



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 22 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1738 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to establish a new pilot program in collaboration with the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency to assist persons experiencing homelessness with obtaining an identification card. The pilot program would operate in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, and Sacramento Counties, as well as the City and County of San Francisco.

This bill builds on the Mobile Homeless Connect events my Administration launched in 2022. These events, which involved state agencies, local governments, and community organizations, successfully connected hundreds of unsheltered individuals to essential services, including ID cards and birth certificates. Additionally, pursuant to existing law, the DMV has been issuing no-fee identification cards to people experiencing homelessness since 2014, facilitating the issuance of around 120,000 ID cards each year.

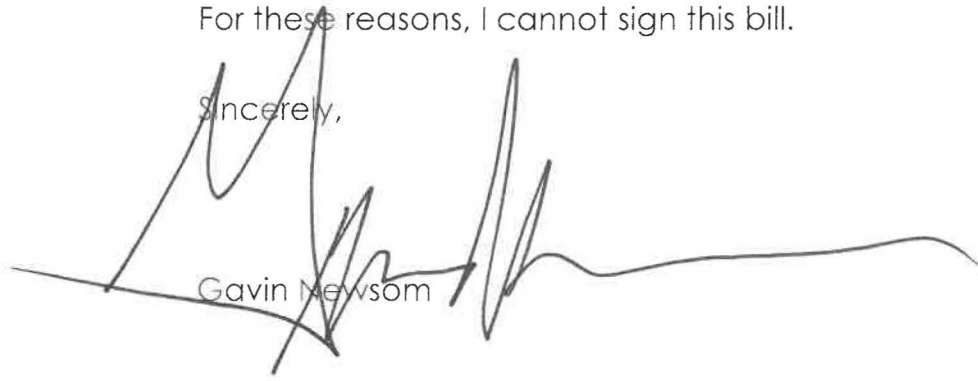
While I am proud of the impact this initiative has had, along with our ongoing efforts to connect unsheltered Californians to needed resources, any expansion must be properly funded and considered within the State Budget. Given the lack of funding for this proposed program, this bill would place additional and unsustainable stress on the Motor Vehicle Account.



For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom", written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with a large initial "G" and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.