



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 12 2019

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 550 without my signature.

This bill would authorize a Medical Foster Home Pilot Program for veterans that would be exempt from state licensure or regulation and subject only to oversight by the federal government.

Other community care facilities in the state are subject to licensure and regulation by the Department of Social Services to ensure safety standards and safeguards.

The state should maintain oversight of the operation of the homes proposed under this bill to ensure that California veterans in these homes do not have fewer safety protections than residents in other community care settings.

Therefore, I am directing the California Health and Human Services Agency and the Department of Social Services to explore a workable regulatory model, including any necessary statutory changes, to allow such a pilot program to move forward. I am committed to working collaboratively on a regulatory model that preserves California's oversight and values while allowing for Medical Foster Homes to operate in our state.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, overlapping the printed name "Gavin Newsom".