



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JUL 24 2017

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 644 without my signature.

This bill authorizes a court to impound a boat for up to 30 days in boating under the influence cases if the owner is convicted and the conduct resulted in the unlawful killing of a person.

Boating under the influence is a very troubling crime which exposes the public to grave danger. However, especially in cases where this conduct resulted in an unlawful killing, a defendant will be exposed to very serious criminal and civil liability, including potentially years in prison depending on the circumstances. I do not see the need, in these tragic but narrow instances, to additionally expand the powers of government to impound private property as an added punitive measure.

Because this bill will not act as a deterrent, and existing criminal and civil penalties are sufficient to address the conduct contemplated, I am returning this measure without my signature.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.