



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 22 2024

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1509 without my signature.

This bill would create a new violation for driving 26 miles per hour over the posted speed limit on highways with speed limits of 55 miles per hour or less and impose increased penalties for repeat violations.

Under current law, many non-commercial drivers can attend Traffic Violator School to avoid point accumulation, making the application of the proposed two-point penalty less frequent. Moreover, this bill introduces an additional point only if the prior violation is for the exact same offense – excessive speeding – and not for other speeding offenses, such as those under the Basic Speed Law or speeding on highways. Consequently, this bill may have less of an overall deterrent effect than intended.

Implementing this bill would also require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to modify its information technology systems. The DMV is currently undergoing a comprehensive IT modernization effort, and the additional mandate would disrupt these critical projects. Additionally, this bill provides no cost recovery mechanism to offset the associated costs.


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.



I encourage the Legislature to consider alternative measures that could effectively deter dangerous speeding without imposing further financial or administrative strain on the DMV.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom". The signature is stylized with a large initial "G" and a long horizontal line extending to the right. A small black dot is visible above the signature.

Gavin Newsom