OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 05 2021

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 247 without my signature.

This bill seeks to establish the Rare Disease Advisory Council in the California Health and Human Services (CHHS) Agency, to research and determine the most appropriate methods to collect data on rare diseases, identify priorities relating to treatment and services, and identify best practices for rare disease care. The Council would also be tasked with coordinating statewide research, acting as an advisory body to the state Legislature and other state agencies, guiding research into rare diseases, assisting in the creation and financing of a Rare Disease Fund, and adopting regulations.

While it is important for the public, providers, state agencies, and private partners to have access to information on rare diseases, the purpose and duties of the Advisory Council as would be required by SB 247 are extensive and costly. Bills with a significant fiscal impact, such as this measure, should be considered in the annual budget process. For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom