



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2025

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 449 without my signature.

This bill requires the Civil Rights Department (CRD) to create and implement statewide and regional campaigns utilizing radio, social media, and television to combat hate violence against specific communities, and discourage discrimination based upon, but not limited to, disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation.

I thank the author for his ongoing commitment to combating discrimination and hate, a commitment I share. My administration has devoted significant efforts and implemented a comprehensive strategy to fight hate violence, including through "Stop the Hate," a multi-year grant program that has provided over \$100 million for services, including outreach and prevention, to support communities impacted by acts of hate. We also established the Commission on the State of Hate within the Civil Rights Department, and launched California vs. Hate, a statewide hotline and network to report hate acts and connect victims with services.

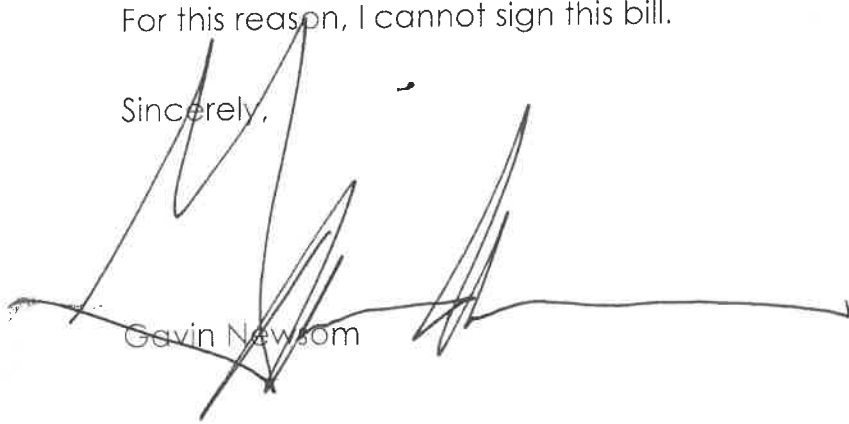
While implementation of this bill requires an appropriation by the Legislature, it will result in General Fund cost pressures to fund the campaigns and working group. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined



when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom