To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 301 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to establish the Zero-Emission Aftermarket Conversion Project (ZACP) to provide an applicant with a financial rebate for converting a gasoline- or diesel-fueled vehicle into a zero-emission vehicle (ZEV).

California is showing the world what’s possible – fostering innovation and creating space for an industry to flourish as the sale of ZEVs reach record highs, with over 1.8 million ZEVs now on California’s roads. The state continues to invest billions of dollars in ZEV deployment and supporting infrastructure to achieve our ambitious climate and clean air goals.

While I share the author’s desire to further accelerate the state’s transition to ZEVs, this bill creates a new program at a time when the state faces a $44.9 billion shortfall for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Additionally, there is no funding currently identified or available in the state budget to support this new program.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gavin Newsom