



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**SEP 28 2022**

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1255 without my signature.

This bill, subject to an appropriation, would establish the Dishwasher Grant Program for Waste Reduction in K–12 Schools within the California Department of Education, to provide grants to school districts and charter schools for the purchase and installation of commercial dishwashers at schoolsites.

I appreciate the author's intent to be responsive to both the need to improve school water conservation and reduce waste in schools. However, the 2021 and 2022 Budget Acts included \$750 million Proposition 98 General Fund for schools to purchase and upgrade school kitchen equipment and infrastructure to support universal meals. Purchasing commercial dishwashers is an allowable use of these funds, making a new grant fund for this purpose unnecessary. Schools can and should use these funds to purchase and install these dishwashers as they deem appropriate. Additionally, establishing a statutory new grant fund creates additional cost pressure in the tens of millions of dollars for future budgets.

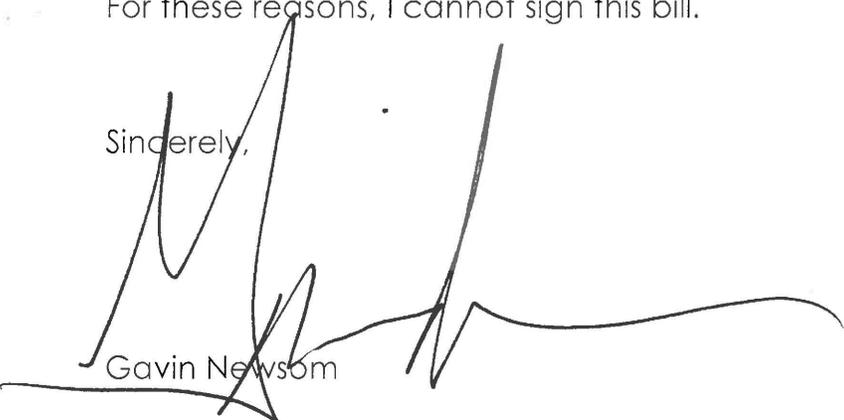
With our state facing lower-than-expected revenues over the first few months of this fiscal year, it is important to remain disciplined when it comes to spending. We must prioritize existing obligations and priorities, including education, health care, public safety and safety-net programs.

The Legislature sent measures with potential costs of well over \$20 billion in one-time spending commitments and more than \$10 billion in ongoing commitments not accounted for in the state budget. Bills with potential significant cost pressure, such as this measure, should be considered and accounted for as part of the annual budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gavin Newsom', is written over the printed name. The signature is highly fluid and extends significantly to the right of the printed name.