



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2026

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2593 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit a supervisor, administrator, or employee of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) or the California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) from interfering with or refusing to implement prescribed healthcare that results in substantial emotional distress or serious bodily injury.

While well-intended, I am concerned this bill could ultimately weaken the quality and accountability of patient care. In particular, this bill may directly conflict with the court-ordered healthcare system established under *Plata v. Newsom* and may cause challenges with the federal courts, risking backsliding in the significant progress made to fully delegate healthcare back to CDCR.

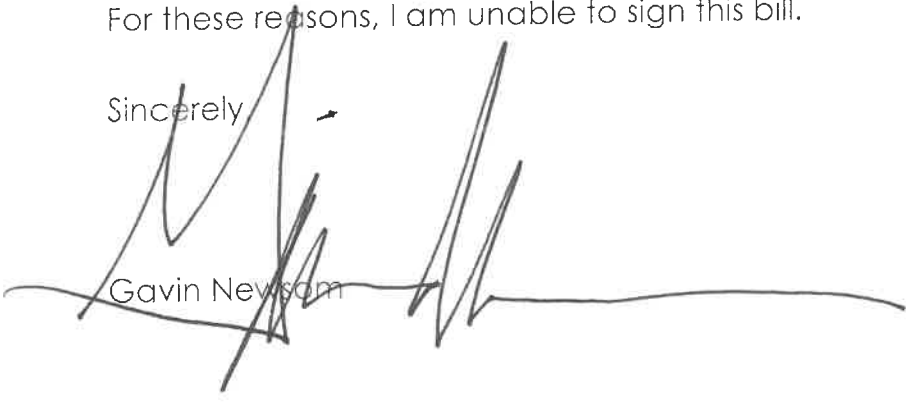
Further, this bill does not appear limited to CCHCS-employed providers and could potentially encompass healthcare recommendations from contractors, outside specialists, hospitals, or other community providers, creating uncertainty regarding either CDCR's or CCHCS's ability to independently evaluate outside treatment recommendations as they pertain to medical necessity. I am concerned about the potential liability tied to subsequent patient harm, as supervisors and clinicians may be reluctant to question or modify another

provider's treatment decision even when doing so is part of their professional responsibilities or necessary to protect patient safety.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom", is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "G" and a long horizontal line extending to the right.