



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 30 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1896 without my signature.

This bill would disqualify from state and local government employment any sworn law enforcement officer or contractor who personally engaged in federal immigration enforcement, unless that person is deemed suitable based on criteria to be established by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

This measure recognizes the disturbing role of those who participate in the indiscriminate raids that have rounded up American citizens, people with legal status, and hardworking parents. The horrific tactics deployed by the Trump administration to instill fear and panic in our most vulnerable communities are a stain on our nation, and Congress must act to hold the Trump administration and culpable agents accountable, while also advancing reforms to ensure fair, humane, and lawful immigration enforcement that is transparent and accountable to the public.

However, establishing a default employment prohibition for any individual engaged in enforcing federal civil immigration laws is a step too far. It is a mistake to discourage empathetic and qualified Americans from working in the federal government, or choosing to leave long-standing employment with the federal government because they find the current administration's policies and tactics reprehensible. Moreover, hiring for state and local government employees already requires specific standards, including evaluations of personal

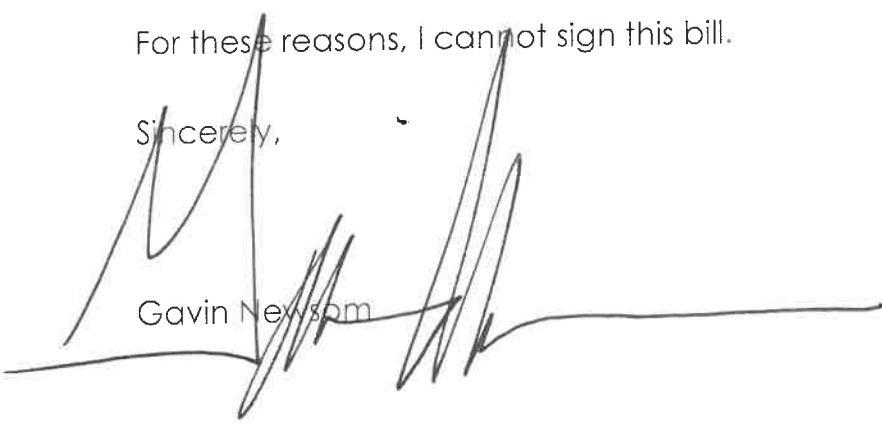


conduct, and any employees who violate those standards would be held accountable.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'G' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.