



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**SEP 20 2024**

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2983 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Board (Board) to assess the extent to which projects or proposals would increase the availability of insurance policies covering damage from fire and would add the Department of Insurance to the Board.

While I appreciate the author's goal to add insurance considerations to the Board's work, this bill could lead to misleading expectations for homeowners as there is no guarantee that the additional assessments required by this bill would result in increased access to insurance. Further, the additional requirements for proposals or projects could lead some communities to opt out of critical wildfire mitigation work that could help prevent a homeowner from ever having to file an insurance claim, which ultimately supports the market and market rate stability.

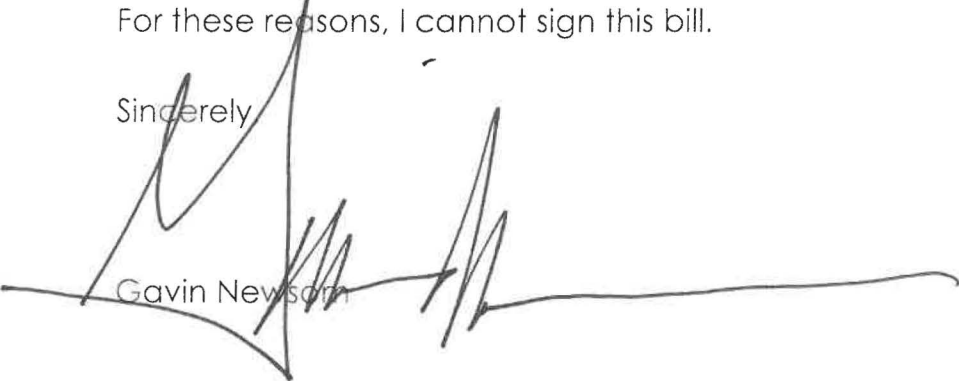
Finally, implementation of this bill would result in ongoing General Fund costs in the millions of dollars not included in the budget. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.



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 and somewhat illegible due to overlapping lines and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.