To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 782 without my signature.

This bill would exclude reconstitution of a drug pursuant to a manufacturer’s directions, tablet splitting or crushing, capsule opening, or the addition of a flavoring agent from the Pharmacy Law’s definition of compounding.

While I appreciate the author’s intention to maintain the current availability of flavored medication, this bill would create standards for California that do not meet the United States Pharmacopeia-National Formulary’s guidelines regarding compounding that have been put in place to minimize patients’ risk of harm.

This bill also contradicts AB 973, which I signed in 2019, which required both sterile and non-sterile compounding in California to be consistent with the United States Pharmacopeia guidelines, which ensured clear compounding standards and provided greater consumer safety. This bill would make exceptions to federal guidelines, which would pose a risk to consumers.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM • SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 • (916) 445-2841