



OCT 12 2019

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 695 without my signature.

This bill requires a local educational agency (LEA), upon a parent's request, to translate a student's individualized education plan (IEP) and other related documents to the native language of the parent within 30 calendar days of the IEP team meeting.

Current law already requires that non-English speaking parents and guardians understand their child's IEP, and LEAs must take any action needed to ensure that pupil's non-English speaking parent understands the IEP process and LEAs must also provide any materials used to assess or place a student with exceptional needs in the parent's native language.

By establishing more prescriptive requirements, particularly specifying a 30-day timeline within which those documents must be translated, the bill would exceed the requirements of federal law (the Individuals with Disabilities Act), thereby creating a costly reimbursable state mandate that will reduce funding available to support broader educational programs for these students.

If a California school district's practices of providing translation services are inadequate, avenues already exist to remedy these problems.

For these reasons, I cannot support this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom