



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 04 2021

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 494 without my signature.

This bill would require the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), by January 1, 2023, to develop trainings on advanced interpersonal communication skills and ethical science-based interviewing for specified peace officers in consultation with subject matter experts. Additionally, this bill requires local law enforcement agencies to adopt related policies and requires regular and periodic trainings on advanced interpersonal communication skills and ethical science-based interviewing.

My Administration has helped California lead the nation in police reform policies that have resulted in better training for officers and better relationships with the community. While I support making this training available to law enforcement agencies, I am concerned that mandatory training will have potentially significant General Fund costs not contemplated in the Budget. I am directing POST to develop training on interpersonal communication skills and ethical science-based interviewing. Giving law enforcement access to this training will expand access to training at a lower cost to taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

