



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2014

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

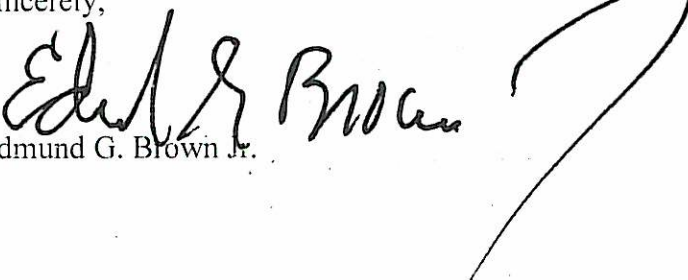
Assembly Bill 2325 would require the Department of Health Care Services to establish the CommuniCal program to certify and restructure current interpreter services provided under Medi-Cal, and afford certified interpreters collective bargaining rights.

Last year, I vetoed these same provisions because California had embarked on an unprecedented expansion of our Medi-Cal program and I did not believe it wise to introduce more complexity given the many unknowns the state was facing. Since then, our challenges have neither diminished in number or difficulty. We are still in the throes of managing new enrollments, new renewals and expanding provider networks.

In reconsidering this measure, however, it appears that this bill contains more liabilities than were previously known. The provisions governing collective bargaining go above and beyond what public employees enjoy and potentially create new scopes of representation and litigation.

To the extent that interpretation services under Medi-Cal are insufficient, we should work together on appropriate cost-effective initiatives to help patients in need. I'm weary at this time of adding significant new costs to the Medi-Cal program when already in the last two years Medi-Cal General Fund spending has grown almost \$2.5 billion.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown Jr.", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.