



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 344 without my signature.

This bill establishes the New Beginning California Program within the Department of Community Services and Development, which would provide a maximum of 50 grants annually to award matching funds of up to \$50,000 to cities, counties, and local continuum of care programs to implement or expand employment programs for homeless individuals.

While the intent of this measure is laudable, it creates General Fund cost pressures and should be considered in the annual budget process. Moreover, the 2019 Budget Act includes \$650 million for local jurisdictions to combat homelessness, of which employment programs are an eligible use.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Gavin Newsom

