



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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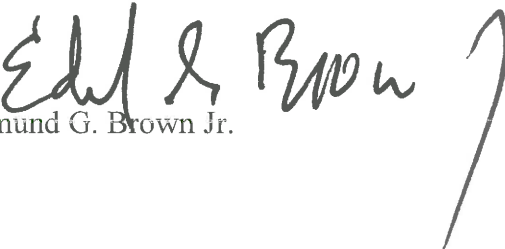
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1529 without my signature.

This bill would require local water suppliers to accept current certifications issued for people who inspect cross-connection and backflow prevention devices, which protect drinking water supplies from contamination, if the certifications meet regulatory requirements that were in effect January 1, 2016. Additionally, once the State Water Resources Control Board adopts new standards for cross-connection control and backflow prevention – which they are expected to do by January 1, 2020 – water suppliers would be required to accept certifications that meet these new certification standards.

This bill is unnecessary and limits a water supplier's ability to protect public health and safety. The Water Board is in the process of developing new cross-connection and backflow prevention standards, which will provide consistent direction on the issue. Furthermore, the proposed regulations will preserve water suppliers' discretion to require standards that are more rigorous.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.