



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 07 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 576 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to update Medi-Cal coverage for medication abortion to align with evidence-based clinical guidelines by March 1, 2024.

This bill is well intentioned, but unnecessary. In July 2023, DHCS updated its medication abortion policies for Medi-Cal to reflect current evidence-based clinical guidelines to reimburse providers for care through 77 gestational days. This aligns with the goal of AB 576 and the priority of this Administration to ensure that abortion care is safe, legal, and accessible.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

