



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 19 2018

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2317 without my signature.

This bill would extend whistleblower protections afforded to employees to patients' rights advocates regardless of whether they are an employee, an independent contractor, or a business entity.

While I am supportive of the larger policy goal of this bill, to protect the work of patient rights advocates, this is not the appropriate framework. The bill would expand the Labor Commissioner's jurisdiction beyond the typical employer-employee relationship into larger contract disputes between independent contractors and local governments. I do not believe such a broad change in law is warranted when there is limited evidence of a problem.

Sincerely,


Edmund G. Brown Jr.