



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2014

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 835 without my signature.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates conservatively that at least two million illnesses and 23,000 deaths are caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the United States each year. Scientists around the world are warning that we are over-using these life-saving medicines in both human medicine and to raise animals.

SB 835 would codify a voluntary Federal Drug Administration standard that phases-out antibiotic use for growth promotion. Codifying these standards is unnecessary since most major animal producers have already pledged to go beyond the FDA standard.

More needs to be done to understand and reduce our reliance on antibiotics.

To that end, I am directing the Department of Food and Agriculture to work with the Legislature to find new and effective ways to reduce the unnecessary antibiotics used for livestock and poultry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.