



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2021

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 510 to ensure Californians have timely and equitable access to COVID-19 testing and vaccinations. This bill will ensure uniformity in testing payment and access rules throughout the state.

California leads the nation with the most vaccines administered and consistently has the lowest COVID-19 case rate in the country. We have made progress in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 by leveraging important public health tools such as testing and vaccination. As we look ahead, it is crucial that Californians continue to have timely access to both without having to pay for unexpected out-of-pocket expenses.

To ensure the state is protecting market stability, I am directing the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to issue guidance to address concerns about how the prevailing market rate is determined. This would help prevent price gouging and clarify how a "reasonable" reimbursement amount is calculated for purposes of reimbursing out-of-network providers for COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom