

California State Senate

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September 12, 2019

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

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 403 (Kalra)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 403, which would extend the timeframe in which a person has to file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner from six months to two years, and which would provide attorney's fees for a person who successfully brings an action for a violation.

The concern with this bill is that it discourages prompt reporting of violations to the Labor Commissioner. Delayed reporting impedes the resolution of issues and the earliest possible opportunity, thus helping others avoid similar conduct. It also leads to less reliable testimony by the victim, the accused, and relevant witnesses, because their memories of the event(s) will have faded somewhat with as time passes.

The bill also creates a one-sided provision for the recovery of attorney's fees, which will only encourage more frivolous litigation aimed at a quick settlement rather than the actual redress of fair and legitimate complaints.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shannon Grove".

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader