



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1153 without my signature.

This bill requires community college districts to provide annual training for employees who are mandated reporters on required responsibilities under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act. This bill also requires community college districts to identify enrolled minors and provide this information to the district's mandated reporters, and to pay for the costs of the required training.

While this bill is laudable, the law already requires postsecondary educational institutions, including community colleges, to inform employees of their responsibilities as mandated reporters and to obtain a signed statement from that employee acknowledging their responsibilities. The California Department of Social Services also already provides extensive and free resources for mandated reporters. Moreover, the bill creates a potentially reimbursable state mandate with ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund costs in the millions of dollars. Therefore, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom