

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 1, 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 374 without my signature.

This measure would reverse several appellate court decisions allowing judges, in eminent domain claims for loss in business goodwill, to decide facts before a jury decides on compensation. In this case, I think the appellate courts got it right. Judges are in the best position to decide whether businesses had goodwill to lose before proceeding to costly jury trials.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr Row