



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 09 2017

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 715 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Public Health to convene a workgroup to develop a statewide guideline for prescribing opioids for acute, short term pain.

Opioid misuse and addiction is a national epidemic that has been devastating for many California communities. Since 2014, the Department of Public Health has lead the Prescription Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Workgroup which is comprised of state and local agencies as well as medical and patient organizations committed to reducing opioid overdose rates in California. Furthermore, both the California Medical Board and the federal Centers for Disease Control have published updated guidelines for prescribing controlled substances for pain including opioids. For these reasons, this bill is unnecessary.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.