



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 296 without my signature.

This bill expands Cal Grant program eligibility to include specified students who have filed an application for asylum and meet other requirements, including all other Cal Grant program eligibility requirements.

California has progressively expanded access to financial aid and non-resident tuition for immigrant and refugee students, including in the 2019 Budget Act. This year's budget also invests in legal supports and shelter funding to assist asylum seekers, including a family reunification pilot.

This proposal would impose costs on the General Fund that must be weighed in the annual budget process.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

