



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 30 2020

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 369 without my signature.

This bill would establish the California Reentry Commission and task it with developing a new health and safety agenda for those returning home from custody, reviewing the barriers to reentry and coordinating with other entities to establish a grant program for reentry service providers.

I share the author's commitment in supporting successful re-entry for persons returning to the community from prison. That is why I launched Returning Home Well, a public-private partnership that will provide critical supports including housing, healthcare, treatment, transportation, direct assistance, and employment support for Californians returning home from prison early due to COVID-19. I also agree that there is more to do to ensure that all persons returning home are given the support that they need.

I do not, however, think that creating a new commission with over 20 members and appointees is necessary to achieve this goal. I am, instead, directing the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health to engage with stakeholders, evaluate the barriers of reentry and determine what steps need to be taken to overcome those barriers.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom