



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 130 without my signature.

This bill establishes the Higher Education Performance, Accountability, and Coordination Commission as an independent state agency tasked with statewide postsecondary education oversight, coordination, and planning.

I have long been concerned that our state's higher education systems operate in silos to the detriment of our state's long-term educational and economic health. California must set statewide goals in the areas of access, affordability and success in higher education. To that end, I launched the Governor's Council for Post-Secondary Education to encourage collaboration between systems and to make recommendations to the administration in an advisory capacity. The Council is charged with examining issues relating to future capacity, enrollment, planning, community college transfers, and general education and coordination at the state and regional levels.

Additionally, the 2019-2020 budget included funds to begin the work of building a longitudinal data system to better track student outcomes and increase the alignment of our educational system to the state's workforce needs.

While the intention of this bill is laudable, it is premature to launch a new state body with these aforementioned efforts underway.

Sincerely,

  
Gavin Newsom