



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 13 2019

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 445 without my signature.

SB 445 would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to establish youth substance use disorder treatment quality standards including certification requirements for programs and professionals, and convene a workgroup to advise the Department on quality standards.

Although I support the author's intent to strengthen substance use disorder treatment services for youth, implementation of this bill requires significant General Fund spending that should be considered through the annual budget process.

I encourage the author and stakeholders to engage with DHCS's recently-formed Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee to address concerns regarding youth substance use disorder treatment services.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom