



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 07 2021

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1331 without my signature.

This bill would require the Director of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to appoint a full-time executive Statewide Director of Crisis Services to convene state and local leaders to develop and implement a cohesive statewide behavioral health crisis care delivery system.

Behavioral health crisis care services are critical, including early prevention efforts. My administration has made significant investments to improve California's behavioral health system, including \$150 million to build out mobile crisis infrastructure. In addition, DHCS is investing \$20 million in California's network of emergency call centers to support the launch of a new 988 hotline, an alternative to 911, for people seeking help during a mental health crisis.

The California Health and Human Services Agency and its departments will work with state and local partners and stakeholders to assess and address gaps in behavioral health crisis care services as my Administration works to implement the new behavioral health initiatives included in the budget.



Given the fiscal implications of adding this position, and the additional staffing needed to support it, this proposal would be more appropriately addressed through the budget process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with several sharp peaks and a long horizontal tail extending to the right. It is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Gavin Newsom