



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**SEP 28 2022**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2847 without my signature.

This bill would create the Excluded Workers Pilot Program to provide unemployment benefits to those ineligible for the regular Unemployment Insurance Program due to their immigration status. The bill is subject to the Legislature appropriating funds for benefits to be administered through the program but does require the Employment Development Department (EDD) to take immediate steps to upgrade information technology (IT) systems to accept applications for the program at the cost of over \$200 million in upfront general fund costs and over \$20 million in ongoing funds without providing funding for the actual benefits.

California has taken critical actions to support inclusion and opportunity for undocumented immigrants and mixed status families. Just this year, California made historic investments to ensure more undocumented Californians have access to health care, food assistance, and to provide inflation relief regardless of immigration status. As we continue forward, this bill needs further work to address the operational issues and fiscal concerns, including a dedicated funding source for benefits.


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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Gavin Newsom