



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 30 2018

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1288 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Public Health to issue a specific penalty for violating nurse-to-patient ratio requirements.

California hospitals are regularly inspected to assure patient safety and quality of care. When violations are found, penalties are imposed based on an overall assessment of the severity and duration of the violations, including for any failure to meet the required staffing ratio.

Nurse-to-patient ratios are a vital part of the state's regulatory scheme. Hospitals, however, are best evaluated in a comprehensive manner and I am reluctant to start singling out specific violations for a separate penalty.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.