



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 06 2025

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 717 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Public Health to maintain a regional registry infrastructure and statewide system for the California Cancer Registry, which provides statewide cancer surveillance and reporting and is funded through the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

I appreciate the author's intent to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of California's cancer surveillance system in the face of federal funding cuts – a recent NIH directive mandates a 15 percent cut in contracts, including those funding the California Cancer Registry. Unfortunately, by locking a regional cancer surveillance model in statute, this bill would constrain the Department's ability to update its infrastructure, respond to evolving public health needs, and implement cost-saving strategies to sustain the program. The state needs flexibility to adapt to reduced federal funding, which is not provided for by this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom

