



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 28 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 2054, which would broaden the circumstances under which eligible employees can take Paid Family Leave for a qualifying military exigency, to include not just foreign but also domestic military deployments.

This measure will support families of service members who are activated for stateside missions, ordered to extended training, or mobilized as part of the National Guard or Reserve. Unfortunately, the implementation deadline of July 2028 is infeasible. Any expansion of Paid Family Leave must be balanced with our combined, multi-year process and information technology modernization effort, EDDNext, that will improve overall access to the benefit programs that the Employment Development Department (EDD) administers. Changes to the Paid Family Leave program like what is contemplated by this measure will disrupt EDDNext and lead to significant delays, to the detriment of those relying on EDD's benefit systems during their most challenging moments.

I am directing EDD to work with the Legislature next year to address this issue.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

