

California State Senate

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 305
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4016
FAX (916) 651-4916

SENATOR.GROVE@SENATE.CA.GOV

SENATOR
SHANNON GROVE
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER
SIXTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICES
5701 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 150
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309
TEL (661) 323-0443
FAX (661) 323-0446

7248 JOSHUA LANE
YUCCA VALLEY, CA 92284
TEL (760) 228-3136
FAX (760) 228-2462



September 13, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of SB 142 (Wiener)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Senate Bill 142, which dramatically expands the minimum standards for lactation spaces that all employers must provide. Additionally, it expands employer liability surrounding claims of improper lactation accommodations and retaliation, which could be enforced under the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA)

Less than a year ago Governor Brown vetoed a similar bill by Senator Wiener calling it unnecessary by stating, "I am returning Senate Bill 937 without my signature. This bill requires employers to provide a space that meets specified standards for employees with a desire to express breast milk in private. I have signed AB 1976 which furthers the state's ongoing efforts to support working mothers and their families. Therefore, this bill is not necessary." Employers are already doing their best to comply with AB 1976, which went into effect just 256 days ago. Changing the rules again midstream will only lead to more confusion and lawsuits as employers struggle to meet ever-changing mandates. It only makes sense that we allow the bipartisan provisions of AB 1976 to remain in place, and monitor to see if further changes are needed.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Grove', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader