

The Honorable Gray Davis
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 796 (DUNN) – VETO REQUEST

Dear Governor Davis:

I write on behalf of my business, employees and my customers to ask for your ‘VETO’ on SB 796 (Dunn), “The Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004.” This bill is far worse than any threat posed to my small business by the existing 17200 laws.

I employ ___ employees on my payroll and am working hard to contribute to the economic recovery of this state. I also support proper enforcement of California’s labor laws. However, these laws are best upheld by stewards of the public interest employed by the State of California NOT private attorneys with differing agendas and/or goals. If this bill is NOT vetoed, the frivolous litigation that will be created by this measure will directly harm my business, my employees and my customers.

Senate Bill 796 allows private attorneys to enforce the Labor Code in lieu of the official responsibilities of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency. It is no secret, these private attorneys will seek monetary gain for themselves and their clients. The question is whether or not this is an appropriate ceding of public powers and responsibility to private attorneys whose goals often are not aligned with the public interest.

The opportunity for mischief by newly empowered attorneys is significant. Unfortunately, SB 796 will likely expose my business to additional frivolous lawsuits and drive up costs to me and my customers.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully asks for your ‘VETO’ on SB 796 (Dunn). If you should have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at ___ - _____. Thank you.

Sincerely,