



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JUN 28 2018

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

This bill establishes a moratorium on imposing new assessments on “groceries” at the local level.

Out of 482 cities in the state of California, a total of 4 cities are considering passing a soda tax to combat the dangerous and ill effects of too much sugar in the diets of children. In response, the beverage industry has circulated a far reaching initiative that would, if passed, raise the approval threshold from 50% to two-thirds on all measures, on all topics in all 482 cities. Mayors from countless cities have called to voice their alarm and to strongly support the compromise which this bill represents.

The initiative also contains language that would restrict the normal regulatory capacity of the state by imposing a two- thirds legislative vote on what is now solely within the competency of state agencies. This would be an abomination.

For these reasons, I believe Assembly Bill 1838 is in the public interest and must be signed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.