

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 2 2 2022

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2320 without my signature.

This bill requires the California Health and Human Services Agency, or an entity designated by the agency, to establish and administer a five-county pilot program to fund a wide variety of activities in primary care clinics that provide reproductive health care services.

The 2022 Budget Act included over \$200M to protect the right to safe and accessible reproductive health care and implementation efforts are currently underway. This investment includes resources to reimburse clinics for uncompensated care, provide equity and infrastructure payments for clinic abortion providers, and support reproductive health workforce. The Department of Health Care Services is also taking steps to increase Medi-Cal clinic-based reproductive health care services on a statewide basis. Although this legislation is contingent upon appropriation, it creates tens of millions of dollars in General Fund cost pressures not accounted for in the budget.

With our state facing lower-than-expected revenues over the first few months of this fiscal year, it is important to remain disciplined when it comes to spending, particularly spending that is ongoing. We must prioritize existing obligations and priorities, including education, health care, public safety and safety-net programs.

The Legislature sent measures with potential costs of well over \$20 billion in one-time spending commitments and more than \$10 billion in ongoing



commitments not accounted for in the state budget. Bills with significant fiscal impact, such as this measure, should be considered and accounted for as part of the annual budget process. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavinne