



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 30 2020

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1299 without my signature.

This bill would require an agency that employs specified peace officers to provide a notification to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) when a peace officer is terminated, or if an officer leaves the agency with a complaint, charge, or investigation of a serious nature. This bill would also require said agency to complete the investigation as specified, within one year, and notify POST of its findings. The bill would require POST to make that information available to any law enforcement agency conducting a preemployment background investigation of the subject of the profile.

I agree with the intent of this legislation— officers with a history of misconduct should not be able to resign in lieu of termination and simply move to a different department without a completed investigation or file of misconduct. But this bill does not go far enough. I am concerned this bill will slow momentum for broader decertification measures in future legislative sessions. The Legislature has signaled that it will continue its work on decertification, and I support the development of legislation with a broader approach.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

