



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 26 2018

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 900 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Victim Compensation Board to provide compensation to human trafficking victims in the amount equal to the loss of income or support incurred as a direct result of a victim's loss of liberty during the crime.

While I appreciate the author's intent, this bill fundamentally changes the nature of the Board's system for compensating victims, and places an unsustainable burden on the Restitution Fund which is already imbalanced. The proposed compensation is more akin to restitution, which expands the program beyond its intended purpose, and beyond the scope of other states' programs.

For the past three years the state budget has provided a line item to support services for human trafficking victims ranging up to \$10 million. Any future expansion in scope of services for these victims should not rely on an already over-committed funding source.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.

