



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 702 without my signature.

This bill would require the Governor's Office to annually publish a report on its website containing aggregate demographic information of individuals appointed by the Governor.

I continue to be deeply committed to making appointments at every level of government that reflect California's diversity. My office makes an intentional, transparent effort to continuously engage with the Legislature, community partners, nonprofits, and other stakeholders to build a diverse and qualified pool of candidates for these positions. I am deeply proud of the diverse group of Californians who now serve our state in senior, appointed leadership positions.

While I understand the author's goal, the demographic information specified for reporting under this bill is optional and self-reported by candidates.

Consequently, the report required by this bill would not necessarily accurately reflect the diversity of appointees. I have vetoed a similar measure for this reason, and my concern remains.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom