



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 20 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2337 without my signature.

This bill adds theft committed by a peace officer under color of authority to the definition of "serious misconduct" for purposes of ineligibility for, or revocation of, peace officer certification.

While I support the author's goal of holding peace officers accountable for illicit actions, this bill is duplicative of existing law. Serious misconduct is already defined as inclusive of, but not limited to, "abuse of power," "dishonesty," and "acts that violate the law and are sufficiently egregious or repeated as to be inconsistent with a peace officer's obligation to uphold the law or respect the rights of members of the public." The existing definition of serious misconduct therefore already encompasses the use of peace officer authority to commit theft. Absent reports to the contrary, further particularizing of the definition is unnecessary and may be interpreted to suggest that other unspecified violations are not actionable.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Gavin Newsom", is written over the word "Gavin Newsom" and extends across the page. The signature is composed of several sharp, angular strokes.

Gavin Newsom