



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2022

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1940 without my signature.

This bill revises and recasts the Public School Health Center Support Program to be renamed as the School-Based Health Center (SBHC) Support Program, to be administered by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in cooperation with the California Department of Education (CDE). The bill also defines SBHC to mean a student-focused health center or clinic that meets specified conditions, increases funding levels for SBHC planning, implementation and expansion grants and requires CDPH to collaborate with CDE to develop a request for a proposal process with specified preference priorities.

I appreciate the author's effort to modernize the existing Public School Health Center Support Program and their intent to increase access to physical and behavioral health services for students. SBHCs are vital tools to address the significant disparities in both health and educational outcomes for our state's children and youth. However, I have concerns this bill could create significant one-time Proposition 98 General Fund cost pressures in the tens of millions of dollars to fund the SBHC Support Program, and ongoing General Fund costs in the millions of dollars for CDPH to administer the program that were not included in the budget.

With our state facing lower-than-expected revenues over the first few months of this fiscal year, it is important to remain disciplined when it comes to spending.



We must prioritize existing obligations and priorities, including education, health care, public safety and safety-net programs.

The Legislature sent measures with potential costs of well over \$20 billion in one-time spending commitments and more than \$10 billion in ongoing commitments not accounted for in the state budget. Bills with significant fiscal impact, such as this measure, should be considered and accounted for as part of the annual budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom