



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 11 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1407 without my signature.

This bill would impose a mandatory 30-day impound penalty for a vehicle used in connection with reckless driving or street racing on a second or subsequent conviction.

Under current law, a conviction for reckless driving is punishable by a total fine of between \$684 and \$4,175 and possible jail time of between 5 and 90 days. A conviction for engaging in a first offense speed contest is punishable by a total fine of between \$1,551 and \$4,175, jail time between 1 and 90 days, 40 hours of community service and potential driver's license suspension between 90 days and 6 months. Subsequent convictions have even stronger penalties.

Courts currently have the authority to impound vehicles based on the totality of facts and circumstances of each case. This bill reduces the courts' discretion in deciding to impound a vehicle, as well as the length of time the vehicle is impounded.

I am not persuaded that limiting judicial discretion for these cases is warranted.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom