To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 733 without my signature.

This bill would, beginning January 1, 2025, prohibit public agencies from selling firearms, ammunition, or body armor. This bill contains exemptions to the general prohibition, including an exemption to allow law enforcement agencies to resell firearms to a licensed firearms dealer who contractually agrees to resell only to a law enforcement agency.

While I applaud the author for efforts to curb gun violence, I am concerned about the cost implications of this legislation. Law enforcement agencies, both local and state, oftentimes sell their firearms to a dealer when they upgrade. I am concerned that this bill, which limits these sales to a dealer who contractually agrees to resell only to a law enforcement agency, will restrict the ability to trade in these firearms and will cost law enforcement agencies across the state millions of dollars at a time when resources are limited, and staffing is low.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom