



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 11 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 15 without my signature.

This bill requires law enforcement agencies to review case files regarding open unsolved homicides, upon application of a victim's immediate family member, to determine if reinvestigation would result in probative investigative leads.

I strongly support the author's goal of resolving these cases and ensuring justice and peace for survivors. However, unsolved cases are more often the result of a lack of evidence than a lack of diligence. To meet the timelines mandated under this bill, most law enforcement agencies would have to hire new personnel for case file review. Those that could not afford to do so would have to divert law enforcement personnel away from investigating active cases, including active homicides, to instead review case files. Diverting resources from active cases could lead to more unsolved crimes, not fewer, inadvertently undermining the intent of this bill.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom

