

California State Senate

SENATOR
KELLY SEYARTO

THIRTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



September 12, 2025

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MURRIETA, CA 92562
(951) 894-2220
4740 GREEN RIVER ROAD, SUITE 212
CORONA, CA 92878
(951) 280-1620

Governor Gavin Newsom
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Signing Request – Assembly Bill 495

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you veto Assembly Bill 495.

This bill, if implemented, will impose sweeping new mandates on schools, childcare providers, and courts that are costly, duplicative, and problematic in execution.

AB-495 significantly expands the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit process by redefining "relative" and allowing individuals to use these affidavits without a parent's signature, court seal, or notarization. Eliminating this verification weakens parental rights and creates the risk that someone could improperly assume authority over a child's medical or educational decisions without a parent's knowledge. Current law already provides adequate tools for parents to designate guardians or caregivers. AB-495 lowers safeguards that protect children and families.

This bill also imposes significant new costs on the state and local governments without providing the resources to pay for them. The Department of Social Services estimates over \$5 million annually in new staffing, while courts and schools face millions more in workload and policy mandates. These dollars will be spent on bureaucracy and compliance rather than on classrooms and families.

AB-495 takes decisions that belong to parents and weakens their rights, leaving families vulnerable.

I thank you for your consideration and I respectfully request that you veto AB-495. Please feel free to contact me should any questions arise at (916) 651-4032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Seyarto".

Kelly Seyarto
Senate District 32