



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2017

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 51 without my signature.

This bill requires the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to preserve and post online scientific information and data that might be censored or destroyed by the federal government. This bill also prohibits state licensing entities, except the State Bar, from taking disciplinary actions against public employees who report improper federal government activities or make scientific research public.

Action by the federal Administration to obfuscate and devalue scientific evidence by questioning, demoting, or firing federal scientists is dangerous and myopic. It would be difficult, however, to envision a scenario or even a legal basis where the whim of the federal Administration would lead to a disciplinary action in California.

When it comes to preserving scientific research we cannot be too careful. I am directing the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to collaborate with universities and non-profits to compile and preserve all important and relevant scientific federal research and data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.