OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 08 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1741 without my signature.

This bill would revise training requirements for unlicensed laboratory personnel, change the scope of work authorized, and clarify the level of supervision required.

While I appreciate the author's intent to address the licensed workforce shortage in labs and improve testing capacity, this bill contains a provision that could enable unlicensed laboratory personnel to perform tasks that exceed their level of training, posing a danger to the health and safety of Californians. As a result, this bill could conflict with the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act, a federal law that prohibits individuals who do not meet the specified education and training requirements from performing any aspect of the analytical phase of testing.

I encourage the author and stakeholders to work with the Department of Public Health on a solution that ensures that personnel performing specified testing have the skills necessary to reliably receive accurate results.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom