



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 28 2024

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2936 without my signature.

This bill would require the California State University (CSU) to develop and implement a systemwide and campus-level reconciliation master plan, for use on each campus, to address cultural and political conflicts that arise on campus. The bill also requires the CSU to convene stakeholder workgroups and submit a report with recommendations on responding to cultural and political conflicts that arise on campus. This bill requests the same actions of the University of California (UC) and applies these provisions to the California Community Colleges upon appropriation.

I take seriously the rise of incidents at our institutions of higher education that have left students feeling unsafe and created a culture of intolerance and hostility on campus. Earlier this year, my Administration released the Golden State Plan to Counter Antisemitism, as part of the state's broader Anti-Hate agenda and California's ongoing efforts to protect all communities from acts of bigotry and violence. In this plan, I urged campuses to strengthen student codes of conduct, enforce campus safety policies, and cultivate spaces for affinity and dialogue amid rising conflicts.

In addition, the 2024 Budget Act requires every CSU and UC campus to annually prepare a campus climate action notification by the beginning of the Fall 2024



term. This notification, among other elements, must include how the campus intends to foster healthy discourse and bring together campus community members and ideologically differing viewpoints, in order to best promote the educational mission of the institution and the exchange of ideas in a safe and peaceful manner. The CSU and the UC are required to submit a report outlining the campus climate action notifications by October 1 of this year.

Although this bill is well intended, it is premature to require new working groups that would develop new reports and master plans prior to evaluating the outcomes of these pending actions.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom