



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2381 without my signature.

This bill modifies the reimbursement methodology for California State Preschool Program contractors by eliminating attendance as a factor, thereby basing reimbursement on enrollment.

I thank the author for their commitment to strengthening the early learning and care system. Although recent federal regulations establish related requirements for child care and development programs administered by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), this bill does not make similar changes to the reimbursement methodology applicable to those programs. I am directing the Department of Finance and CDSS to include necessary changes for meeting these federal requirements and ensuring alignment across programs, including the California State Preschool Program, as a part of the 2025-26 budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom

