



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2024

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 782 without my signature.

This bill would require the Governor's Office to annually publish a report on its website containing aggregate demographic information of individuals appointed by the Governor.

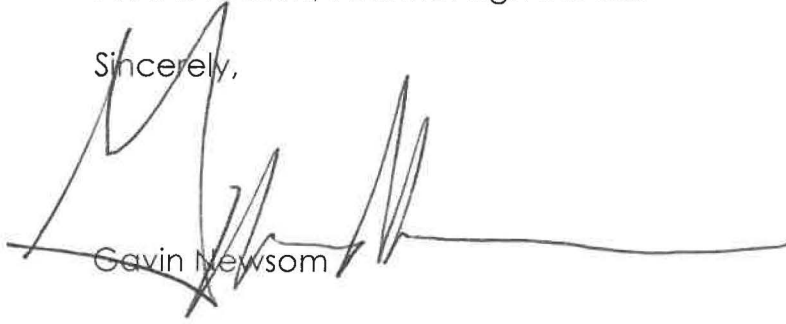
I am deeply committed to making appointments at every level of government that reflect California's diversity. My office affirmatively and intentionally engages with the Legislature, community partners, nonprofits, and other stakeholders to recruit and develop a diverse and qualified pool of candidates for appointed state positions. I am incredibly proud of the diverse group of Californians who now serve our state in senior, appointed leadership positions.

While I remain concerned about the accuracy of a report that relies on optional and self-reported data, I understand the author's goal to provide an additional layer of transparency and accountability regarding appointments for state positions through this report. Although my administration continues to be transparent in this space, I appreciate the additional accessibility a public report would help to ensure. However, that goal is only achieved with more comprehensive action that includes Legislative appointments. With that goal in mind, I am committed to legislation next year that includes the same transparency requirements for appointments by the Administration as well as the Legislature. This parity will ensure a complete picture of appointments throughout the state so we can continue to appoint a diverse group of Californians that reflect the makeup of the state.



For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible due to the cursive nature of the handwriting.

Gavin Newsom