

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1951 without my signature.

This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to approve one or more nationally recognized high school assessments that a local school may administer in lieu of the state-administered high school summative assessment, commencing with the 2019-20 school year.

Since 2010, California has eliminated standardized testing in grades 9 and 10 and the high school exit exam. While I applaud the author's efforts to improve student access to college and reduce "testing fatigue" in grade 11, I am not convinced that replacing the state's high school assessment with the Scholastic Aptitude Test or American College Test achieves that goal.

Our K-12 system and our public universities are now discussing the possible future use of California's grade 11 state assessment for college admission purposes. This is a better approach to improving access to college for under-represented students and reducing "testing fatigue".

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.