



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2016

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1300 without my signature.

This bill creates a new ambulance quality assurance fee to be collected by the Department of Health Care Services. This fee would be used to claim additional federal funding necessary to increase Medi-Cal reimbursements for ambulance services.

I support establishing a quality assurance fee to bring in additional federal funding to support emergency transportation services. However, the structure of the rate increase in this bill is unlike any other fee structure supported by health care related quality assurance fees. I am concerned this structure puts the state general fund at risk for paying the increased rate if the revenue falls short or if the fee is reduced or removed in the future.

I urge the Legislature and ambulance providers to work with the Departments of Health Care Services and Finance to restructure this fee in a way that protects the general fund and allows for an increase in reimbursement for emergency transportation services.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

