



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1112 without my signature.

This bill would require counties to expand eligibility for the foster youth clothing allowance benefit and the expectant parent benefit to include foster youth who do not reside in an approved placement.

I share the author's commitment to ensure that foster youth receive the benefits and support services they need. However, the foster care system works to ensure that youth are placed in a safe, stable, and homelike environment. Without an approved placement, foster youth are not eligible to receive foster care payments. As written, this bill could perpetuate foster youth remaining in a placement that is not approved or the safest option for them. Further, because foster care was realigned to counties, the state General Fund would be responsible for offsetting any new county costs for implementation, and such costs should be considered in the context of the broader budget.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.



With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized and overlaps the text.