

California State Senate

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September 18, 2019

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

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 894 (Santiago)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 894, which would require you, with the recommendation of the Attorney General, to appoint two directors and two associate directors to the Attorney General's office. These employees would be exempt from state civil service.

Department workload issues are typically handled through the budget process instead of through statute. It is within the budget that a proper analysis can be done to examine the workload of the DOJ. Additionally, it is unclear if it is the intent of the author and the Attorney General to replace existing civil servants with these new exempt positions. If so, does the Attorney General have a plan for the displaced workers? Lastly, the Constitution provides a specific list of positions allocated to agencies and departments that are exempt from civil service. To add positions outside of the Constitution that are exempt from civil service makes the constitutional provisions seem worthless.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

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

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader