



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT. 3 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 830 without my signature.

This bill requires Caltrans to pay for removing or relocating utility infrastructure owned by public utility districts in Mendocino County that serve 5,000 or fewer households when such work is needed for a future state highway improvement.

While I recognize the challenges that relocation costs and infrastructure constraints can pose for communities, this bill sets a concerning precedent by merely shifting those costs to the state, directly at odds with longstanding requirements for permittees to cover the cost of relocating or removing an encroachment when needed for a highway improvement. Creating a statutory exception for one utility in a single county undermines fiscal discipline and creates inequities across California.

Instead, comprehensive and sustainable solutions should be developed in coordination with Caltrans, rather than relying on one-off exemptions that set problematic precedents.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom

