

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 0 8 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 695 without my signature.

This bill creates, upon appropriation, the Juvenile Detention Facilities Improvement Grant Program, to be administered by the Office of Youth and Community Restoration, to provide grants to a county of the first class (counties containing a population of 4,000,000) to address the infrastructure needs of the state's detained and supervised youth in the county.

New grant programs such as the program proposed in this bill must be considered and evaluated in the annual budget process in the context of all state funding priorities.

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