



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2018

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning AB 2963 without my signature.

This bill would increase reporting of worker lead exposure by the California Department of Public Health and require the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to undertake an investigation within three working days. It would also require the Division to make the information on resulting fines and citations publicly available.

I agree with the author that lead exposure is an important public health issue and should be taken seriously. In this case, the Department of Public Health already works collaboratively with employers to reduce worker exposure to lead and refers employers to the Division for enforcement, if needed, on a case-by-case basis. This bill would erode that collaborative approach, and require the Division to take immediate enforcement action upon referral.

The Division is in the process of revising and updating the regulations that establish a permissible lead exposure level for workers and the level at which immediate intervention is needed. I believe we should wait for that work to conclude.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.