



GOVERNOR
Gavin Newsom

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To the members of the Senate and the Assembly of the California Legislature:

These last two years have brought unimaginable challenges. Through it all, we worked together to navigate our state through crisis after crisis while making unprecedented investments in our future that will benefit Californians for years to come. I am deeply appreciative of your partnership in protecting Californians and setting us on a path to a better future.

But we have more work to do.

COVID-19 continues to impact our state, and many of the challenges we had before the pandemic remain. Thousands of business owners are still trying to find their footing in an economy that has been upended by the pandemic. Many people across our great state don't feel safe in their communities. Too many Californians find themselves displaced and living on our streets. Climate change is driving devastating wildfire seasons, historic droughts – the challenges seem endless.

In the hardest times, we have been able to show a path forward together. I'm proud of our work to get millions of Californians vaccinated and keep Californians safe from COVID-19. We passed the largest economic relief and recovery package in the nation, providing short-term support to millions of Californians and making billions in longer-term investments that will benefit workers, businesses and families decades into the future. We fortified ourselves with historic investments to protect against the escalating impacts of a changed climate, preparing for extreme droughts and combating more severe wildfires.

This budget is a new opportunity for us to address the greatest challenges facing our state – for the year ahead and future generations. We must meet the moment once again.

This is not only a spending plan for the year, it is a foundation for California's future – a fiscally responsible plan that seeks to make our state safer and more affordable, and to set our state on a better path for years to come.

This budget fully funds our state's rainy-day fund and pays down future obligations. It prioritizes the safety and security of all Californians with new crime-fighting strategies, investments in behavioral health reform, and more housing for people exiting homelessness. It tackles affordability with record investments in our public schools and makes California the first state in the nation to achieve universal healthcare coverage. And it reinforces our role as the global leader in climate protection, innovation and job creation.

With your continued partnership, we will persist in our work together to build a better California.

With respect,

/s/ Gavin Newsom

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