



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1054 without my signature.

This bill would establish a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) framework for Bargaining Unit 5 patrol officers and Bargaining Unit 8 state peace officers and firefighters, as well as their associated supervisors and managers.

There may be merit to the creation of a voluntary DROP initiative to help address staffing challenges. However, a DROP could create significant long-term fiscal and administrative pressures on departments by altering employee tenures and retirement costs. Both the design and establishment of a DROP are more appropriately handled through the collective bargaining process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom