To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1233 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2024, identifying unserved and underserved populations that receive services from the department at lower-than-average rates, develop strategies for improving service delivery to underserved communities, and require the department to implement those strategies. The bill requires a second report to be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2026, on the department’s outreach efforts for the unserved or underserved populations.

While it is critical to remove barriers for individuals accessing government services, including those whose primary language is not English or are unhoused, I am not persuaded the reports required by this bill would provide actionable information.

The DMV provides robust language services including driving exams in 36 languages, driver license applications in 10 languages, as well as free translation services in field offices by appointment. The DMV also conducts robust statewide outreach, and I’ve directed them to continue their engagement with diverse community partners to ensure continued reach of services across California.

I recently announced the Mobile Homeless Connect pilot, which brings state and local services directly to individuals experiencing homelessness where they are, instead of requiring people to travel to a patchwork of government offices.
where services are usually available. Driver license and ID card services from the DMV are among the many services offered.

I look forward to continued partnership with the author to strengthen how the state provides essential services to all Californians.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

-Gavin Newsom-