



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1967 without my signature.

This bill would revise procedures and requirements for children and youth who wish to enter or reenter foster care.

The intent of this bill is laudable, and I deeply appreciate the author's effort to address unacceptable delays in assistance to vulnerable young adults who find themselves in need of renewed support from the child welfare system. However, this bill's proposed changes to the eligibility standards for reentry into foster care would actually exacerbate, rather than mitigate, these delays.

This bill would not only make it more difficult to determine if a youth meets the criteria to reenter foster care, but it would only allow reentry for youth who are receiving no support at all — a far higher bar to clear than is currently in place, and one which would turn away youth who are receiving very little support and still need foster care services.

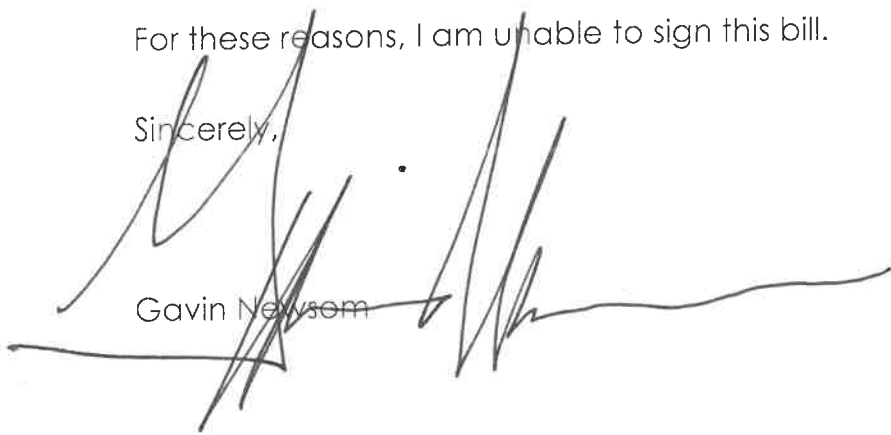
I encourage the Legislature and interested stakeholders to work with county child welfare agencies and the California Department of Social Services to identify improvements to the foster care reentry process that will effectively

promote our shared goal of seeing disadvantaged former foster youth receive the services and support that they need.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Gavin Newsom", is written over the printed name and extends across the right side of the page.