules granting them the authority to provide emergency refinery shutdowns and maintenance when needed for safety.

Underscoring the importance of these workforce protections, I am directing the CEC to include in any regulations adopted under this bill a provision that expressly provides an emergency-circumstances exception, such that new requirements developed under this bill would not interfere with emergency shutdowns or subsequent maintenance or turnaround work needed to ensure public and worker safety.

Additionally, I am signing this bill because the state's experts and independent experts agree that providing for a more stable gasoline supply in California will



prevent price spikes and benefit consumers overall. I am directing the CEC to ensure that consumer benefit and worker safety are also priorities with respect to the transition to any new regulations adopted under this bill, and that implementation timelines are properly calibrated to avoid unintended consequences.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom