



OCT 12 2019

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 624 without my signature.

This bill requires public schools serving students in grades 7 to 12 and public and private nonsectarian universities that issue identification cards to print the National Sexual Assault Hotline telephone number on the issued cards. It also requires some schools and universities to print the number for a local resource that provides sexual and reproductive health care information consistent with the requirements of the California Healthy Youth Act.

I signed Senate Bill 316 (Chapter 270, Statutes of 2019), which requires schools to list the National Domestic Violence Hotline on student identification cards because I support giving teens and young adults access to resources not readily available in school.

I do not support, however, burdening schools with the job of investigating local reproductive health agencies as the bill would require. There are many agencies across this state that refuse to give women information about all of their reproductive health care options, and I am not persuaded that schools have the appropriate expertise to decide which of these organizations they should direct their students to. Furthermore, I believe the time and money that would be spent on this activity would be better used improving teaching and learning as well as meeting the existing requirements of the California Healthy Youth Act.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

