



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 28 2020

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2046 without my signature.

This bill seeks to limit the amount of child support arrears that may be garnished via an income withholding order from a low-income disabled veteran to no more than five percent of their monthly Veterans Administration (VA) disability payments.

While the intent of this bill is laudable, I am concerned that there is confusion about if and when VA disability benefits can be garnished and that adding a new state law will only increase that confusion. Federal law currently prohibits VA disability payments from several types of garnishment, including for child support enforcement, and we comply with federal law. Given this confusion, I am directing the Department of Child Support Services to make information about the existing federal law available on its website.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sharp, vertical strokes and a long horizontal line at the bottom.
Gavin Newsom

