



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 06 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1224 without my signature.

Through January 1, 2029, this bill increases the time substitute teachers can serve in general education or special education classrooms to up to 60 days, doubling or tripling current caps.

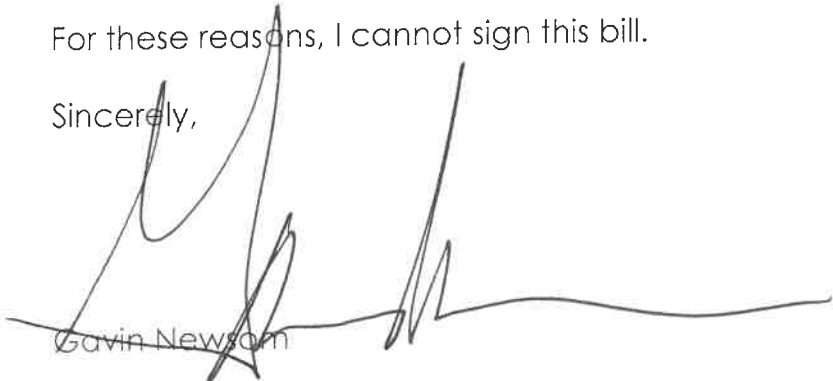
Research demonstrates that substitute teachers tend to serve classrooms with a disproportionate number of students with disabilities, English learners, and students from low-income families. While this bill requires local educational agencies to offer mentorship, training, and support to substitute teachers, it does not mandate their participation in these programs. As such, this bill would allow individuals to serve our highest-need students for as much as a third of a school year without minimally required training or mentorship.

I recognize the author's goal of providing more continuity in challenging staffing situations. As such, I encourage the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to utilize its existing authority to engage stakeholders and expeditiously reexamine and amend its short-term staffing pathways to support continuity of instruction, and to address the minimum levels of preparation and support required.

Alternatively, the author could introduce legislation that addresses the lack of required training and support for long-term substitute teachers.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom