



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 10 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1409 without my signature.

Currently, the Public Utilities Commission has an open proceeding to revise the California Lifeline Program to authorize non-traditional carriers to participate in the program and receive reimbursement for services provided to customers from the lifeline fund.

The last minute amendments included in this bill would legislatively preempt the outcome of this proceeding that has taken public comment from hundreds of California citizens. While I am sensitive to the concerns of some in the cable industry about the length of time this process has taken, I prefer to give that public process a chance to be completed before I decide whether legislation of this type is needed.

One final note; I urge the Public Utilities Commission to meet with the cable industry to explore ways it can participate in the Lifeline Program with some reasonable level of oversight.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown