



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 01 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 255 without my signature.

This bill would create a new category of "supportive recovery residences," allow up to 10 percent of state homelessness funds to support them, and set up a new certification and oversight system.

Recovery-focused housing is an essential part of a comprehensive homelessness response, and California recognizes the value these programs provide individuals seeking support and stability. Current law already permits local jurisdictions to receive funding within the Housing First framework, and recent guidance allows support for recovery housing without creating a duplicative and costly new statutory category. Establishing a separate certification and oversight process wrongly suggests incompatibility with Housing First, while imposing fees that would not cover implementation costs.

California remains committed to advancing recovery housing within Housing First. I encourage the author and stakeholders to continue working with my Administration to strengthen these options in ways that complement, rather than complicate, the state's approach. Any broader programmatic changes, if

warranted, should be considered holistically through the annual budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with sharp, angular strokes and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gavin Newsom