

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY JOURNAL

RECESS JOURNAL NO. 11

INTERIM STUDY RECESS

Assembly Chamber, Sacramento
Monday, October 16, 2023

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 59, the following Assembly Journal for the 2023–24 Regular Session was printed while the Assembly was in Interim Study Recess.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

By unanimous consent, the following committees were permitted to meet:

Insurance, to convene jointly with the Select Committee on Wildfire Prevention, on Monday, October 9, 2023, at 1 p.m., at the Santa Rosa City Council Chambers, 100 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404;

Higher Education, on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 1 p.m., at the East Los Angeles Community College, F5 Multipurpose Room 201, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, CA 91754;

Select Committee on Orange County Homelessness and Mental Health Services, on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 9 a.m., at the Buena Park Community Center, 6688 Beach Blvd., Buena Park, CA 90621;

Select Committee on Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure, on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 9 a.m., at the CSU Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330;

Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy, to convene jointly with the Select Committee on Asia/California Trade Investment, on Friday, October 27, 2023, at 1 p.m., at the CA Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94102;

Military and Veterans Affairs, on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 12:30 p.m., at the Santa Clarita City Council Chambers, 23920 Valencia Blvd., Santa Clarita, CA 91355;

Revenue and Taxation, on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 10 a.m., at the Westlake Village City Council Chambers, 31200 Oak Crest Drive, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT REPORTS

Assembly Chamber, September 15, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 5	Assembly Bill No. 251
Assembly Bill No. 40	Assembly Bill No. 278
Assembly Bill No. 41	Assembly Bill No. 289
Assembly Bill No. 70	Assembly Bill No. 370
Assembly Bill No. 91	Assembly Bill No. 374
Assembly Bill No. 97	Assembly Bill No. 542
Assembly Bill No. 245	Assembly Bill No. 546
Assembly Bill No. 246	

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 15th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 15, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 557	Assembly Bill No. 933
Assembly Bill No. 576	Assembly Bill No. 965
Assembly Bill No. 589	Assembly Bill No. 1016
Assembly Bill No. 603	Assembly Bill No. 1027
Assembly Bill No. 641	Assembly Bill No. 1046
Assembly Bill No. 676	Assembly Bill No. 1059
Assembly Bill No. 897	Assembly Bill No. 1079
Assembly Bill No. 931	Assembly Bill No. 1123

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 15th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 15, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1125	Assembly Bill No. 1361
Assembly Bill No. 1145	Assembly Bill No. 1406
Assembly Bill No. 1219	Assembly Bill No. 1451
Assembly Bill No. 1270	Assembly Bill No. 1458
Assembly Bill No. 1285	Assembly Bill No. 1483
Assembly Bill No. 1294	Assembly Bill No. 1487
Assembly Bill No. 1322	Assembly Bill No. 1593
Assembly Bill No. 1332	Assembly Bill No. 1612

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 15th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 15, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1620
 Assembly Bill No. 1658
 Assembly Bill No. 1707

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 15th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 18, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 449 | Assembly Bill No. 748 |
| Assembly Bill No. 474 | Assembly Bill No. 1452 |
| Assembly Bill No. 543 | |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 18th day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 19, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 57 | Assembly Bill No. 363 |
| Assembly Bill No. 60 | Assembly Bill No. 368 |
| Assembly Bill No. 230 | Assembly Bill No. 376 |
| Assembly Bill No. 248 | Assembly Bill No. 384 |
| Assembly Bill No. 250 | Assembly Bill No. 386 |
| Assembly Bill No. 265 | Assembly Bill No. 399 |
| Assembly Bill No. 299 | Assembly Bill No. 404 |
| Assembly Bill No. 322 | Assembly Bill No. 418 |
| Assembly Bill No. 339 | Assembly Bill No. 426 |
| Assembly Bill No. 360 | Assembly Bill No. 452 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 19th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 19, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 494 | Assembly Bill No. 716 |
| Assembly Bill No. 548 | Assembly Bill No. 719 |
| Assembly Bill No. 556 | Assembly Bill No. 723 |
| Assembly Bill No. 579 | Assembly Bill No. 746 |
| Assembly Bill No. 581 | Assembly Bill No. 752 |
| Assembly Bill No. 616 | Assembly Bill No. 753 |
| Assembly Bill No. 656 | Assembly Bill No. 755 |
| Assembly Bill No. 658 | Assembly Bill No. 762 |
| Assembly Bill No. 690 | Assembly Bill No. 800 |
| Assembly Bill No. 699 | Assembly Bill No. 816 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 19th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 19, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 843 | Assembly Bill No. 1033 |
| Assembly Bill No. 875 | Assembly Bill No. 1037 |
| Assembly Bill No. 882 | Assembly Bill No. 1061 |
| Assembly Bill No. 883 | Assembly Bill No. 1096 |
| Assembly Bill No. 910 | Assembly Bill No. 1097 |
| Assembly Bill No. 911 | Assembly Bill No. 1119 |
| Assembly Bill No. 912 | Assembly Bill No. 1126 |
| Assembly Bill No. 970 | Assembly Bill No. 1136 |
| Assembly Bill No. 976 | Assembly Bill No. 1171 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1025 | Assembly Bill No. 1203 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 19th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 19, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1210	Assembly Bill No. 1329
Assembly Bill No. 1213	Assembly Bill No. 1345
Assembly Bill No. 1233	Assembly Bill No. 1355
Assembly Bill No. 1251	Assembly Bill No. 1356
Assembly Bill No. 1259	Assembly Bill No. 1366
Assembly Bill No. 1264	Assembly Bill No. 1377
Assembly Bill No. 1271	Assembly Bill No. 1399
Assembly Bill No. 1273	Assembly Bill No. 1400
Assembly Bill No. 1283	Assembly Bill No. 1402
Assembly Bill No. 1306	Assembly Bill No. 1412

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 19th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 1
Assembly Joint Resolution No. 5

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Secretary of State on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 11 a.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1	Assembly Bill No. 249
Assembly Bill No. 12	Assembly Bill No. 256
Assembly Bill No. 20	Assembly Bill No. 268
Assembly Bill No. 34	Assembly Bill No. 285
Assembly Bill No. 37	Assembly Bill No. 286
Assembly Bill No. 43	Assembly Bill No. 304
Assembly Bill No. 48	Assembly Bill No. 314
Assembly Bill No. 56	Assembly Bill No. 317
Assembly Bill No. 58	Assembly Bill No. 318
Assembly Bill No. 84	Assembly Bill No. 323

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 316	Assembly Bill No. 574
Assembly Bill No. 476	Assembly Bill No. 575
Assembly Bill No. 504	Assembly Bill No. 590
Assembly Bill No. 505	Assembly Bill No. 594
Assembly Bill No. 520	Assembly Bill No. 600
Assembly Bill No. 521	Assembly Bill No. 607
Assembly Bill No. 537	Assembly Bill No. 614
Assembly Bill No. 541	Assembly Bill No. 618
Assembly Bill No. 552	Assembly Bill No. 621
Assembly Bill No. 571	Assembly Bill No. 631
Assembly Bill No. 572	

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 338 | Assembly Bill No. 413 |
| Assembly Bill No. 345 | Assembly Bill No. 424 |
| Assembly Bill No. 346 | Assembly Bill No. 434 |
| Assembly Bill No. 353 | Assembly Bill No. 439 |
| Assembly Bill No. 371 | Assembly Bill No. 443 |
| Assembly Bill No. 372 | Assembly Bill No. 446 |
| Assembly Bill No. 373 | Assembly Bill No. 447 |
| Assembly Bill No. 393 | Assembly Bill No. 448 |
| Assembly Bill No. 402 | Assembly Bill No. 455 |
| Assembly Bill No. 407 | Assembly Bill No. 469 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 645 | Assembly Bill No. 727 |
| Assembly Bill No. 652 | Assembly Bill No. 732 |
| Assembly Bill No. 659 | Assembly Bill No. 733 |
| Assembly Bill No. 664 | Assembly Bill No. 764 |
| Assembly Bill No. 678 | Assembly Bill No. 776 |
| Assembly Bill No. 682 | Assembly Bill No. 779 |
| Assembly Bill No. 701 | Assembly Bill No. 781 |
| Assembly Bill No. 709 | Assembly Bill No. 785 |
| Assembly Bill No. 714 | Assembly Bill No. 818 |
| Assembly Bill No. 725 | Assembly Bill No. 825 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 20, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 1423 | Assembly Bill No. 1548 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1437 | Assembly Bill No. 1572 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1439 | Assembly Bill No. 1598 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1466 | Assembly Bill No. 1606 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1474 | Assembly Bill No. 1614 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1478 | Assembly Bill No. 1651 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1481 | Assembly Bill No. 1673 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1489 | Assembly Bill No. 1677 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1500 | Assembly Bill No. 1684 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1508 | Assembly Bill No. 1745 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1539 | Assembly Bill No. 1756 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1540 | |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 20th day of September, 2023, at 4 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1360	Assembly Bill No. 1646
Assembly Bill No. 1628	Assembly Bill No. 1679
Assembly Bill No. 1633	Assembly Bill No. 1699
Assembly Bill No. 1637	Assembly Bill No. 1726
Assembly Bill No. 1645	

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 3	Assembly Bill No. 96
Assembly Bill No. 10	Assembly Bill No. 126
Assembly Bill No. 33	Assembly Bill No. 225
Assembly Bill No. 39	Assembly Bill No. 226
Assembly Bill No. 44	Assembly Bill No. 243
Assembly Bill No. 50	Assembly Bill No. 255
Assembly Bill No. 63	Assembly Bill No. 258
Assembly Bill No. 85	Assembly Bill No. 273
Assembly Bill No. 88	Assembly Bill No. 297
Assembly Bill No. 92	Assembly Bill No. 302

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 309	Assembly Bill No. 519
Assembly Bill No. 350	Assembly Bill No. 524
Assembly Bill No. 352	Assembly Bill No. 529
Assembly Bill No. 389	Assembly Bill No. 531
Assembly Bill No. 391	Assembly Bill No. 553
Assembly Bill No. 425	Assembly Bill No. 585
Assembly Bill No. 436	Assembly Bill No. 606
Assembly Bill No. 461	Assembly Bill No. 620
Assembly Bill No. 480	Assembly Bill No. 624
Assembly Bill No. 483	Assembly Bill No. 633

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 634	Assembly Bill No. 809
Assembly Bill No. 647	Assembly Bill No. 812
Assembly Bill No. 663	Assembly Bill No. 829
Assembly Bill No. 671	Assembly Bill No. 847
Assembly Bill No. 695	Assembly Bill No. 867
Assembly Bill No. 700	Assembly Bill No. 876
Assembly Bill No. 744	Assembly Bill No. 918
Assembly Bill No. 760	Assembly Bill No. 934
Assembly Bill No. 782	Assembly Bill No. 945
Assembly Bill No. 789	Assembly Bill No. 988

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 859 | Assembly Bill No. 943 |
| Assembly Bill No. 872 | Assembly Bill No. 966 |
| Assembly Bill No. 890 | Assembly Bill No. 1002 |
| Assembly Bill No. 894 | Assembly Bill No. 1007 |
| Assembly Bill No. 899 | Assembly Bill No. 1057 |
| Assembly Bill No. 904 | Assembly Bill No. 1060 |
| Assembly Bill No. 907 | Assembly Bill No. 1063 |
| Assembly Bill No. 908 | Assembly Bill No. 1076 |
| Assembly Bill No. 935 | Assembly Bill No. 1085 |
| Assembly Bill No. 937 | Assembly Bill No. 1115 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 1015 | Assembly Bill No. 1150 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1032 | Assembly Bill No. 1167 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1048 | Assembly Bill No. 1172 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1065 | Assembly Bill No. 1175 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1068 | Assembly Bill No. 1207 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1070 | Assembly Bill No. 1228 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1074 | Assembly Bill No. 1257 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1112 | Assembly Bill No. 1262 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1121 | Assembly Bill No. 1286 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1127 | Assembly Bill No. 1291 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Assembly Bill No. 1138 | Assembly Bill No. 1261 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1148 | Assembly Bill No. 1263 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1163 | Assembly Bill No. 1287 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1185 | Assembly Bill No. 1305 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1194 | Assembly Bill No. 1327 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1202 | Assembly Bill No. 1350 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1215 | Assembly Bill No. 1376 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1218 | Assembly Bill No. 1386 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1248 | Assembly Bill No. 1392 |
| Assembly Bill No. 1256 | Assembly Bill No. 1394 |

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 21, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1414	Assembly Bill No. 1485
Assembly Bill No. 1415	Assembly Bill No. 1490
Assembly Bill No. 1418	Assembly Bill No. 1503
Assembly Bill No. 1435	Assembly Bill No. 1512
Assembly Bill No. 1448	Assembly Bill No. 1526
Assembly Bill No. 1462	Assembly Bill No. 1528
Assembly Bill No. 1469	Assembly Bill No. 1536
Assembly Bill No. 1471	Assembly Bill No. 1587
Assembly Bill No. 1479	Assembly Bill No. 1594
Assembly Bill No. 1484	

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 21st day of September, 2023, at 3:30 p.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

Assembly Chamber, September 22, 2023

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to your instructions, the Chief Clerk has examined:

Assembly Bill No. 1317	Assembly Bill No. 1604
Assembly Bill No. 1340	Assembly Bill No. 1650
Assembly Bill No. 1373	Assembly Bill No. 1653
Assembly Bill No. 1403	Assembly Bill No. 1704
Assembly Bill No. 1404	Assembly Bill No. 1720
Assembly Bill No. 1417	Assembly Bill No. 1722
Assembly Bill No. 1420	Assembly Bill No. 1734
Assembly Bill No. 1433	Assembly Bill No. 1741
Assembly Bill No. 1517	Assembly Bill No. 1764
Assembly Bill No. 1519	

And reports the same correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 22nd day of September, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.

SUE PARKER, Chief Clerk

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following veto messages from the Governor were received and ordered printed in the Journal, and the bills ordered to the unfinished business file:

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 316

Governor's Office, Sacramento
September 22, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 316 without my signature.

Among its provisions, this bill would ban driverless testing and operations of heavy-duty autonomous vehicles.

Assembly Bill 316 is unnecessary for the regulation and oversight of heavy-duty autonomous vehicle technology in California, as existing law provides sufficient authority to create the appropriate regulatory framework.

In 2012, the California Legislature provided the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) with the authority to regulate the testing and deployment of autonomous vehicles on public roads in California. As part of its oversight and regulatory responsibilities, DMV consults with the California Highway Patrol, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and others with relevant expertise to determine the regulations necessary for the safe operation of autonomous vehicles on public roads.

DMV continuously monitors the testing and operations of autonomous vehicles on California roads and has the authority to suspend or revoke permits as necessary to protect the public's safety.

Autonomous vehicle technology is evolving and DMV remains committed to keeping our rules up to date to reflect its continued development in California. DMV held public workshops with interested stakeholders earlier this year to inform the development of future rulemakings for both light-duty and heavy-duty autonomous vehicles. This rulemaking will be a transparent, public process where subject matter experts and other stakeholders will have the opportunity to shape the regulations related to the safe operations of autonomous vehicles in California. The draft regulations are expected to be released for public comment in the coming months.

In addition to safety, my Administration has long been concerned with the impact of technology on the future of work—so much so that in 2019 we convened, with participation from a variety of organized labor leaders including the Teamsters, UFCW, and SEIU, a robust Future of Work Task Force. That effort led to the publication of a report that guides our work on issues of emerging technology and its impacts on California's workforce.

But our efforts don't end there. I am committed to incentivizing career pathways and training for the necessary workforce specifically associated with this technology. As such, I am directing the Labor and Workforce Development Agency to lead a stakeholder process next year to review and develop recommendations to mitigate the potential employment impact of testing and deployment of autonomous heavy-duty vehicles.

Considering the longstanding commitment of my Administration to addressing the present and future challenges for work and workers in California, and the existing regulatory framework that presently and

sufficiently governs this particular technology, this bill is not needed at this time. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

My Administration remains open to working with the author, sponsors, and other stakeholders on the right approach to safely test and deploy this evolving technology in California, while also addressing and mitigating any potential impacts to jobs.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 957

Governor's Office, Sacramento
September 22, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 957 without my signature.

This legislation would require a court, when determining the best interests of a child in a child custody or visitation proceeding, to consider, among other comprehensive factors, a parent's affirmation of the child's gender identity or gender expression.

I appreciate the passion and values that led the author to introduce this bill. I share a deep commitment to advancing the rights of transgender Californians, an effort that has guided my decisions through many decades in public office.

That said, I urge caution when the Executive and Legislative branches of state government attempt to dictate—in prescriptive terms that single out one characteristic—legal standards for the Judicial branch to apply. Other-minded elected officials, in California and other states, could very well use this strategy to diminish the civil rights of vulnerable communities.

Moreover, a court, under existing law, is required to consider a child's health, safety, and welfare when determining the best interests of a child in these proceedings, including the parent's affirmation of the child's gender identity.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1306

Governor's Office, Sacramento
September 22, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1306 without my signature.

This bill prohibits the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) from providing any information or responding to a request for coordination from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a federal law enforcement agency, regarding the imminent release of an incarcerated non-citizen, if the person is being released under specific circumstances.

The bill would prevent information sharing and coordination upon a person's release from CDCR custody for a significant number of people and, as a result, would impede CDCR's interaction with a federal law enforcement agency charged with assessing public safety risks.

I believe current law strikes the right balance on limiting interaction to support community trust and cooperation between law enforcement and local communities.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

However, as an Administration, we recognize that improvements in this process are important. CDCR will limit how it communicates with ICE as a federal law enforcement agency, so information is only provided to ICE when a non-citizen individual enters prison and is approaching their release date. ICE will determine how it will proceed with its enforcement of federal law.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 22nd day of September, 2023, at 7:31 p.m., of the following Assembly bills without the Governor's signature, together with statements of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bills Nos. 316, 957, and 1306.

HUGH R. SLAYDEN
Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 966

Governor's Office, Sacramento
September 30, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 966 without my signature.

This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways and the State Coastal Conservancy to submit a report to the Legislature about shoreline erosion control efforts.

The cost of this one-time report is substantial. In addition, the 2022 and 2023 Budgets provide a combined total of \$930 million General Fund to the State Coastal Conservancy for coastal resilience projects. While this funding is not specifically dedicated to coastal erosion, projects funded through these appropriations will address the concerns this measure intends to identify.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1631

Governor's Office, Sacramento
September 30, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1631 without my signature.

This bill requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to issue a notice for public participation for certain water right applications if it has not rendered a final determination within 30 years from the date the permit was filed. This would impact a single, current application for a project in the author's district that is long delayed.

While I appreciate the author's attempt to provide an opportunity to comment on the water right application in question, the State Water Board formally stated its intent to re-notice the application by the end of this year, rendering this bill unnecessary.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 30th day of September, 2023, at 6:57 p.m., of the following Assembly bills without the Governor's signature, together with statements of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bills Nos. 966 and 1631.

SUE PARKER
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 85

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 85 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to provide coverage and reimbursement to health care providers for social determinants of health screenings, beginning January 1, 2027. The bill would also require the Department of Health Care Access and Information to convene a working group to inform policies on social determinants of health and to submit a report to the Legislature with findings and recommendations by January 1, 2026.

My Administration has made significant investments in policies that contemplate and improve social determinants of health, such as housing, social services, community engagement, economic development, and public education. While I support the overall goal of this proposal, it is duplicative of existing efforts, such as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screenings and the work the Department of Health Care Services is doing through California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM). Further this bill may be premature; a standardized social determinants of health screening tool does not yet exist, though there are federal efforts ongoing. Our state policy should align with these national efforts to avoid conflicting policies.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 299

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 299 without my signature.

Beginning January 1, 2025, this bill authorizes a civil action against a public or private institution of higher education by a person harmed by hazing involving an organization affiliated with the educational institution when the institution had direct involvement in, knew of, or "in the exercise of ordinary care reasonably should have known" of the hazing and unreasonably failed to prevent, discover, or stop the hazing.

Hazing has no place in public or private institutions of higher education (IHE). I agree that IHEs that knowingly support hazing or fail to take reasonable steps to prevent hazing should be accountable. However, as drafted, this bill goes much further than that, creating expansive financial exposure even for IHEs that are taking appropriate steps to protect their students from hazing. I encourage the author to more clearly define when liability arises when IHEs have taken statutorily defined reasonable steps to prevent hazing.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 309

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 309 without my signature.

This bill would create the Social Housing Program in the Department of General Services (DGS). The program would identify and produce three social housing projects on excess state-owned property through development or acquisition.

This bill infringes on state sovereignty over state-owned real property by establishing a new process for local government review of state projects authorized under the bill and could potentially cost the state several hundred million dollars in capital expenditures.

State-owned sites identified as suitable for housing development already are being developed as affordable housing through the State Excess Sites program. This program, instituted through Executive Order (EO) N-06-19 and further codified through AB 2233 (Quirk-Silva, Chapter 438, Statutes of 2022) and SB 561 (Dodd, Chapter 446, Statutes of 2022), has already awarded state land for 17 residential or mixed-use projects with significant affordable housing components.

While I appreciate the author's commitment to build more affordable housing in the state, this bill creates new additional cost pressures and must be considered in the annual budget in the context of all state funding priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 371

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning the following bills without my signature:

Assembly Bill 371
Senate Bill 18

SB 18 would create the Tribal Housing Grant Program Trust Fund to provide grant funds to tribal entities, and AB 371 would change the current waiver process utilized to assist tribal entities in applying for various housing financing programs administered by the Department.

I want to thank the authors and their supporters for their commitment to providing more safe and affordable housing for California's tribal residents. These legislative efforts are well-intentioned, and I share the desire to further remove barriers and increase tribal access to housing and homelessness programs.

I signed legislation in 2019 to make tribes eligible for most State housing programs, and I remain committed to doing more. My Administration has provided tribal set asides in a variety of new programs we created, including: \$30 million in the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2023; \$29 million through the first round of the Multifamily Super Notice of Funding Availability, which combines funding for four affordable housing funding programs; \$20 million recently awarded through the Homeless, Housing Assistance and Prevention program (HHAP); and a forthcoming Homekey Tribal Entity Notice of Funding Availability of approximately \$75 million, to name a few.

But system overhauls such as those included in these two bills need to be made through the budget process where a dedicated grant program to address tribal housing needs—using either new general fund and/or reappropriation of existing tribal set-asides—can be established, along with appropriate program rules to streamline application processes, with more flexible uses to better meet the unique housing needs of tribal governments.

I am committed to addressing these important issues in next year's budget and look forward to working with the Legislature and our tribal partners to help deliver these critical dollars to tribal communities where—and how—they are needed.

But for the reasons stated above, I cannot sign these bills.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 469

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 469 without my signature.

This bill, subject to appropriation, would create the Office of the California Public Records Act Ombudsperson within state government. The ombudsperson would be appointed by the Governor, and would be tasked with determining whether denials of public records requests by state agencies complied with the California Public Records Act.

State agencies diligently comply with the Public Records Act, and relief is currently available through the courts for those who feel an agency's decision was incorrect. This bill would create an unnecessary layer of review by an official who would interpret the law in a manner that may or may not be consistent with case law. Additionally, establishment of this office would result in tens of millions of dollars in cost pressures not considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 576

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 576 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to update Medi-Cal coverage for medication abortion to align with evidence-based clinical guidelines by March 1, 2024.

This bill is well intentioned, but unnecessary. In July 2023, DHCS updated its medication abortion policies for Medi-Cal to reflect current evidence-based clinical guidelines to reimburse providers for care through 77 gestational days. This aligns with the goal of AB 576 and the priority of this Administration to ensure that abortion care is safe, legal, and accessible.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 589

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 589 without my signature.

This bill, until January 1, 2027 and upon appropriation by the Legislature, would require the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to establish the Unicorn Homes Transitional Housing for Homeless LGBTQ+ Youth Program (Unicorn Program) as a pilot to be administered by local community-based organizations in Sacramento and San Diego Counties.

While I appreciate the author's commitment to providing housing for homeless LGBTQ+ youth, AB 589 creates an unfunded grant program that must be considered in the annual budget in the context of all state funding priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 608

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 608 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to cover additional services as part of Medi-Cal's Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) and allow non-licensed perinatal health workers to provide services in a beneficiary's home or community setting, upon federal approval.

I support the author's goal to improve maternal health outcomes and reduce disparities. However, Medi-Cal already provides full-scope coverage for one year after pregnancy, and DHCS is actively working on a "Birthing Care Pathway" proposal to improve services provided during the perinatal period, reduce maternal mortality, and address disparities in maternal health outcomes. Given the significant ongoing General Fund costs of over \$20 million annually to implement this bill, it should be evaluated as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 620

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 620 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to cover formulas that are part of a medically necessary diet for the treatment of chronic digestive diseases and inherited metabolic disorders.

While I support individuals with these conditions having access to the nutritional support they may need, I am concerned this bill would exceed the state's set of essential health benefits, which are established by the state's benchmark plan under the provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). As such, this bill's mandate would require the state to defray the costs of coverage in Covered California. This would not only increase ongoing state General Fund costs, but it would set a new precedent by adding requirements that exceed the benchmark plan. A pattern of new coverage mandate bills like this could open the state to millions to billions of dollars in new costs to cover services relating to other health conditions. This creates uncertainty for our healthcare system's affordability.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 632

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 632 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit a health plan contract or insurance policy that is amended, renewed, or delivered on or after January 1, 2024, from applying a deductible, copayment, or coinsurance for prostate cancer screening services for an enrollee who is at a heightened risk of prostate cancer.

According to the California Health Benefits Review Program, approximately 97% of enrollees currently have coverage for prostate cancer screening without cost sharing and the remaining 3% pay an estimated \$10 per screening. While the author's intent to increase prostate cancer screenings is commendable, this bill exceeds the cost sharing provisions under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). As such, this bill would result in increased costs to consumers through higher premiums. The State must weigh the potential benefits of all new mandates with the comprehensive costs to the entire delivery system.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 719

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 719 without my signature.

This bill would require Medi-Cal managed care plans that provide nonemergency or nonmedical transportation to contract with public paratransit service operators for the purpose of establishing reimbursement rates, if federal approvals are obtained.

I support efforts to encourage more public paratransit service operators to enroll as nonmedical transportation providers in Medi-Cal, which is permitted under existing law. It would be beneficial to have more options for nonmedical transportation in the Medi-Cal system. This bill takes a different approach, however, requiring the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to pursue a series of federal approvals that are not currently allowable under federal guidance. It would not be prudent to use state resources for this purpose.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 907

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 907 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to cover specific prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) with limited cost sharing.

While I support the author's goal of ensuring that children with PANS and PANDAS receive the treatment they need in a timely manner, this bill creates a disease-specific mandate and contains provisions that would be duplicative of existing laws for timely access standards and grievance processes through the Department of Managed Health Care and Department of Insurance. Further, this bill removes the medical necessity requirement, which is a standard condition for health plans in determining coverage of specific services.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 931

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 931 without my signature.

Beginning January 1, 2025, this bill would prohibit a health plan or insurer from requiring prior authorization for the initial 12 physical therapy treatment visits for a new episode of care. The bill would also require that, prior to treatment, the provider verify an enrollee's coverage and disclose the enrollee's cost sharing, maximum out-of-pocket expense per visit, and whether the provider is in-network for the enrollee.

I appreciate the author's intent to increase access to physical therapy treatment. However, prior authorization, when applied appropriately, can be an important tool to contain health care costs, protect patients from unanticipated billing, and ensure medically necessary care. Further, existing law requires health plans to provide appointments within a timely access minimum standard, even when prior authorization is required.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1015

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1015 without my signature.

This bill would require the State Department of Social Services to administer an expanded Diaper and Wipe Distribution Program in all 58 counties.

The current diaper bank effort was established via the Budget Act of 2021, serving twenty counties throughout California and distributing over one-hundred million diapers to over one million low-income households since its inception. The same budget also exempted diapers from sales tax. While I appreciate the author's desire to provide additional assistance, an expanded effort should similarly be considered and funded as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1060

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1060 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to cover prescription and over the counter naloxone and all other U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved drugs for opioid overdose reversal, with a maximum of \$10 cost sharing.

Combating the opioid crisis is one of my top priorities. I appreciate the author's shared commitment to this critical public health and public safety imperative. Together with the Legislature, we have invested more than \$1 billion to combat overdoses, support those with opioid use disorder, raise awareness, and crack down on trafficking. Further, the 2023 Budget Act included \$30 million for the CalRx Naloxone Access Initiative, to support partners in developing, manufacturing, procuring, and distributing a low-cost naloxone nasal product.

While I support providing access to opioid antagonists to individuals with opioid use disorder or other risk factors, this bill would exceed the state's set of essential health benefits, which are established by the state's benchmark plan under the provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA). As such, this bill's mandate would require the state to defray the costs of coverage in Covered California. This would not only increase ongoing state General Fund costs, but it would set a new precedent by adding requirements that exceed the benchmark plan. A pattern of new coverage mandate bills like this could open the state to millions to billions of dollars in new costs to cover services relating to other health conditions. This creates uncertainty for our healthcare system's affordability.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1085

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1085 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to establish a Medi-Cal benefit to cover housing support services for individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness, subject to an appropriation and federal approval.

My Administration has made significant investments to combat homelessness and provide housing supports. While I appreciate and share the author's goal to support those who are experiencing homelessness, new Medi-Cal benefits must be considered as part of the annual budget process. For example, the 2023 Budget Act establishes coverage for CalAIM transitional rent, beginning in 2024–25, allowing for up to six months of rent or temporary housing for vulnerable Californians, including those who are or are at risk of becoming homeless.

DHCS estimates additional annual costs to the Medi-Cal program in the range of \$18.3 million to \$40.4 million General Fund to implement this bill. These costs must be considered alongside other budgetary priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1123

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1123 without my signature.

This bill requires the California State University (CSU) system to grant an employee a leave of absence with pay for one semester of an academic year, or an equivalent duration in a one-year period, following the birth of a child or in connection with the adoption or foster care placement of a child by the employee.

I vetoed a nearly identical bill last year, citing more than \$20 million in fiscal impact outside of the budget process and pending collective bargaining negotiations between the CSU and the California Faculty Association. I implore both entities to come together to resolve this issue during this negotiation.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1215

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1215 without my signature.

This bill, upon appropriation of the Legislature, would establish the Pets Assistance With Support Grant Program, to provide services to pets whose owners are experiencing homelessness or are escaping domestic violence.

I have supported funding for shelters to care for pets belonging to those experiencing homelessness through prior budget investments, including \$10 million appropriated in 2019 and an additional \$1 million in 2022 to fund the Pet Assistance and Support Program (PAS) administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

While I appreciate the author's commitment to programs like these which reduce barriers to accessing shelter, this bill would create an unfunded grant program and should be considered in the annual budget in the context of all state funding priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1248

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1248 without my signature.

This bill requires a city or county with more than 300,000 residents, or a school district or community college district with more than 500,000 residents, to establish an independent redistricting commission.

While I share the author's goal of ensuring community control over the redistricting process, this bill creates a state-reimbursable mandate in the tens of millions and should therefore be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1432

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1432 without my signature.

This bill would require any out-of-state health insurance plan regulated by the California Department of Insurance (CDI) that is marketed, issued, or delivered to a California resident to provide coverage for abortion, abortion-related services, and gender-affirming care.

I commend the author for working to provide additional assurances that California residents can access abortion services and gender affirming care. It is a priority of my Administration to ensure that abortion and gender-affirming care are safe, legal, and accessible. However, it is not evident that out-of-state health insurance plans serving Californians do not already cover this care.

Further, though well intentioned, this bill could invite litigation where an adverse ruling would outweigh a potential benefit.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1451

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1451 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to cover treatment for urgent and emergency mental health and substance use disorders without prior authorization, upon appropriation by the Legislature for administrative costs.

I share the author's concern regarding the importance of accessible behavioral health services statewide, as evidenced by the billions of dollars we have invested to enhance access to timely and necessary behavioral health care, as well as the programs and reforms implemented to improve our delivery system. Existing law already prohibits prior authorization for emergency care, and requires mental health and substance use disorder services to meet timely access standards. The requirements in this bill would result in significant costs in the tens of millions of dollars, to the state General Fund and to consumers through health plan premium increases. These impacts should be considered as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1478

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1478 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to develop, maintain, and update annually on its website a referral network database of community based mental health providers and support services addressing postpartum depression and prenatal care.

While I support this bill's intent to increase awareness of mental health and support services for postpartum depression and prenatal care, it is duplicative of existing programs and resources. Last year, I vetoed a similar version of this bill. I do not believe creating another website is necessary.

State programs such as the Adolescent Family Life Program, Black Infant Health Program, California Home Visiting Program, Perinatal Equity Initiative, and the Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program work to ensure pregnant and postpartum individuals are assessed, informed, linked, and referred to appropriate health and social services, including mental health. Additional resources can be found on health plan and Medi-Cal insurance websites, county and local health jurisdiction websites, as well as through CalHOPE, which is administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1604

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1604 without my signature.

This bill would make changes to the Charter School Facility Grant program (CSFGP) administered by the California School Finance Authority (CSFA) with regard to required admissions preferences, requirements for related parties, declaring nonprofit status, and how charter school properties are sold and leased.

The California State Auditor's report from earlier this year showed that the CSFGP program was being administered in a manner consistent with the law. It also showed that charter schools that receive the CSFGP grant funds closed less often and were located in areas that needed additional classroom space. Unfortunately, provisions of this bill could have unintended consequences, including increasing facility costs or limiting financing options for charter schools. Furthermore, the potential benefits of the bill are limited and do not outweigh the potential risks to charter school facilities.

Finally, while the report did find areas for improved transparency, those areas can and should be addressed administratively by the CSFA through the regulatory process rather than by legislation.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1645

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1645 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit health plans from imposing cost sharing for specified preventive or screening services and associated office visits and would require plans to directly reimburse nonparticipating essential community providers for sexually transmitted infections (STI) screenings and services.

I appreciate the author's efforts to increase access to preventive health care, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and STI testing, colorectal screening, and other services. However, components of this proposal depart from structures in federal and state law, such as the existing policies for reimbursement to non-contracted providers. Further, because this bill exceeds the cost-sharing provisions under the Affordable Care Act, it would result in increased costs to health plans passed on to consumers through premiums. The State must weigh the potential benefits of all new mandates with the comprehensive costs to the entire delivery system.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1699

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1699 without my signature.

This bill provides current non-probationary classified TK-12 and community college classified staff the right of first refusal for certain new classified positions at their education employer. The bill requires an educational employer to provide its classified employees and their union at least 10 business days' notice of a job vacancy before the general public is authorized to apply for the position. This bill only authorizes the employer to offer the new position to an external applicant if no qualified, internal candidate applies for or accepts the new position within the employer notice period.

While I support the author's goal of seeking to provide opportunities for current classified staff to apply for other open positions, this bill may have unintended consequences that are not in the best interest of students. Educational employers and classified staff already have the ability to bargain this issue, and many already have agreements that meet the goals of this bill. Unfortunately, this bill also prohibits future bargaining agreements from implementing their own locally determined process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 7th day of October, 2023, at 12:05 p.m., of the following Assembly bills without the Governor's signature, together with statements of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bills Nos. 85, 299, 309, 371, 469, 576, 589, 608, 620, 632, 719, 907, 931, 1015, 1060, 1085, 1123, 1215, 1248, 1432, 1451, 1478, 1604, 1645, and 1699.

SUE PARKER
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 20

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 20 without my signature.

This bill would expand the circumstances in which a child or a nonminor dependent may petition the juvenile dependency court for reinstatement of parental rights and revise provisions of law pertaining to post-adoption sibling contact.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 57

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 57 without my signature.

This bill would establish the California Pocket Forest Initiative in the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and require CAL FIRE to implement the initiative, as prescribed, with applicable reporting requirements.

This bill results in General Fund impacts not included in the 2023 Budget Act and likely significant ongoing General Fund cost pressure to support grants to complete projects funded through the initiative.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 265

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 265 without my signature.

This bill would require annual transfers from the General Fund to the Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizen Property Tax Postponement (PTP) Fund to ensure the balance each June 30 is \$15 million. The PTP Program allows income-eligible homeowners who are seniors, blind, or disabled to defer their property taxes, secured by a lien against the property that is later repaid when the property is sold or refinanced. By design, the PTP Fund is structured to be self-sustaining.

The Department of Finance conducted an analysis of the PTP Program and concluded the program has enough funding for 2023–24, but cannot be sustained without an annual commitment of potentially millions of General Fund dollars to support it thereafter. While I support the PTP Program, discussions regarding this continuous appropriation should be considered in the annual budget process. While I am unable to sign this bill, I look forward to continuing discussions to identify necessary resources in the upcoming fiscal year.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 372

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 372 without my signature.

This bill would exempt income up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) that is received from an apprenticeship, or a pre-apprenticeship program approved by the Chief of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards for purposes of determining California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) eligibility.

I appreciate the author's intent to support low-income individuals participating in apprenticeship programs. However, this bill would result in ongoing costs of over \$25 million annually, which should be considered as a part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 374

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 374 without my signature.

This bill would allow local jurisdictions to permit certain cannabis retailers to prepare and sell food or drinks that do not contain cannabis, as well as host and sell tickets to live events at their licensed premises.

I appreciate the author's intent to provide cannabis retailers with increased business opportunities and an avenue to attract new customers. However, I am concerned this bill could undermine California's long-standing smoke-free workplace protections.

Protecting the health and safety of workers is paramount. I encourage the author to address this concern in subsequent legislation.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 404

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 404 without my signature.

This bill requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), upon appropriation, to evaluate duplicative reporting requirements that affect certified organic grower operations, and to submit a report to the Legislature on its findings.

While I support the author's goal to reduce regulatory burdens on certified organic operations, this bill is duplicative of existing efforts. CDFA, in collaboration with the California Environmental Protection Agency and State Water Resources Control Board, is currently conducting a project to evaluate reporting requirements on agricultural producers as part of an effort to streamline the administrative processes and optimize information collected by the state. Additionally, the 2023 Budget included resources to continue CDFA's efforts to streamline licensing, permitting, certification, and registration processes to further reduce the burden of regulatory compliance. The evaluation and reporting required by this bill, however, were not accounted for in the annual budget process and would thus result in additional cost pressures on the General Fund.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 504Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023*To the Members of the California State Assembly:*

I am returning Assembly Bill 504 without my signature.

This bill would make it unlawful for public employers to take adverse action against public employees for refusing to enter the property of, or perform work for, a public employer involved in a primary strike and would void any policy or collective bargaining agreement prohibiting sympathy strikes.

Unfortunately, this bill is overly broad in scope and impact. The bill has the potential to seriously disrupt or even halt the delivery of critical public services, particularly in places where public services are co-located. This could have significant, negative impacts on a variety of government functions including academic operations for students, provision of services in rural communities where co-location of government agencies is common, and accessibility of a variety of safety net programs for millions of Californians.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 552Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023*To the Members of the California State Assembly:*

I am returning Assembly Bill 552 without my signature.

This bill directs the California Department of Food and Agriculture, upon appropriation, to establish the Regional Farmer Equipment and Cooperative Resources Assistance Pilot Program and provide resource-limited farmers and ranchers with financial and technical assistance to share equipment.

While I support the author's goal to assist small-scale farmers and ranchers, this bill would create a new, unfunded grant program that should be considered as a part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 624

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 624 without my signature.

This bill, commencing July 1, 2025, requires the California State University Trustees and requests the University of California Regents, to cover the costs of diagnostic assessments for learning disabilities as proof for academic accommodations for any student who receives financial assistance or is eligible for financial assistance from the institution's health or disability center. The bill also specifies that state funds will be provided annually for the cost of these services, and that the Department of General Services shall oversee reimbursements to institutions for their documented costs.

While I support the author's goal of supporting students with learning disabilities, unfortunately, the bill creates at least \$5 million in ongoing General Fund costs that are not reflected in the state's current fiscal plan. Additionally, the Department of General Services may not be the appropriate entity to administer the reimbursement.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 676

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 676 without my signature.

Current law establishes, as state policy, the highest use of water shall be for domestic purposes. This bill would supplement that policy by specifying what constitutes domestic use, such as human consumption, household gardening and livestock care, and fire suppression.

While I appreciate the author's intent to clarify existing law, which has remained untouched since 1943, this bill has the potential to introduce unnecessary legal uncertainty. Courts have defined domestic use for nearly half a century, and codifying specific definitions now unnecessarily risks inadvertent omissions.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 699

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 699 without my signature.

This bill would extend the rebuttable presumptions currently provided to safety officers for hernia, pneumonia, heart trouble, cancer, tuberculosis, bloodborne infectious disease, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* skin infections (MRSA), meningitis-related illnesses and injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and for illness or injury as a result of exposure to biochemical substances, to lifeguards employed on a year-round, full-time basis in the Boating Safety Unit by the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, but would except application of the skin cancer presumption to lifeguards in that Unit.

A presumption is not required for an occupational disease to be compensable. Although lifeguards engage in hazardous responsibilities, a presumption should be provided sparingly and based upon the unique hazards or proven difficulty of establishing a direct relationship between a disease or injury and the employee's work. Although well-intentioned, the need for the presumption envisioned by this bill must be supported by clear and compelling evidence.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 782

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 782 without my signature.

This bill would exclude reconstitution of a drug pursuant to a manufacturer's directions, tablet splitting or crushing, capsule opening, or the addition of a flavoring agent from the Pharmacy Law's definition of compounding.

While I appreciate the author's intention to maintain the current availability of flavored medication, this bill would create standards for California that do not meet the United States Pharmacopeia-National Formulary's guidelines regarding compounding that have been put in place to minimize patients' risk of harm.

This bill also contradicts AB 973, which I signed in 2019, which required both sterile and non-sterile compounding in California to be consistent with the United States Pharmacopeia guidelines, which ensured clear compounding standards and provided greater consumer safety. This bill would make exceptions to federal guidelines, which would pose a risk to consumers.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 867

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 867 without my signature.

This bill authorizes a nonminor dependent to remain in extended foster care beyond the age of 21 until the county has provided the youth with the documents, information, and services needed for their transition.

While I appreciate the author's work to support foster youth in successfully transitioning into adulthood, this bill will likely cost millions of dollars and must be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 881

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 881 without my signature.

This bill extends the existing pilot program authorizing the Superior Court of San Francisco to pay low-income trial jurors \$100 per day for each day of service as a trial juror in a criminal case and expands it to four additional courts as selected by Judicial Council.

While I appreciate the author's work to create a more equal justice system, this policy needs to be part of budget discussions. In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 912

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 912 without my signature.

This bill would, subject to an appropriation, establish the Violence Reduction Grant Program to be administered by the Department of Justice, re-establish the Youth Reinvestment Grant Program to be administered by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration, and create additional grant programs designed to improve the health and well-being of youths in the State.

While I appreciate the author's commitment to early interdiction and violence reduction efforts, this bill creates new additional cost pressures and must be considered in the annual budget in the context of all state funding priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 945

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 945 without my signature.

This bill would require, beginning May 1, 2026, each court to report to the Judicial Council the rate of expungements granted to individuals who successfully participated as an incarcerated fire camp member or at an institutional firehouse. It would also require the Judicial Council to report the statewide data regarding these petitions. This bill would sunset on January 1, 2036.

While I appreciate the author's dedication to ensuring that these individuals can reenter society and obtain meaningful employment, this bill would cost the state millions of dollars and must be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 970

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 970 without my signature.

This bill requires the California Department of Insurance, upon appropriation, to establish and administer the Climate and Sustainability Insurance and Risk Reduction Program and creates eight climate insurance pilot projects to reduce physical risks from flooding and extreme heat in communities with high risks and low insurance uptake.

While I support the author's goal to expand insurance options in communities where climate risks are currently underinsured, this bill creates a significant state reimbursable mandate and new cost pressures in the millions of dollars that should be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1065

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1065 without my signature.

This bill specifies that wireless internet service providers are eligible to apply for and receive funding from the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) last-mile Broadband Infrastructure Account (BIA) and the Federal Funding Account (FFA).

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of making broadband service accessible and affordable to ALL Californians. In 2021, I signed into law Senate Bill 156, which invests \$6 billion in broadband infrastructure, of which \$2 billion is allocated to the streamlined last-mile FFA program to connect households and businesses with time-limited federal funds.

The goal of this last-mile grant program, administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), is to expeditiously connect unserved and underserved communities to future-proof broadband service.

Unfortunately, this bill would delay this effort by requiring the CPUC to halt the FFA program and modify the rules governing this program through a lengthy process. This could jeopardize the CPUC's ability to meet federal funding encumbrance deadlines and it could significantly disrupt the review of project grant applications that were recently submitted.

As I noted last year in my veto message to Assembly Bill 2749 (Quirk-Silva), we simply cannot afford to delay the implementation of the FFA program, as investing in scalable broadband infrastructure is foundational to connecting every Californian to long-lasting economic opportunity and success.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1079

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1079 without my signature.

This bill requires the California Department of Public Health, subject to appropriation, to establish the Hate Crimes Intervention Program within the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch to implement community interventions in conjunction with community leaders and organizations in communities that have been most impacted by hate crimes. Additionally, the bill requires the Civil Rights Department to create and implement statewide and regional campaigns to discourage discrimination based upon, but not limited to, disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation. These are costs not accounted for in the annual budget.

I share the author's objective to reduce hate crime and discrimination in California, which is why we have funded a comprehensive strategy to fight hate violence and discrimination in the budget. Specifically, the State has invested \$150 million for a multi-year grant program to support community services for victims and survivors of hate acts across impacted communities as informed by public data. The State, additionally, established the Commission on the State of Hate to assess data on hate crimes in California, provide resources for victims, and make policy recommendations to better protect civil rights, and announced the launch of CA vs. Hate, a new statewide hotline to report hate acts in California and connect victims with services, among other efforts.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1112

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1112 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to expand eligibility for the foster youth clothing allowance benefit and the expectant parent benefit to include foster youth who do not reside in an approved placement.

I share the author's commitment to ensure that foster youth receive the benefits and support services they need. However, the foster care system works to ensure that youth are placed in a safe, stable, and homelike environment. Without an approved placement, foster youth are not eligible to receive foster care payments. As written, this bill could perpetuate foster youth remaining in a placement that is not approved or the safest option for them. Further, because foster care was realigned to counties, the state General Fund would be responsible for offsetting any new county costs for implementation, and such costs should be considered in the context of the broader budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1145

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1145 without my signature.

This bill would establish a statutory post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) presumption for certain state nurses, psychiatric technicians, and various medical and social services specialists employed by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH), who provide direct care to prison inmates and state hospital patients.

I am a firm supporter of the ability of individuals to seek treatment for mental health conditions and my Administration has initiated multiple programs to provide our valued workforce with mental wellness support during times of trauma. Additionally, the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder Guideline was adopted in 2019.

PTSD is compensable under the workers compensation system. However, altering the burden of proof through a presumption should be provided sparingly and based upon the unique hazards or proven difficulty of establishing a direct relationship between a disease or injury and the employee's work. Although well-intentioned, the need for the presumption envisioned by this bill must be supported by clear and compelling evidence.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1207

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1207 without my signature.

This bill defines the term “attractive to children” under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (Proposition 64), and expressly prohibits the manufacture, distribution, and sale of cannabis or cannabis-related products that are attractive to children.

When the voters passed Proposition 64, they enacted robust protections shielding youth from exposure to cannabis and cannabis-related products. Among other things, voters prohibited cannabis licensees from using packaging, labeling, marketing, and advertising that is attractive to children. To further this intent, the Department of Cannabis Control promulgated regulations establishing extensive labeling and advertising requirements to ensure commercial cannabis products are not marketed to children.

While I deeply appreciate and agree with the author's intent, I am concerned that the definition of “attractive to children” used in this bill is overly broad. By prohibiting entire categories of images, this bill would sweep in commonplace designs, and I am not convinced that these additional limits will meaningfully protect children beyond what is required under existing law.

California must continue to refine and advance its regulation of cannabis to protect the health and safety of children. As such, I am directing the Department of Cannabis Control to strengthen and expand existing youth related cannabis protections—including measures to enhance enforcement of those protections.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1517

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1517 without my signature.

This bill creates a more specific role for special education local plan areas (SELPAs) to determine school district fiscal and instructional actions for students with disabilities in the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), participate in all technical assistance for districts identified as needing assistance based on the performance of their students with disabilities student group, and adds requirements to the SELPA Local Plan related to technical assistance work.

I have championed many efforts to improve outcomes for students with disabilities and have worked with the Legislature to allocate increased special education funding and establish Special Education Resource Leads. This bill does not account for the important changes to California's school support and accountability system that my Administration worked in partnership with the Legislature to include in the 2023 State Budget requiring districts to specifically address low performance of any student group, including special education students, at the school and district levels in their LCAP. These improvements also provide for related targeted support and assistance from county offices of education and applicable lead agencies in the Statewide System of Support. Therefore, this bill is unnecessary.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1536

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1536 without my signature.

This bill would expand eligibility for the Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Legal Immigrants (CAPI) program to include all eligible immigrants, regardless of their legal immigration status.

While I appreciate the author's goal to expand CAPI eligibility regardless of immigration status, enacting this policy without providing funding would not be prudent nor would it meet its intended purpose. My Administration has taken significant steps to support the undocumented community, including the recent expansion of eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. This year, the 2023 Budget Act includes \$40 million to begin automation and outreach efforts to expand the California Food Assistance Program to income-eligible individuals aged 55 years or older, regardless of their immigration status.

This bill would result in significant costs of over \$100 million General Fund annually, because CAPI is a state-only program. These costs must be considered alongside other budgetary priorities as part of the annual budget process. In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1628

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1628 without my signature.

This bill would require all new washing machines sold in California for residential or state use to contain a microfiber filtration system by January 1, 2029, and allows the Attorney General or local prosecutors to assess civil penalties for a violation of this requirement.

My Administration takes seriously the need to reduce the presence of microfibers in our wastewater system. The State Water Board is currently assessing the potential impacts of microplastic pollution to aquatic ecosystems in coastal and estuarine environments, as well as humans through exposure in drinking water. However, I am concerned that this bill will increase costs to consumers in advance of further research being completed and establishing the public policy rationale and details for new residential requirements.

In the interim, I encourage the author to consider alternative approaches to incentivize, rather than mandate, the use of filters or other technologies that could remove microfibers in wastewater.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1677

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill AB 1677 without my signature.

This bill requires the University of California, Berkeley, Labor Center to study the salary structure of state scientists represented by State Bargaining Unit 10 and requires the state to implement any increase in compensation resulting from the study.

This bill’s requirement to implement any increase in compensation resulting from the study effectively circumvents the collective bargaining process and limits the state’s ability to consider various economic factors that impact the state or Bargaining Unit 10 members when proposing compensation packages during negotiations.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1726

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1726 without my signature.

This bill would create a presumption that convictions under various Penal Code sections are legally invalid due to specified defects at the time of the convictions.

When I signed Senate Bill 357 (2022) which repealed penal code section 653.22 (loitering with the intent to commit prostitution), I committed to monitoring crime and prosecution trends for any possible unintended consequences. Given that this legislation was signed just last year, and we continue to monitor, further changes to the law are premature.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 8th day of October, 2023, at 2:50 p.m., of the following Assembly bills without the Governor's signature, together with statements of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bills Nos. 20, 57, 265, 372, 374, 404, 504, 552, 624, 676, 699, 782, 867, 881, 912, 945, 970, 1065, 1079, 1112, 1145, 1207, 1517, 1536, 1628, 1677, and 1726.

HUGH R. SLAYDEN

Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 37

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 37 without my signature.

This bill would expand what qualifies as an allowable use of campaign funds for security-related expenses.

While I support the author's intention, the bill as drafted does not clearly define "security expenses." Without more guidance on what would or would not be allowed as a legitimate use of campaign funds, this bill could have unintended consequences and could lead to use of political donations for expenditures far beyond what any reasonable donor would expect. We must ensure political donations are utilized in a manner consistent with their intended purpose.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 41

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 41 without my signature.

This bill makes minor changes to the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act (DIVCA). Two years ago, I signed SB 28 (2021), which made minor changes to DIVCA. In signing that bill I encouraged the Legislature to go further on DIVCA reform. Unfortunately, this bill does not go far enough.

While I greatly value and appreciate the efforts made by the author, the changes this bill makes will not meaningfully increase digital equity in California. I am deeply committed to providing access to broadband services to ALL Californians. So much so that in 2021, I worked with the Legislature to pass an historic \$6 billion broadband infrastructure investment to bridge the Digital Divide.

If we are going to close the Digital Divide once and for all, we must build on these efforts and consider strategic reforms to the policy tools at our disposal. To that end, I look forward to partnering with the Legislature to further our broadband access and affordability efforts.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 246

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 246 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit, by 2025, the manufacture, distribution, or sale of menstrual products that contain intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at a certain concentration level, as well as limit, by 2027, the concentration of total organic fluorine in menstrual products.

This is one of three single-product chemical bans passed by the Legislature this year that attempt to address serious concerns with the presence of PFAS in consumer products. These bills do not identify or require any regulatory agency to determine compliance with, or enforce, the proposed statute.

While I strongly support the author's intent and have signed similar legislation in the past, I am concerned that this bill falls short of providing enhanced protection to California consumers due to lack of regulatory oversight. Previously enacted single-product chemical bans, which also lack oversight, are proving challenging to implement, with inconsistent interpretations and confusion among manufacturers about how to comply with the restrictions.

In order to instill consumer confidence and effectively address public health and environmental concerns, I am directing the Department of Toxic Substances Control to engage with the author and the Legislature and consider alternative approaches to regulating the use of these harmful chemicals in consumer products.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 249

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 249 without my signature.

This bill would require community water systems serving schoolsites with buildings constructed before January 1, 2010, to test for lead at each of those schoolsites' potable water system outlets. It also establishes notification and remediation requirements for local educational agencies if testing results show certain lead levels for any outlet and requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to collect, track, and publicly post certain compliance data, and enforce this bill's provisions.

Minimizing childhood exposure to lead in drinking water is a critical issue. While I support the author's commitment to ensure safe drinking water in schools, this bill contains several problematic provisions and cannot be implemented as drafted. The bill constitutes an entirely new enforcement role for the State Water Board, requires the creation of a costly database for tracking compliance and enforcement, and contains an infeasible implementation timeline.

Although some funding was included in the 2023 budget for testing and remediation, the bill lacks key provisions for efficiently administering the funding and is inadequate to cover the full cost of implementation. Additionally, this bill creates a reimbursable state mandate with ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund costs that could range into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 273

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 273 without my signature.

This bill would establish additional requirements for social workers, probation officers, and juvenile courts when a child or non-minor dependent (NMD) is missing from foster care, including immediate notification requirements, hearing timelines, and due diligence reporting deadlines.

Locating missing children in foster care is a time-sensitive and critical undertaking for the safety and well-being of the child. More can always be done to protect this vulnerable population, which is why I am directing the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to work with county partners to assess existing protocols and identify any needed improvements. With that information, CDSS will work with the author and stakeholders to inform additional guidance, training, or recommend statutory changes to protect all foster youth, especially tribal youth.

This bill, however, would result in estimated ongoing costs of \$10 million General Fund to support the administrative workload for counties, automation costs, and additional workload for the courts, funding not contemplated in the annual budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 304

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 304 without my signature.

This bill transfers responsibility for approving and overseeing batterer's intervention programs from county probation departments to the Department of Justice. This bill also requires the Judicial Council to make changes to judicial training programs on domestic violence.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 376

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 376 without my signature.

This bill would establish a pilot program available until January 1, 2028, for the purpose of expanding Cal Grant C eligibility to students participating in entry-level truck driving programs that meet specific requirements. This bill also requires the California Student Aid Commission, in consultation with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, to submit a report to the Legislature, by April 1, 2027, about the pilot program.

I thank the author for his commitment to address the driver shortage in the trucking industry. However, this bill results in significant General Fund cost pressures and staff workload that are not currently part of the state's fiscal plan and are more appropriately addressed in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 384

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 384 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Education to conduct a research study by January 1, 2026, on recommended indoor air temperature ranges and temperature control standards for public K–12 schools and compile a statewide inventory of heating and cooling systems based on a representative sample. The results of the research study would then be used to develop policy recommendations by January 1, 2027, for safe indoor air temperature standards for public K–12 school facilities.

While I appreciate the author's goal of supporting access to indoor temperatures most conducive to student learning, this bill creates significant long-term cost pressures that are not accounted for in the budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 407

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 407 without my signature.

This bill would exempt used oil from state regulation as a hazardous waste if it meets the testing, certification, and record-keeping requirements for highly controlled used oil.

Despite meeting certain purity standards, highly controlled used oil is still a hazardous material requiring oversight to mitigate public health and environmental concerns. While I appreciate the author's intent to provide used oil generators with alternative pathways to more sustainable recycling options, this bill undermines the ability of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to investigate and prove violations of improper used oil management practices.

I encourage the author to work with the DTSC to develop strategies to achieve recyclability of used oil that are consistent with state health and environmental standards.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 448

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 448 without my signature.

This bill would require a social worker to conduct a family-finding investigation to identify and locate adult relatives within 30 days after a child has been taken into temporary custody and would make changes to reporting and documentation requirements for social workers and probation officers.

My Administration recognizes the value of keeping children connected to their biological and extended families. Children placed with family members have greater placement stability, fewer emotional and behavioral problems, and more connection to their social-cultural communities. Existing law already requires that, if a child is removed from their home, the social worker or probation officer must, within 30 days, investigate to identify adult relatives of the child.

Last year's Budget Act allocated \$150 million General Fund for the Excellence in Family Finding, Engagement, and Support Program, which supports culturally responsive, family-centered, and trauma-informed family-finding and engagement services that focus on maintaining permanent connections for foster children with their family members. The new documentation requirements in this bill would result in ongoing General Fund costs of over \$6 million to support the increased administrative workload for county child welfare agencies and county probation departments. Though this policy has merit, its costs must be considered as part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 464

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 464 without my signature.

This bill, contingent on appropriation, would provide beneficiaries of specified public assistance programs with the opportunity to receive birth certificates, marriage certificates, and marriage dissolution records at no cost. Additionally, this bill, beginning July 1, 2027, requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide driver's licenses free of charge to individuals who are homeless.

I appreciate the author's efforts to provide free driver's licenses to homeless individuals and no-cost vital records for beneficiaries of government assistance programs; however, this bill would result in tens of millions of dollars in ongoing costs not contemplated in the budget. Additionally, provisions of this bill are similar to AB 2510, which I vetoed last year due to budget impacts. As stated in that message, I believe there are more efficient ways of assisting this population, and I look forward to working with the Legislature on this important issue.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 474

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 474 without my signature.

This bill would require the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) to prioritize, to the greatest extent possible, cooperation with state and local efforts to illuminate, disrupt, degrade, and dismantle Transnational Criminal Organizations trafficking opioid drugs that pose a threat to California.

Tackling opioid trafficking by Transnational Criminal Organizations is a priority for my Administration, evidenced by our 2023 Master Plan for Tackling the Fentanyl and Opioid Crisis. We have invested over \$1 billion to help stop opioid trafficking and enforce the law, combat overdoses, support those with opioid use disorder, and raise awareness about the dangers of opioids.

The STAC currently has the authority to address and prioritize opioid trafficking, and it already does. Furthermore, the threats facing California are constantly evolving, and law enforcement agencies need flexibility to shift priorities to meet this ever-changing threat landscape. This bill would limit this flexibility, with a detrimental impact on public safety and national security.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 524

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 524 without my signature.

This bill would add “family caregiver status” as a characteristic protected under the Fair Employment and Housing Act’s employment provisions.

During my tenure as Governor I have consistently advanced policies to help parents and families, including expanding paid family leave and increasing the state’s investment in childcare. While I appreciate the intent of this bill, I am concerned about the large burden it will place on employers, particularly small businesses, especially given the ambiguous nature of the language.

Although the bill does not require employers to provide “special accommodations” based on “family caregiver status,” it is not clear what types of acts would constitute unlawful discrimination and what types of acts would be lawful denials of “special accommodations.” Given this ambiguity, this bill would be difficult to implement and lead to costly litigation for employers in California.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 575

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 575 without my signature.

This bill would expand eligibility for Paid Family Leave (PFL) benefits to include workers who take time off from work to bond with a child for whom they are acting in loco parentis. The bill also removes the restriction that only one family member at a time is allowed to access PFL benefits and also removes the provision that allows an employer to require an employee to use up to two weeks of vacation time before they can access PFL benefits.

I am a strong advocate for and believe in supporting individuals to care for family members or bond with a new child and have worked to expand access to the Disability Insurance (DI) and PFL programs. In 2019, I signed SB 83 which extended the maximum duration of PFL benefits from six to eight weeks. And in 2022, I signed SB 951, which, beginning in 2025, will permanently increase the wage replacement rate for these programs to 70–90 percent based on the individual's wages. This is significant progress, and I am proud of the advancements we have made in collaboration with the Legislature. This bill, however, would create pressure on the DI Trust Fund's solvency and adequacy resulting in higher disability contributions paid by employees. In addition, it contains implementation costs not accounted for in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined in considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 603

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 603 without my signature.

This bill would require the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges and the California State University Trustees, and requests the University of California Regents, to publish a report on the diversity of the student body and the governing board of their respective segments, on or before July 1 of each year.

I share the author's commitment to, and take great pride in, the diversity of California's public higher education systems. My Administration has demonstrated this commitment by making appointments at every level of government, including at the three segments, that reflect both California's diversity and the diversity of the student body. While I understand the author's goal, the demographic information regarding the governing board members is optional and self-reported. Additionally, all three segments provide demographic information on their student bodies and biographies of their governing board members, which are easily accessible on their websites.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 695

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 695 without my signature.

This bill creates, upon appropriation, the Juvenile Detention Facilities Improvement Grant Program, to be administered by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration, to provide grants to a county of the first class (counties containing a population of 4,000,000) to address the infrastructure needs of the state's detained and supervised youth in the county.

New grant programs such as the program proposed in this bill must be considered and evaluated in the annual budget process in the context of all state funding priorities.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 727

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 727 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit, by 2026, the manufacture, distribution, or sale of cleaning products that contain intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and would apply this ban, by 2028, to floor sealer or floor finish products.

This is one of three single-product chemical bans passed by the Legislature this year that attempt to address serious concerns with the presence of PFAS in consumer products. These bills do not identify or require any regulatory agency to determine compliance with, or enforce, the proposed statute.

While I strongly support the author's intent and have signed similar legislation in the past, I am concerned this bill falls short of providing enhanced protection to California consumers due to lack of regulatory oversight. Previously enacted single-product chemical bans, which also lack oversight, are proving challenging to implement, with inconsistent interpretations and confusion among manufacturers about how to comply with the restrictions.

In order to instill consumer confidence and effectively address public health and environmental concerns, I am directing the Department of Toxic Substances Control to engage with the author and the Legislature and consider alternative approaches to regulating the use of these harmful chemicals in consumer products.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 733

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 733 without my signature.

This bill would, beginning January 1, 2025, prohibit public agencies from selling firearms, ammunition, or body armor. This bill contains exemptions to the general prohibition, including an exemption to allow law enforcement agencies to resell firearms to a licensed firearms dealer who contractually agrees to resell only to a law enforcement agency.

While I applaud the author for efforts to curb gun violence, I am concerned about the cost implications of this legislation. Law enforcement agencies, both local and state, oftentimes sell their firearms to a dealer when they upgrade. I am concerned that this bill, which limits these sales to a dealer who contractually agrees to resell only to a law enforcement agency, will restrict the ability to trade in these firearms and will cost law enforcement agencies across the state millions of dollars at a time when resources are limited, and staffing is low.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 746

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 746 without my signature.

This bill would modify eligibility for the Learning-Aligned Employment Program to remove specific restrictions on students working for public postsecondary educational institutions.

The Learning-Aligned Employment Program was established in 2021 to offer eligible students at public institutions of higher education the opportunity to defray the cost of attendance while gaining education-aligned, career-related employment outside the classroom. It is a priority of my Administration to increase the connectivity between students and career experiences in placements beyond the confines of their college campus. With \$500 million committed to this program, it is an essential tool for increasing student awareness of career opportunities as well as developing skills for future career success. The provisions of this bill undermine the intent and purpose of the Learning-Aligned Employment Program.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 748

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 748 without my signature.

This bill would establish the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program and a multi-agency task force to identify, prioritize, and fund the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels across the state.

While I support the author's attempt to create a statewide approach to address abandoned and derelict commercial vessels in California that pose significant public health, safety, and environmental risks, this program was not accounted for in the 2023 Budget Act. Implementation across the relevant agencies is expected to cost about \$7.5 million in year 1 with ongoing General Fund impacts.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 753

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 753 without my signature.

This bill establishes a new state fund for water quality projects with a focus on providing greenspace within disadvantaged communities and requires forty percent of annual revenue be taken from the Cleanup and Abatement Fund within the State Water Resources Control Board to fund these projects.

While I appreciate the author's intent to improve clean up of local waterways in disadvantaged communities, this bill reallocates revenue from an oversubscribed fund that is utilized to clean up waste, abate the effects of waste on waters of the state, and address urgent drinking water needs. This funding represents a critical need and we cannot afford to redirect it to a new account.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 811

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 811 without my signature.

This bill authorizes a student to repeat, up to two times, a credit course at a California Community College in arts, humanities, kinesiology, foreign languages, and English as a second language, if the student previously received a satisfactory grade and is taking the course for enrichment or skill-building purposes.

In recent years, the California Community Colleges (CCC) have been intently focused on improving student success, reducing excess course units and improving transfer rates. While one of the main goals of this bill is help increase enrollment at the CCC, it also creates a fiscal incentive for community colleges to encourage repeating certain credit courses contrary to the Vision for Success, the Roadmap for the California Community Colleges and key legislative efforts, such as AB 705 (Irwin, 2017). My Administration continues to be committed to working with the Legislature, the CCC and stakeholders to find other ways to increase enrollment at the CCC. But this bill moves us away from our shared, stated goals.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 819

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 819 without my signature.

This bill would provide that a third or subsequent fare evasion violation is no longer a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in county jail for a period of not more than 90 days and make it a fine of not more than \$400.

Fare evasion continues to be an issue for transit operators across the state, costing them tens of millions of dollars a year. According to one operator, the bulk of the crimes committed in their system are committed by people who have not paid a fare. I cannot take an action to reduce penalties on fare evasion that could, in turn, contribute to an increase in crime on transit.

Given this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 825

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 825 without my signature.

This bill, with limited exceptions, would prohibit local jurisdictions from banning bicycling on sidewalks located adjacent to streets and roads without bike lanes, until January 1, 2031.

I appreciate the author's commitment to address bicycle safety and enforcement issues; however, the approach in this bill would create serious safety issues—both for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Most sidewalks are not designed for bicyclists to safely use them, and riding on sidewalks would significantly increase the risk of collisions with pedestrians.

Under my Administration, investments to fix and build safe and connected bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure on and across state highways has quadrupled, and Caltrans is planning for even greater levels of investments using historic federal funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

In addition, the state budget recently included investments in the Active Transportation Program (ATP) with an infusion of \$1 billion above and beyond the ongoing funding available for this important program. In its administration of the ATP, the California Transportation Commission has overwhelmingly focused investments to improve biking and walking in disadvantaged communities.

Increasing the vulnerability of pedestrians is not a solution to addressing the safety needs of bicyclists. We need to continue our efforts to deliver the necessary infrastructure in all of our communities for safe bicycle and pedestrian travel.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 843

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 843 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to promptly reimburse any benefits issued via the electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system when electronically stolen or lost, including cash and food benefits.

I appreciate the author's desire to remedy lost EBT cards, as these supports are important resources for the people that receive them. As such, CDSS has been working with counties since 2021 to implement policies to replace electronically stolen CalFresh benefits, and the department has taken several measures to prevent theft in the future. CDSS partners with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to conduct investigations against EBT fraud, blocks early morning and out-of-state ATM withdrawals unless requested, and provides client educational materials informing of the risks of electronic theft and prevention measures. Further, CDSS is launching the ebtEDGE mobile app this year, so cardholders can freeze their card, reset their PIN, and request a new card easily, and additionally will be replacing EBT cards with Chip EMV/Tap cards beginning May 2024.

This bill, however, would create a new mandate for CDSS to reimburse a wider scope of benefits beyond CalFresh, resulting in significant General Fund costs in the tens of millions annually that are not included in the state's budget. Additionally, this bill may create a state-reimbursable mandate for county welfare departments because it requires a higher level of service.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 859

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 859 without my signature.

This bill would modify existing law that prohibits the use of temporarily inundated lands for hunting without written permission to instead authorize the use of temporarily inundated navigable waters for hunting.

I support the intent of this bill to clarify the public's right to navigate temporarily inundated waterways for fishing, hunting, or other enjoyment, as guaranteed by the California Constitution. However, this bill contains overly broad language that could extend access rights beyond the public trust doctrine, thus impacting private property owners' rights. The bill also creates inconsistency with the definition of navigable waters in the Harbors and Navigation Code, which is likely to result in confusion in communities across California. I encourage the Legislature to refine these revisions in subsequent legislation.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 875

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 875 without my signature.

This bill would, beginning January 1, 2025, require courts to report data to the Judicial Council related to unlawful detainer cases and COVID-19 rental debt in Small Claims Court.

I appreciate the author's long-standing commitment to increasing access and transparency in the justice system. That said, this bill could cost the state millions of dollars and must be considered as part of the annual budget process. In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 962

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 962 without my signature.

This bill, beginning January 1, 2027, would lower by two dollars the California Consumer Price Index-adjusted fee for reduced-fee identification cards.

While I appreciate the author's efforts to provide financial relief for low-income Californians, this bill creates new additional cost pressures on the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA), which is facing insolvency. Any proposals that increase expenditures or reduce revenues will exacerbate fiscal pressures on the fund and must be considered in the annual budget process in the context of all priorities to be paid from the MVA.

In addition, seniors over the age of 62 and persons who are homeless can already obtain an identification card at no cost. Individuals who meet the income requirements for certain public benefits are eligible for a reduced fee of \$10. Because identification cards are valid for six years, the reduction proposed in this bill represents a \$0.33 savings per year per eligible customer. There may be more effective ways of providing relief to low-income Californians without negatively impacting the condition of the Motor Vehicle Account.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1002

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1002 without my signature.

This bill, beginning with the 2026 tax year, would require the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to develop a form that qualified individuals can use in lieu of a tax return to claim the California Earned Income Tax Credit, the Young Child Tax Credit, and the Foster Youth Tax Credit. This bill would allow the Department of Social Services and Department of Health Care Services to exchange data with the FTB for purposes of implementing the form.

While I appreciate the author's goal to increase utilization of these credits by eligible individuals, creating a separate form to claim tax credits may create confusion for taxpayers and result in them not claiming other tax credits that they are entitled to under the tax system, including federal tax credits. Further, implementation of this bill would result in ongoing General Fund costs in the millions of dollars not contemplated in the budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1057

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1057 without my signature.

This bill would codify the existing California Home Visiting Program (CHVP) and require the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to allocate funds to participating Local Health Departments to implement the CHVP using any federally approved home visiting model. CDPH would be required to submit a report to the Legislature every two years on performance outcomes.

I support the author's goal to improve maternal, child, and infant health outcomes, and cultivate strong families and communities. For this reason, I am instructing CDPH to ensure there is collaboration with home visiting partners, local health directors, local health officers, and other affected stakeholders to meet local CHVP needs. However, this bill creates new General Fund costs that are not included in the budget, as well as cost pressures if the CHVP approves additional home visiting models outside of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians.

This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1063

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1063 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to annually review its enforcement of hospital nurse-to-patient ratio regulations and submit a public report with its findings to the Legislature beginning January 1, 2025. The bill would also require CDPH to hold a public hearing at least every two years to receive input from nurses and other stakeholders regarding the efficacy of the department's enforcement.

I agree it is important to ensure nurse-to-patient staffing ratios are enforced properly for patient safety and maintaining the nursing workforce. However, much of the information this bill seeks to document is already publicly available. Further, this Administration prioritizes ongoing and open engagement with stakeholders. A biennial, public hearing is unnecessary for the state to receive input and make changes. I am directing CDPH to continue actively consulting with nurses and their representative labor groups to identify additional opportunities to increase transparency and communication. Further, I have asked CDPH to update their hospital citations tracking system to include a category specific to nurse-to-patient ratio violations, and to publish this on the Center for Health Care Quality's State Enforcement Tracking Dashboard.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1202

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1202 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to prepare a public report including information on each Medi-Cal managed care plan's network adequacy of pediatric primary care, data on beneficiaries, and reporting on DHCS' efforts to improve access.

I am a proponent of transparency; however, this bill's data collection and reporting requirements are largely duplicative of existing efforts. DHCS currently publicly reports on managed care and fee for service adequacy. Each year, DHCS also publishes a Health Disparities Report. Further, DHCS is currently developing the CalAIM dashboard, which will include additional data that aligns with what this bill calls for. The existing data that is available should be evaluated and leveraged before adding new administrative requirements.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1213

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1213 without my signature.

This bill would provide, until January 1, 2027, that when a utilization review (UR) denial of treatment is overturned by independent medical review (IMR) or by the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board, any temporary disability (TD) payments received during this period would not be included in the maximum aggregate calculation of TD payments.

While I understand the goal of the author and sponsor, there is a lack of data to support such a change. Under the existing workers' compensation system, employers are required to establish a UR process to evaluate the necessity and appropriateness of requested medical treatments. This process is in place to ensure that employees receive the appropriate evidence-based medical care.

Realigning incentives is an important policy tool to deliver on our shared goal of returning injured workers back to work. Such realignment should be done cautiously to avoid further friction in the system that frustrates the objective of providing timely treatment, prompt payment of benefits and returning injured workers back to work. Unfortunately, this bill does not strike the right balance.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1288

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1288 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit health plans from requiring prior authorization or step therapy for a naloxone product or other opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), buprenorphine product, methadone, or long-acting injectable naltrexone for detoxification or treatment of a substance use disorder.

I appreciate the author's intent to increase access to medication for opioid use disorder. My Administration takes the opioid crisis seriously, as evidenced by the over \$1 billion invested to combat overdoses, support those with opioid use disorder, raise awareness, and crack down on trafficking. However, utilization review is an important tool to contain health care costs, protect patients from unanticipated billing, and ensure medically necessary care. While immediacy of treatment is important, prior authorization also helps avoid fraudulent requests or abuse of the drugs addressed in this bill, such as methadone.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1356

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1356 without my signature.

This bill would amend the California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Act (Cal/WARN) to, among other things, increase the amount of notice that an employer must provide before a mass layoff, termination, or relocation from 60 days to 75 days; expand the law's coverage to include contract workers among the employees that an employer must notify; and significantly revise the definition of "covered establishment" to include a single location or a group of locations, including any facilities located in California.

The inclusion of employees of labor contractors, while laudable in its intent, risks imposing liability on client employers who cannot reasonably be expected to know whether their actions will cause job loss for employees of their subcontractors and may not have the information necessary to provide the required notice.

In addition, the bill expands the definition of "covered establishment" to include a group of locations anywhere in the state and subjects chain businesses, such as restaurants, to the law's requirements even where layoffs are unrelated and occur in geographically disparate regions of the state. It is not clear that this change is consistent with the purpose of Cal/WARN to protect local communities and enable a rapid response to a potential shock to a local economy and workforce.

I urge the author to work with my Administration to develop solutions that may better address the problem, while fulfilling the objectives of Cal/WARN.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1423

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1423 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit, by 2026, a person, public entity, or educational institution from purchasing or installing artificial turf that contains intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at a certain concentration level.

This is one of three single-product chemical bans passed by the Legislature this year that attempt to address serious concerns with the presence of PFAS in consumer products. These bills do not identify or require any regulatory agency to determine compliance with, or enforce, the proposed statute.

While I strongly support the author's intent and have signed similar legislation in the past, I am concerned that this bill falls short of providing enhanced protection to California consumers due to lack of regulatory oversight. Previously enacted single-product chemical bans, which also lack oversight, are proving challenging to implement, with inconsistent interpretations and confusion among manufacturers about how to comply with the restrictions.

In order to instill consumer confidence and effectively address public health and environmental concerns, I am directing the Department of Toxic Substances Control to engage with the author and the Legislature and consider alternative approaches to regulating the use of these harmful chemicals in consumer products.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1435

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1435 without my signature.

This bill would, until January 1, 2027, raise the maximum age of a person who may qualify for appointment to the position of entry level peace officer in the California Highway Patrol (CHP) from 35 to 40 years.

While I appreciate that this bill is intended to help with the recruitment of CHP officers, this bill is not needed at this time. CHP has already taken steps to increase its number of applicants and cadets. As a result of current efforts, CHP is on track to double the number of cadets attending its academy this year compared to last year.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

I am, however, directing CHP to evaluate raising the maximum age for appointment to an entry-level peace officer position at CHP, and whether such a policy could enhance the effectiveness of their recruitment efforts. If they determine that increasing the maximum age would be beneficial to the CHP, my Administration will work with the Legislature to advance legislation.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1437

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1437 without my signature.

This bill would require the Medi-Cal program to automatically approve any prescription refill for serious mental illness (SMI) for a period of 365 days after the initial prescription is dispensed for a beneficiary 18 years or older.

I appreciate the author's intent to increase Medi-Cal beneficiaries' access and adherence to SMI drugs. However, this approach does not address the underlying obstacles with medication adherence and would remove clinical safeguards. Currently most medications used for an SMI are covered without prior authorization, and if prior authorization is needed, DHCS provides a response within 24 hours and allows emergency coverage of a drug up to 14 days. In instances where prior authorization is required, it is in place for patient safety. Maintaining utilization control is important to contain health care costs, protect patients, and ensure medically necessary care.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1479

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1479 without my signature.

The bill, contingent upon an appropriation, establishes the Pupil Social-Emotional, Behavioral, and Mental Health Program to be administered by the Department of Education. The Program seeks to provide grants to eligible local educational agencies to deliver evidence-based social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health supports to students and families.

Unfortunately, this specific proposal creates additional significant ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures up to tens of millions of dollars that are not accounted for in the state budget plan and may be duplicative of other investments made in prior budgets. The 2021 Budget Act provided \$50 million to support the Scale Up Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Statewide Initiative, which provides grants to support schools in implementing services or practices aligned to the MTSS framework. Additionally, the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative is a \$4.7 billion investment towards ensuring that every Californian aged 0–25 has increased access to behavioral health supports.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1489

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1489 without my signature.

This bill would specify that compostable covered materials are not subject to the source reduction requirements of the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54), thereby exempting compostable plastics.

Last year, I signed SB 54 (Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022), which established a comprehensive regulatory framework and the nation’s most ambitious goals to reduce single-use plastic in this state. It also set aggressive timelines for the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to implement a new and complex program.

While I appreciate the author’s intent to support compostable materials, the changes proposed by this bill will interfere with CalRecycle’s ability to meet its statutory obligations to adopt regulations by January 1, 2025, as set by the Legislature. I encourage the author and stakeholders to work with CalRecycle on the issue this bill seeks to address in the regulatory process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1512

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1512 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to take additional actions relating to foster youth eligibility for all federal Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits and would prohibit using a child's benefits to pay for any costs of the child's care.

I share the author's commitment to ensure that foster youth receive the benefits and support services they need. However, this bill creates implementation challenges that should be considered as part of the annual budget process. Both Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and foster care benefits are intended to provide for the daily care and supervision of youth, including costs for housing and food. If counties are not permitted to use SSI to cover the cost of providing care to foster youth, the General Fund will need to offset those costs. This was not contemplated as part of the budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1593

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1593 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Equitable Access Program, which would prioritize employment opportunities for local residents in the Salton Sea geothermal resources area in construction, manufacturing, technical, maintenance, operations, or reclamation activities.

I strongly support efforts to enhance employment opportunities in communities with high unemployment and historic underinvestment. My administration has already awarded \$750,000 in grants to the Lithium Valley High Road Partnership and the Imperial Valley Lithium Stakeholder Working Group to support the creation of good, high paying jobs for underserved Californians. These partnerships were created and are led by local stakeholders and are focused on economic development and job creation related to Lithium Valley. Provisions of this bill are duplicative of work already underway and, until this foundational work is complete, additional monitoring and tracking requirements are premature.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1612

Governor’s Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1612 without my signature.

This bill would authorize a licensed primary care clinic to construct or acquire certain primary care clinic facilities and deem those new facilities to be in compliance with the minimum construction standards of adequacy and safety.

I support the author’s goal to encourage expansion of primary care clinics to increase their capacity to provide care. However, this bill removes important health and safety protections for patients, clinic staff, and the public. Every primary care clinic, regardless of location, should meet the applicable state licensing standards and building codes. This bill exempts certain facilities from those safety measures.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1614

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1614 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Energy Commission (CEC), in consultation with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, to conduct a study on the statewide transition of fuel stations from gasoline to alternative fuels.

This bill will result in additional costs to the General Fund and the CEC's primary operating fund, which is currently facing an ongoing structural deficit. This bill exacerbates the CEC's operating funds structural imbalance. Additionally, many provisions of this bill are duplicative of existing law, which requires the CEC, in consultation with various state entities, to prepare a transportation fuels transition plan by December 31, 2024.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 1741

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1741 without my signature.

This bill would revise training requirements for unlicensed laboratory personnel, change the scope of work authorized, and clarify the level of supervision required.

While I appreciate the author's intent to address the licensed workforce shortage in labs and improve testing capacity, this bill contains a provision that could enable unlicensed laboratory personnel to perform tasks that exceed their level of training, posing a danger to the health and safety of Californians. As a result, this bill could conflict with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act, a federal law that prohibits individuals who do not meet the specified education and training requirements from performing any aspect of the analytical phase of testing.

I encourage the author and stakeholders to work with the Department of Public Health on a solution that ensures that personnel performing specified testing have the skills necessary to reliably receive accurate results.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 8th day of October, 2023, at 10:24 p.m., of the following Assembly bills without the Governor's signature, together with statements of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bills Nos. 37, 41, 246, 249, 273, 304, 376, 384, 407, 448, 464, 474, 524, 575, 603, 695, 727, 733, 746, 748, 753, 811, 819, 825, 843, 859, 875, 962, 1002, 1057, 1063, 1202, 1213, 1288, 1356, 1423, 1435, 1437, 1479, 1489, 1512, 1593, 1612, 1614, and 1741.

HUGH R. SLAYDEN

Assistant Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Veto Message—Assembly Bill No. 616

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 13, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 616 without my signature.

This bill would require the Office of Health Care Affordability (OHCA) and the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to publicly disclose audited financial reports and comprehensive financial statements of provider and physician organizations.

Just last year, the OHCA was established within the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to develop data-informed policies and to create a state strategy for controlling the costs of health care while ensuring affordability. The OHCA is authorized to receive financial information from the DMHC, with specific provisions regarding confidentiality and use.

While I support transparency, this policy is premature. Given the OHCA is in its initial stages of implementation, any additional requirements and associated impacts should be evaluated following full implementation of existing law.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Receipt of Bills

I acknowledge receipt this 13th day of October, 2023, at 7:18 p.m., of the following Assembly bill without the Governor's signature, together with a statement of his objections thereto, signed by the Governor, delivered to me personally by Jasmine Valle:

Assembly Bill No. 616.

SUE PARKER
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

The following messages from the Governor were received and ordered printed in the Journal:

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 418

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 418, which will prohibit any food product manufactured, sold, delivered, distributed, held, or offered for sale in California after January 1, 2027, from containing brominated vegetable oil, potassium bromate, propylparaben, or red dye 3.

Californians trust that the food products they consume are safe. I appreciate the author and stakeholders for working on amendments, which advance our shared public health objectives while maintaining consumer choice. The additives addressed in this bill are already banned in various other countries. Signing this into law is a positive step forward on these four food additives until the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reviews and establishes national updated safety levels for these additives.

There have been many misconceptions about this bill and its impacts. For example, attached to this message is a bag of the popular candy "Skittles," which became the face of this proposal. This particular bag of candy comes from the European Union—a place that already bans a number of chemical additives and colorants. This is demonstrable proof that the food industry is capable of maintaining product lines while complying with different public health laws, country-to-country.

Further, this bill's implementation is delayed until 2027—significant time for brands to revise their recipes to avoid these harmful chemicals. Californians will still be able to access and enjoy their favorite food products, with greater confidence in the safety of such products.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 665

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 665, which will allow youth 12 years of age or older to consent to mental health care services, whether covered by Medi-Cal or private health plans.

Youth ages 12 and older with private health insurance already have the right to consent to their own mental health services, but youth with Medi-Cal coverage do not. This bill extends that right so that minors in Medi-Cal may also consent to their mental health care services. This bill eliminates an eligibility disparity which places lower-income youth who do not have private health insurance at a disadvantage, improving access to lifesaving care for young people.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 1167

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 7, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1167, which creates a process requiring the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to approve transfers of marginal oil and gas wells only once the full cost of well plugging and abandonment and site restoration is covered by a bond or other financial assurance mechanisms.

I share the author's desire to minimize the risk that the state will be liable for costs of plugging and abandonment of orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells where operators failed to provide sufficient financial assurances. This bill helps achieve this objective. However, increasing the financial assurances required for oil and gas well transfers also potentially creates risk of current oil and gas well operators deserting these hazardous wells. I look forward to working with the Legislature to enact legislation to make any necessary revisions to address this risk and otherwise align this law with programs that the Department of Conservation's Geologic Energy Management Division is already developing to address orphaned and abandoned wells.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 363

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 363, which will require the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to evaluate the impacts of neonicotinoid pesticide use in nonagricultural settings and adopt control measures, as needed.

DPR's mission is to protect people and the environment from adverse impacts of pesticides by regulating their use and fostering reduced-risk pest management. DPR scientists have already evaluated neonicotinoid risks to pollinators in agricultural settings, and the department has adopted comprehensive regulations to reduce those risks.

AB 363 is consistent with proposed federal direction for certain neonicotinoid applications to be made by non-professional applicators and follows DPR's process for evaluating the impacts of broader neonicotinoid use in nonagricultural settings.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 579

Governor's Office, Sacramento

October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 579, which requires that, commencing January 1, 2035, all newly purchased or contracted school buses of a local educational agency (LEA) to be zero-emission. The bill also authorizes LEAs to request a one-time extension for up to five years if the LEA determines that the purchase or contracting of a zero-emission school bus is not feasible due to both terrain and route constraints and if certain conditions are met. The bill also authorizes extensions for frontier school districts through January 1, 2045, if certain conditions are met.

Signing this bill demonstrates our state's commitment to maintaining a healthy environment for our children through improved air quality. California is steadfast in supporting a smooth and successful transition to zero emissions vehicles, including school buses. Working with the Legislature, we have already invested \$800 million in zero-emission school buses and have committed an additional \$1 billion for this purpose. Technology for electric vehicles is advancing rapidly, leading to zero-emission school buses capable of accommodating longer routes. As the bill's January 1, 2035 implementation date approaches, I strongly encourage future legislatures and administrations to monitor zero-emission school bus technology improvements to ensure these vehicles meet the range needs of school districts and are affordably priced.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 590

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 590, which authorizes state agencies that administer grants to or contracts with nonprofit organizations to advance a payment of up to 25 percent of the total grant or contract amount awarded to the nonprofit organization, subject to specified eligibility, reporting and accounting requirements.

Last year, I signed AB 156, a budget trailer bill which authorized a pilot program for advanced payments similar to this bill for a limited number of entities and required the Department of Finance to report on the outcomes of this pilot by January 10, 2025. While I am signing this bill, I believe we should revisit this policy following the release of the report specified in AB 156, to ensure any necessary adjustments or safeguards identified by the report are enacted.

I am committed to expanding equitable access to state grants and contracts, and the utilization of advance payments is a strategy that may support various nonprofits working with disadvantaged, low-income, and under-resourced communities. However, a measured approach is key in the implementation of this bill. I look forward to working with the legislature and stakeholders on the implementation of this bill, as well as revisiting this issue for any subsequent changes deemed necessary following the release of the pilot program report.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 1194

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 8, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1194 because it will provide stronger privacy protections pursuant to the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), so that individuals searching for information related to contraception, pregnancy care, perinatal care, and abortion services will have their data protected. As access to abortions, contraception, and other essential health care services continues to be criminalized across the country, California will remain a leader in protecting women, their family and friends, and health care workers who seek or provide reproductive care.

I appreciate the author's work on this policy to protect reproductive privacy; however, a broad interpretation of the bill could result in unintended consequences regarding the application of the existing exemptions in the CCPA. Moving forward, I encourage the author and stakeholders to collaborate on any necessary clean-up policy to ensure an appropriate balance between protections and necessary exemptions.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 519

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 11, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 519.

This bill would create an Affordable Housing Finance Workgroup to propose the creation of a consolidated application for affordable housing developers to access state housing funding programs and a coordinated review process for applications.

I agree with the author's goal to streamline the current process and reduce costs to construct affordable housing, and I welcome meaningful conversation and legislation to further align programs administered by the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) and the Tax Credit Allocation Committee (TCAC) with efforts already underway.

While I am signing this bill into law, I am concerned that the process it creates has the potential to diverge from legislatively crafted, recently implemented efforts to improve California's affordable housing finance system. Specifically, our departments worked hard to roll out the recently created Super NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability), required by AB 434 which I was proud to sign in 2020. As a result of that smart reform, developers can now apply for seven different affordable housing programs at one time.

As the Legislature looks to further improve and consolidate our state's affordable housing finance system in accordance with the new work group created by this bill, I expect that any subsequent changes proposed by the Legislature will build on the efforts the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has undertaken to implement AB 434, rather conflicting or departing from the wise, legislatively directed reforms that we just implemented.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

Signing Message—Assembly Bill No. 812

Governor's Office, Sacramento
October 11, 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 812 which will allow a city or county with an inclusionary zoning policy to reserve up to ten percent of affordable units created pursuant to local inclusionary zoning ordinances for artists. Units reserved for artists will need to be located either in or within one-half mile of a state or locally designated cultural district.

Federal law recognizes the need for artist housing in affordable housing communities. I appreciate this bill requires consistency with the state's Local Tenant Preferences to Prevent Displacement Act, legislation I signed last year, which also requires compliance with fair housing laws.

While I am signing this bill, a sufficient framework exists under both state and federal law for jurisdictions to adopt local tenant preference policies tailored to their communities. In the future, I will be disinclined to sign bills that provide statutory carve outs for specific professions that can already be addressed through existing law.

Sincerely,

GAVIN NEWSOM

ROBERT RIVAS, Speaker

DANIEL ALVAREZ, Assistant Minute Clerk

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1677	Veto	3681
1726	Veto	3682
37	Veto	3683
41	Veto	3683
246	Veto	3684
249	Veto	3685
273	Veto	3686
304	Veto	3687
376	Veto	3688
384	Veto	3689
407	Veto	3690
448	Veto	3691
464	Veto	3692
474	Veto	3693
524	Veto	3693
575	Veto	3694

603	Veto	3695
695	Veto	3695
727	Veto	3696
733	Veto	3696
746	Veto	3697
748	Veto	3697
753	Veto	3698
811	Veto	3698
819	Veto	3699
825	Veto	3699
843	Veto	3700
859	Veto	3701
875	Veto	3701
962	Veto	3702
1002	Veto	3703
1057	Veto	3704
1063	Veto	3705
1202	Veto	3705
1213	Veto	3706
1288	Veto	3706
1356	Veto	3707
1423	Veto	3708
1435	Veto	3709
1437	Veto	3709
1479	Veto	3710
1489	Veto	3711
1512	Veto	3712
1593	Veto	3713
1612	Veto	3713
1614	Veto	3714
1741	Veto	3715
616	Veto	3716
418	Signing	3717
665	Signing	3717
1167	Signing	3718
363	Signing	3718
579	Signing	3719
590	Signing	3720
1194	Signing	3720
519	Signing	3721
812	Signing	3722