



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 25 2012

To the Members of the California State Senate:


I am returning Senate Bill 744 without my signature.

This bill would provide that any water submeter tested by the National Institute of Standards and Technology will be deemed sealed and approved for commercial use without state or local review. Currently, more than one out of every ten meters is found to be inaccurate. In fact, last year, nearly 15% were found to be inaccurate. For Californian's living in submetered dwellings, having accurate metered water use is an important consumer protection.

By allowing non-sealers to verify the accuracy of these commercial devices, the bill removes the Department of Food and Agriculture's cornerstone tenet of weights and measures protections for the public.

I do, however, believe that having a more streamlined process for certification of water meters, especially hot water meters, as well as water treatment devices is necessary and merited. I am directing the Department of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Public Health to work with the Legislature on restructuring these certifications.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.