



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 2348, which requires the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to develop policies and procedures for activating a Feather Alert (Alert), authorizes specified entities to directly request Alert activations, expands the criteria for determining whether to request and activate an Alert, and establishes timelines for these decisions and any necessary activations. In 2022, I proudly signed Assembly Bill 1314 (Ramos) to establish California's first emergency alert system dedicated to locating missing Indigenous persons, known as a Feather Alert.

This bill is an important step forward in full implementation of the Alert, but it introduces operational complexities that must be addressed to ensure the emergency alert system functions effectively. Throughout the process, my Administration emphasized the need to align the criteria of this alert system with others, like AMBER and Silver Alerts, to avoid creating a patchwork of varying criteria that could cause confusion and hinder the emergency response. During such emergencies, the best outcomes are achieved by quickly mobilizing local resources in the area, supplemented by the CHP, with clear coordination between state, local, and tribal authorities. Strengthening government-to-government coordination and setting consistent standards will help all agencies respond more swiftly and effectively, ultimately providing better protections and outcomes for tribal communities.



To work towards this end, I have directed the California Highway Patrol to propose reforms through the budget to streamline standards and further the effective implementation of the emergency alert systems. I look forward to working with the Legislature to accomplish this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and overlaps the line.

Gavin Newsom