



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**SEP 27 2026**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 891 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Justice Program within the Department of Justice to fund and support law enforcement agencies' investigatory activities.

The MMIP crisis is a worldwide issue, recognized in several nations across the globe. As the state with the largest American Indian and Alaska Native population, exceeding 700,000 people, California has taken multiple actions to respond to this urgent public safety and human rights crisis. I have signed numerous bills, including legislation creating the "Feather Alert," a statewide emergency notification system for missing Indigenous people, and, in the 2022 Budget Act, established the MMIP Grant Program to provide California tribal nations with funding to investigate, track, and prevent cases involving missing and murdered Indigenous individuals.

Since its inception, the state has allocated tens of millions of dollars to the MMIP Grant Program and, in this year's budget, we made that funding permanent with a \$15 million ongoing allocation. This historic investment reflects the need for sustained action — and California's continued commitment — to confront the disproportionate violence affecting Native communities. While well-intentioned, this bill disregards those efforts and creates a new, unfunded program that is duplicative of the work already underway.

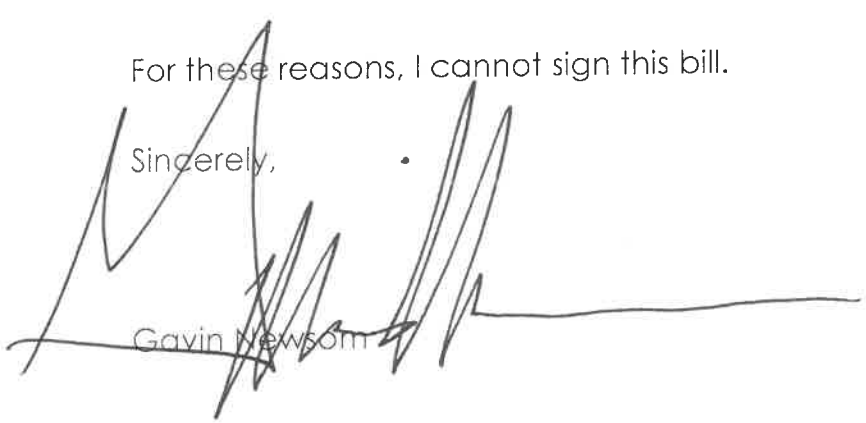
I am confident that with ongoing resources, California will continue to work closely with tribes across the state to develop strategies to support tribal work

and investigations to solve and prevent MMIP cases, therefore making this bill unnecessary.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sharp, overlapping strokes, is written over the printed name "Gavin Newsom". The signature extends to the right, ending in a long horizontal line.