OCT 07 2023

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 907 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans to cover specific prophylaxis, diagnosis, and treatment of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) with limited cost sharing.

While I support the author’s goal of ensuring that children with PANS and PANDAS receive the treatment they need in a timely manner, this bill creates a disease-specific mandate and contains provisions that would be duplicative of existing laws for timely access standards and grievance processes through the Department of Managed Health Care and Department of Insurance. Further, this bill removes the medical necessity requirement, which is a standard condition for health plans in determining coverage of specific services.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom