



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 01 2025

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 76 without my signature.

Beginning January 1, 2030, this bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to waive delinquent vehicle registration fees and penalties that became due before a private vehicle sale when the purchaser applied for transfer. The DMV would instead be required to recover those fees and penalties from the seller or transferor when they next register another vehicle or renew a driver's license.

This bill would exacerbate the structural insolvency of the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA), the primary funding source for the DMV and CHP. Shifting collection responsibility away from purchasers would reduce revenues, increase administrative costs, and deepen long-term deficits. In doing so, it would diminish resources available to support the CHP's critical public safety initiatives — including newly launched Crime Suppression Teams and regional crime-reduction partnerships — while also straining the DMV's digital transformation by imposing new duties even as funding is reduced.

As with other measures affecting the MVA, moving the operative date to a future year does not solve the underlying fiscal challenges — it only delays them.



We must set a very high bar for any significant new fiscal commitments until the MVA structural deficit is addressed in a sustainable way.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over the printed name "Gavin Newsom". The signature is highly fluid and expressive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.