



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2014

To the Members of the California State Senate:

Senate Bill 1341 requires the Statewide Automated Welfare System to be used to create and send "notices of action" for the Medi-Cal program and, in certain situations, the health insurance premium tax credit program, beginning January 1, 2016. These notices are important for communicating with beneficiaries and applicants about their eligibility, enrollment or disenrollment in health coverage.

More than 2 million people have enrolled in Medi-Cal and more than 1 million in Covered California since the end of last year. Many challenges remain, but the increase in health coverage has been significant, thanks to the efforts of the Department of Health Care Services, Covered California, community based organizations, and in particular, our county workers and partners, who have navigated enormous changes to our state's Medi-Cal program and are critical in maintaining program integrity.

Much functionality is still in development, and the timeframe of January 1, 2016, for executing more systems changes may be overly ambitious. I am signing this bill, however, because it codifies an aspirational target that we should all strive to meet, understanding that our best efforts to meet these challenges may need more time.

Now and in the coming months, the department will continue to work diligently with counties and Covered California to improve the enrollment and renewal processes for all eligible beneficiaries. Our success depends on collaboration and cooperation, harnessing the indispensable knowledge and experience of county workers with improved systems capabilities. I am confident we are all up to the task.

Sincerely,



Edmund G. Brown Jr.