



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 28 2016

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 491 without my signature.

This bill would, among other things, require school districts to provide parents, at the time of enrolling their student, information explaining how their responses to a home language survey may lead to their student being designated as an English learner.

Given that English learners constitute approximately one-fourth of students enrolled in California public schools, I agree that we need to do a better job explaining to parents how their student may be designated as an English learner and what happens once they receive this designation. The specific statements included in this bill, however, are not clear and will cause more confusion for parents, not less.

This is an important matter that we have to get right.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.