



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 27 2013

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 62 without my signature.

The bill would require a county coroner to make a report to the Medical Board whenever a Schedule II, III or IV drug was found to be the cause of death.

While I am concerned about the harm caused by prescription drug misuse and overdose, the bill creates an unfunded mandate for the state, potentially in the millions of dollars.

Instead, I am signing SB 670, which gives the Medical Board better access to information needed to investigate suspicious deaths. I am also signing SB 809, which modestly increases practitioners' licensing fees to fund a sorely needed overhaul of the state's Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System and Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

I expect that these measures, along with more vigorous efforts by the Board, will help detect and prevent prescription drug abuse without further burdening taxpayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edmund G. Brown Jr." with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Edmund G. Brown Jr.