



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2021

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1487 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Homelessness Prevention Fund, administered by the State Bar, to support a grant-based program to provide education and legal aid services to prevent eviction and avoid housing displacement.

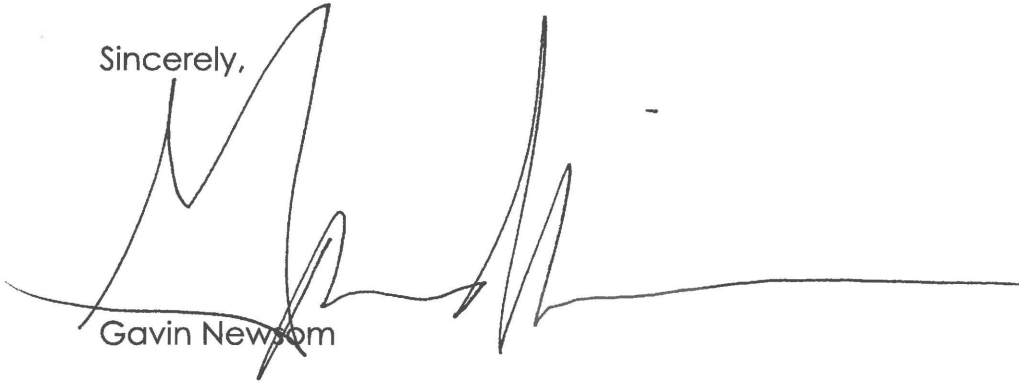
Since 2019, we have made \$131 million available for tenant legal aid, including an \$80 million appropriation earlier this summer. These critical funds provide legal assistance grants to legal services and self-help organizations statewide to prevent foreclosures and evictions. This money is being put to work in communities right now.

I agree with the intent of this bill – to provide better, more comprehensive, and culturally competent legal aid to renters impacted by COVID to ensure they can access all of the protections afforded to them under California's strong rental assistance and tenant protection laws.



But to have real effect, these policy changes must be accompanied by a budgetary appropriation or reallocation of existing legal aid money. I look forward to continuing this important and urgent discussion as part of next year's budget deliberations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several large, sweeping loops and a long horizontal tail stroke extending to the right.

Gavin Newsom