



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 01 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1273 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) from placing on its consent agenda a Decision in a rate-setting proceeding that significantly increases rates for certain electric customers. This bill also clarifies eligibility rules for local publicly owned electric utilities (electric POU) in meeting compliance periods under the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS).

The CPUC is currently bound by strict transparency, accountability, and public access requirements under the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and several statutes enshrined in the agency's publicly developed Rules of Practice and Procedure. All these requirements provide ample opportunity for public input and comment, and provide the agency with flexibility to decide important matters before its full Commission.

While the clarification of eligibility for electric POU) under the RPS deserves attention, this bill's requirements on the CPUC's public decision-making processes risk delaying action on critical issues, including ones that the CPUC is often accused of not acting on judiciously and expediently.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

