



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 20 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2142 without my signature.

This bill creates a rebuttable presumption that a school district or community college district must replace a short-term employee position with a position in the classified service if specified conditions are met.

I support the author's goal of ensuring "short-term" employees are not hired for multiple years without providing them the benefits of permanent employment. However, by establishing a confusing calculation of thresholds and service days in statute, combined with a complex legal standard, this bill introduces significant implementation challenges for school and college officials. Further, this bill creates hundreds of millions of dollars in additional cost pressures and should be considered within the broader context of the annual state budget process.

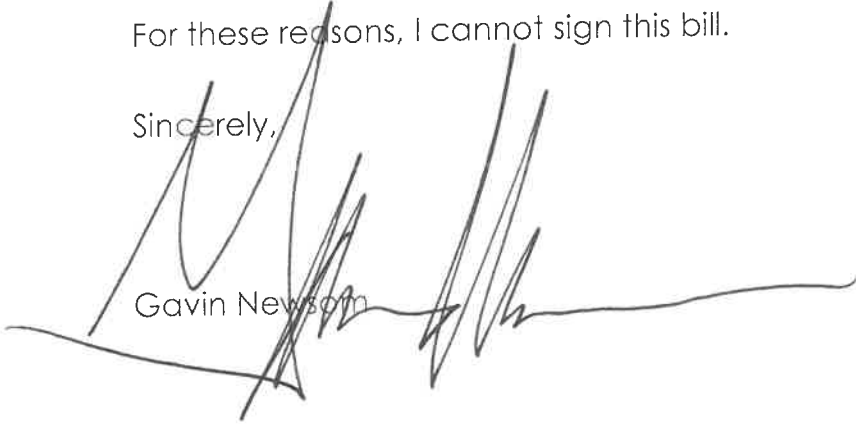
In partnership with the Legislature this year, my administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's 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 and extends across the page.