OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 05 2021

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

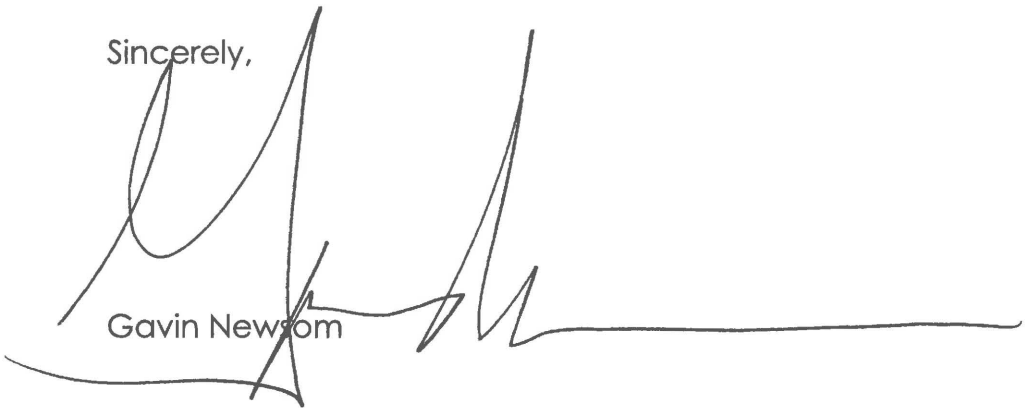
I am returning Assembly Bill 1357 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to develop and maintain a state-wide referral network of community-based mental health providers and support services addressing maternal mental health on the CDPH website.

AB 1357 is duplicative as there are existing resources available to pregnant and postpartum individuals. The Department of Health Care Services maintains a website that provides information about how individuals can seek mental health services through their local county. State programs such as the Adolescent Family Life Program, Black Infant Health Program, California Home Visiting Program, Perinatal Equity Initiative, and the Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program work to ensure pregnant and postpartum individuals are assessed, informed, linked, and referred to appropriate health and social services, including mental health services.

Local health jurisdictions also inform pregnant and postpartum individuals of services and providers that are available and unique to each county. Finally, an individual's source of health coverage, whether it be Medi-Cal, a county mental health plan, or commercial health plan can arrange for care through its local provider network. For these reasons, I do not believe adding yet another website is necessary.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom