



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1435 without my signature.

This bill would, until January 1, 2027, raise the maximum age of a person who may qualify for appointment to the position of entry level peace officer in the California Highway Patrol (CHP) from 35 to 40 years.

While I appreciate that this bill is intended to help with the recruitment of CHP officers, this bill is not needed at this time. CHP has already taken steps to increase its number of applicants and cadets. As a result of current efforts, CHP is on track to double the number of cadets attending its academy this year compared to last year.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

I am, however, directing CHP to evaluate raising the maximum age for appointment to an entry-level peace officer position at CHP, and whether such a policy could enhance the effectiveness of their recruitment efforts. If they determine that increasing the maximum age would be beneficial to the CHP, my Administration will work with the legislature to advance legislation.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

