



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 18 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1547 without my signature.

This bill, an urgency measure, requires the University of California (UC) to complete a feasibility study to establish a UC medical school branch campus in Kern County by January 1, 2028.

I am unable to sign this bill because it requires significant General Fund resources that are not included in the 2026 Budget Act. Additionally, in 2024, I signed AB 2357 (Bains), which established the UC Kern County Medical Education Endowment Fund to support the operating costs associated with establishing a UC Medical School in Kern County. That bill specified the endowment funds could be used to conduct a feasibility study.

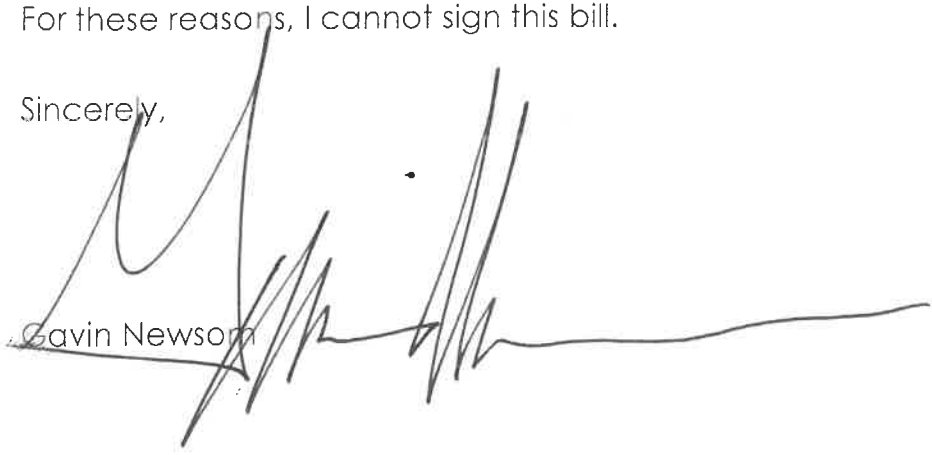
In partnership with the Legislature this year, my administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined

when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot 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. The signature is composed of several sharp, sweeping strokes, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.