CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY 2013

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Index of Legislation by Primary Program Area .................................................. iii

## Summaries of Legislation

**CENTER FOR CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION** .......................................................... 1  
   Chronic Disease and Injury Control ................................................................. 1  
   Environmental and Occupational Disease Control ........................................... 3  

**CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH** ..................................................... 4  
   Drinking Water and Environmental Management .............................................. 4  
   Food, Drug, and Radiation Safety ................................................................. 6  

**CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH** ................................................................. 7  
   Genetic Disease Screening Program ............................................................. 7  
   Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program ................. 7  

**CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE QUALITY** ...................................................... 8  
   Laboratory Field Services ............................................................................... 8  
   Licensing and Certification ............................................................................. 8  

**CENTER FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES** ......................................................... 12  
   AIDS, Office of ............................................................................................... 12  
   Communicable Disease Control ..................................................................... 13  

**ADMINISTRATION** .............................................................................................. 14  

**CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS** ......................... 14  

**LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS** ........................................... 14  

**PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** ......................................... 16  

Numeric Index of 2013 Legislation .................................................................... 17  

Programs and Acronyms ..................................................................................... 20  

Letter to Journal and Sign Messages Index ..................................................... 21  

Veto Messages Index ......................................................................................... 22  
(Followed by Letter to Journal and Governor’s Sign/Veto Messages in Numeric Order)
LEGISLATION BY PRIMARY PROGRAM AREA

CENTER FOR CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

Chronic Disease and Injury Control

AB 16  Domestic Violence: Corporal Injury ................................................................. 1
AB 75  Alcohol and Drug Problems ........................................................................ 1
AB 139 Domestic Violence: Fees ........................................................................... 1
AB 174 Public Schools Health Centers ..................................................................... 1
AB 290 Child Day Care: Childhood Nutrition Training ............................................. 2
AB 309 CalFresh: Homeless Youth .......................................................................... 2
AB 352 Foster Care: Smoke-Free Environment ......................................................... 2
AB 394 Personal Income Tax: Voluntary Contributions: Alzheimer’s Disease .......... 2
AB 626 School Nutrition ....................................................................................... 4
AB 714 Roman Reed Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund ........................................... 3

Environmental and Occupational Disease Control

SB 488  Substandard Housing: Regulations .............................................................. 3

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Drinking Water and Environmental Management

AB 21  Safe Drinking Water Small Community Emergency Grant Fund ............... 4
AB 115 Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund .................................................. 4
AB 118 Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund .................................................. 4
AB 119 Water Treatment Devices ........................................................................... 4
AB 240 Mutual Water Companies .......................................................................... 5
AB 803 Water Recycling Act of 2013 ................................................................... 5
AB 1168 Safe Body Art ............................................................................................. 5
SB 14  Bear Lake Reservoir: Recreational Use ......................................................... 5
SB 322 Water Recycling ......................................................................................... 6

Food, Drug, and Radiation Safety

AB 1252 Retail Food Safety ..................................................................................... 6
AB 1400 Export documents: Expiration .................................................................. 6
SB 465 Packaging and Labeling: Containers: Slack Fill ....................................... 6
## CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH

### Genetic Disease Screening Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 460</td>
<td>Prenatal Testing Program: Education</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 402</td>
<td>Breastfeeding</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CENTER FOR HEALTH CARE QUALITY

### Laboratory Field Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 1215</td>
<td>Clinical Laboratories</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Licensing and Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 297</td>
<td>Primary Care Clinics</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 602</td>
<td>Mentally and Developmentally Disabled Persons: Reporting Abuse</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 620</td>
<td>Health and Care Facilities: Missing Patients and Participants</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 974</td>
<td>Patient Transfer: Nonmedical Reasons: Notice to Contact Person or Next of Kin</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 980</td>
<td>Primary Care Clinics: Abortion</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 304</td>
<td>Healing Arts: Boards</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 357</td>
<td>Elective Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) Pilot Program</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 364</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 534</td>
<td>Health and Care Facilities</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 651</td>
<td>Developmental Center and State Hospitals</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 809</td>
<td>Controlled Substances: Reporting</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 816</td>
<td>Hospice Facilities: Developmental Disabilities: Intellectual Disabilities</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CENTER FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### AIDS, Office of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 446</td>
<td>HIV Testing</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 506</td>
<td>HIV Testing: Infants</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 999</td>
<td>Prisoner Protections for Family and Community Health Act</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 249</td>
<td>Public Health: Health Records: Confidentiality</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 346</td>
<td>Public Social Services: Records</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communicable Disease Control

AB 272 Rabies: Vaccinations .................................................................................................13

MISCELLANEOUS

Administration

AB 906 Personal Services Contracts.......................................................................................14

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

AB 464 Vital Records ...............................................................................................................14
AB 1121 Gender Identity: Petition for Change of Name .......................................................14

Legislative and Governmental Affairs

AB 82 Health ..........................................................................................................................14
AB 383 Maintenance of the Codes ..........................................................................................15
AB 1317 State Government Operations ....................................................................................16
SB 82 Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act of 2013 ......................................................16
SB 101 Health ........................................................................................................................16

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

AB 918 Emergency Services Preparedness .............................................................................16
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: CORPORAL INJURY

This bill expands the types of offenders that can be charged with a domestic violence (DV) felony to include an offender who is the victim’s fiancé or person with whom the defendant currently has, or previously had, a dating or engagement relationship.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS

This bill enacts policy changes necessary to eliminate the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (DADP), transfer the administration of prevention, treatment, and recovery services for alcohol and drug abuse to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and transfer services for problem gambling to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). This bill also requires that DHCS and CDPH, by April 1, 2014 and by March 1 every year thereafter until July 1, 2018, submit specified reports to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the appropriate Budget Committees.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: FEES

This bill clarifies that the payment collected from convicted batterers in a DV case is a fee, not a fine, and as such, is not subject to reduction for time served. The bill allows a county board of supervisors to request an accounting of funds deposited from these fees and authorizes eight percent of the fees collected and deposited in county DV programs’ special funds to be used for administrative costs.

PUBLIC SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS

This bill would have required the CDPH Public School Health Center Support Program to establish, within the County of Alameda, a pilot grant program for the 2015-16 school year, contingent upon funding from non-state sources. The grant program would have funded local education agencies, nonprofit organizations, and school health centers, to provide activities and services to directly address the mental health and related needs of students who are impacted by trauma.
AB 290  Alejo (Chapter 734)
CHILD DAY CARE:  CHILDHOOD NUTRITION TRAINING

This bill adds one hour of instruction on childhood nutrition to the existing 15 hour training required for child day care licensure issued on or after January 1, 2016. The training must include content on age-appropriate meals based on the most current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and on reimbursement rates for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) and approved by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). In addition, EMSA approved trainers are required to direct child care providers to the CACFP Unit of the Nutrition Services Division of the State Department of Education for detailed information on CACFP eligibility and enrollment.

AB 309  Mitchell (Chapter 97)
CALFRESH:  HOMELESS YOUTH

This bill clarifies that eligibility for CalFresh benefits, including expedited services, are not dependent on the age of an applicant and that county welfare departments must accept applications from unaccompanied homeless children and youth. This bill requires departments to make information about CalFresh expedited services targeted to the homeless population available to local educational agency liaisons and include information on CalFresh eligibility for unaccompanied homeless children in the training provided to homeless shelter operators.

AB 352  Hall (Chapter 292)
FOSTER CARE:  SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

This bill requires that group homes, foster family agencies, small family homes, transitional housing placement providers and crisis nurseries, licensed pursuant to the California Community Care Facilities Act (Act) to provide residential foster care to a child, to maintain a smoke-free environment in the facility. This bill prohibits a person licensed or certified under the Act from smoking, or permitting any person to smoke inside the facility. This bill also prohibits smoking in the outdoor grounds of the facility when the child is present. In addition, a person licensed or certified under the Act is prohibited from smoking in any motor vehicle that is regularly used to transport the child.

AB 394  Yamada (Chapter 671)
PERSONAL INCOME TAX:  VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS:  ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE

This bill extends the sunset date to retain the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Research (ADRDR) Fund income tax check-off on personal income tax forms, from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2020.
AB 626  Skinner (Chapter 706)  
**SCHOOL NUTRITION**  

This bill makes numerous changes to current law related to school nutrition, mostly to conform to the federal Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA).

AB 714  Wieckowski (Vetoed)  
**ROMAN REED SPINAL CORD INJURY RESEARCH FUND**  

This bill would have appropriated $1 million from the General Fund to the spinal cord injury research fund authorized by the Roman Reed Spinal Cord Injury Research Act of 1999.

**Environmental and Occupational Disease Control**

SB 488  Hueso (Chapter 89)  
**SUBSTANDARD HOUSING: REGULATIONS**  

This bill authorizes local code enforcement officers, after successful course completion in the appropriate subject matter, to determine whether pest infestation exists and to enforce substandard housing laws. SB 488 expands the agencies that are allowed to enforce regulations related to lead hazards by including local housing departments. In addition, this bill includes non-substantive changes to reflect the prior reorganization of the California Department of Health Services into two departments, the CDPH and the Department of Health Care Services. This bill clarifies that CDPH has enforcement authority over State Housing Law in regard to lead hazards.
AB 21  Alejo (Chapter 628)  
**SAFE DRINKING WATER SMALL COMMUNITY EMERGENCY GRANT FUND**

This bill establishes the Safe Drinking Water Small Community Emergency Grant Fund to provide funding for specified water projects that serve disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities. This bill authorizes the CDPH to charge a fee in lieu of interest on projects funded through the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SDWSRF) to fund the Emergency Grant Fund and will cap the fund at $50 million. The funds are to be expended in a manner consistent with federal grant regulations.

AB 115  Perea (Chapter 630)  
**SAFE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND**

This bill clarifies the circumstances under which a third party may apply for SDWSRF money on behalf of one or more public water systems for the purposes of a planning and feasibility project study.

AB 118  Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (Chapter 631)  
**SAFE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND**

This bill deems public water systems meeting specified criteria as eligible for grants through the SDWSRF, rather than requiring the CDPH to make a finding, and will remove caps on the amount of SDWSRF funding a project may receive through interest-bearing loans could receive.

AB 119  Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (Chapter 403)  
**WATER TREATMENT DEVICES**

This bill revises existing law related to the sale and marketing of residential water treatment devices in California to require the CDPH to post a list of third-party certified devices and related specified information on the department’s internet website, rather than certify each device. This bill will modify existing law to require “approval” rather than “certification” of water treatment devices offered for sale in California that make health claims. That approval would be provided by an independent testing organization that has been accredited by the American National Standards Institute.

Health and Safety Code (H&SC) Section 116836(b) allows drinking water devices with CDPH approval and certification prior to November 1, 2013, to remain in force and allows the continuation of sales of those certified products.
AB 240  Rendon (Chapter 633)
**MUTUAL WATER COMPANIES**

This bill amends existing law related to the board of directors of a mutual water company and declares the intent of the Legislature to encourage collaboration among mutual water companies that operate public water systems in the City of Maywood for the purposes of consolidating the drinking water services for residents and local businesses. This bill modifies a 2011 Budget Act appropriation for $7.5 million from Proposition 84 funds around grants to the Water Replenishment District of Southern California for water quality improvement projects for the City of Maywood until January 1, 2018. The amount appropriated from Proposition 84 funds was reduced by the Governor from $7.5 million to $1 million.

AB 803  Gomez (Chapter 635)
**WATER RECYCLING ACT OF 2013**

This bill allows cemeteries to attach a hose bib to a recycled water pipe in an area accessible to the general public, if the cemetery attaches specified signage. The bill also revises the reporting threshold for unauthorized discharges of recycled water and will no longer require notification to the local health officer or director of environmental health.

AB 1168  Pan (Chapter 555)
**SAFE BODY ART**

This bill makes minor, but necessary, technical and clarifying changes to the Safe Body Art Act, which establishes minimum statewide safety standards for body art practitioners and provides comprehensive regulation of body art standards by local enforcement agencies. Changes include removing an unenforceable apprenticeship requirement, changing language to better comply with federal privacy law, and clarifying the treatment of sharps waste, as defined.

SB 14  Gaines (Chapter 172)
**BEAR LAKE RESERVOIR: RECREATIONAL USE**

This bill allows conditional body contact recreational use of the Bear Lake Reservoir if specific water treatment, monitoring, and reporting requirements are met by the Lake Alpine Water Company. It is necessary that this act take effect immediately.
SB 322  Hueso (Chapter 637)
WATER RECYCLING

This bill requires an expert advisory panel, on matters related to indirect and direct reuse of recycled water, to be convened by February 15, 2014. This bill also requires CDPH to convene an advisory group, made up of certain members, on or before January 15, 2014. The California Department of Public Health is required to consult this advisory group as to the selection of expert panel members. The bill makes other technical changes to existing law.

Food, Drug, and Radiation Safety

AB 1252  Committee on Health (Chapter 556)
RETAIL FOOD SAFETY

This bill makes changes to the California Retail Food Code, specifically to retail food facilities’ sanitation requirements and cottage food operations. Changes include: updating standards on employee hand washing, bare-hand contact with ready-to-eat foods, allowance of service animals, temporary food facility utensil washing sinks, water heater capacity, mobile food vehicle signage, and defining “hot dog” and “highly susceptible population” for purposes of the code.

This bill also clarifies that cottage food operators may directly sell their products statewide instead of being limited to the county in which they are either registered or permitted.

AB 1400  Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy (Chapter 539)
EXPORT DOCUMENTS: EXPIRATION

This bill allows a person requesting an export document to submit the request in hardcopy or electronic format to the CDPH, including electronic copies of labels or advertisements. The bill requires the CDPH to develop procedures to expedite approval of requests for export documents. This bill also extends the approval date of the export certificate from 180 days to one year.

SB 465  Correa (Chapter 429)
PACKAGING AND LABELING: CONTAINERS: SLACK FILL

This bill amends existing law related to slack fill and deceptive packaging presentation. SB 465 defines nonfunctional slack fill as the empty space in a package that is substantially filled to less than its capacity for reasons other than those specified exemptions. The purpose of this bill is to clarify the application of slack fill exemptions already codified in law.
CENTER FOR FAMILY HEALTH

Genetic Disease Screening Program

SB 460 Pavley (Chapter 667)
PRENATAL TESTING PROGRAM: EDUCATION

This bill requires the CDPH, Genetic Disease Screening Program, Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program’s educational materials to include information encouraging patients to learn more about the importance of avoiding consumer products that contain chemicals that are known to be harmful to reproductive health. The PNS Program will be required to add mandated wording and links to environmental health information to the Program’s patient educational materials, to send a notice to all prenatal care providers regarding the changes, and to post the information on the Program’s website.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program

SB 402 De León (Chapter 666)
BREASTFEEDING

This bill requires all general acute care hospitals and special hospitals with perinatal units to adopt, by January 1, 2025, the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding or an alternate process adopted by a health care service plan that includes evidenced-based policies and practices, targeted outcomes, or the Model Hospital Policy Recommendations.
This bill expands the definition of a “laboratory director” to include a Clinical Laboratory Scientist (CLS) and a limited CLS for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived examinations or tests.

This bill allows primary care clinics (PCCs) to submit verification of certification from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care or any other accrediting organization recognized by the department for entry into the Electronic Licensing Management System for purposes of data collection and extraction for licensing and certification fee calculations. The bill also corrects references to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations to reflect its current name, the Joint Commission.

This bill requires a developmental center to report resident deaths and certain serious injuries, including a sexual assault, to local law enforcement no later than within two hours of observing, obtaining knowledge of, or suspecting abuse. This bill also requires mandated reporters to report cases of elder or dependent adult abuse to the local law enforcement agency, in addition to designated investigators of the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) or the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), if the suspected or alleged abuse or neglect occurred in a state mental hospital or state developmental center and resulted in any specified incidents, including a death or a sexual assault. Local law enforcement is required to coordinate efforts with the designated investigators of DSH or DDS to provide the most immediate and appropriate response warranted to investigate the mandated report. Finally, this bill requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to, by July 1, 2015, establish and maintain an updated training course relating to law enforcement interaction with persons with mental or developmental disabilities living within a state mental hospital or state developmental center.
**AB 620** Buchanan (Chapter 674)
**HEALTH AND CARE FACILITIES: MISSING PATIENTS AND PARTICIPANTS**

This bill requires long term care facilities to develop and comply with an absentee notification plan that includes procedures to be followed when the facility discovers that one of its patients, residents, or participants is missing from the facility. Each plan includes requirements for the facility to inform the missing person’s authorized representative and the circumstances under which the facility must notify law enforcement.

**AB 974** Hall (Chapter 711)
**PATIENT TRANSFER: NONMEDICAL REASONS: NOTICE TO CONTACT PERSON OR NEXT OF KIN**

This bill requires that, prior to a transfer of a patient for a nonmedical reason, a general acute care hospital ask a patient if there is an emergency contact or next of kin that should be notified of the proposed transfer. If the patient is unable to respond, the hospital will make a reasonable effort to alert the emergency contact or next of kin of the transfer, prior to the transfer.

**AB 980** Pan (Chapter 663)
**PRIMARY CARE CLINICS: ABORTION**

This bill directs the CDPH to repeal the regulations under its jurisdiction related to approving abortion services in primary care clinics (PCCs). Additionally, the bill requires the repeal of sections of the 2013 Triennial Edition of California Building Standards Code that hold PCCs approved to provide abortion services to different building standards than other PCCs.

**SB 304** Lieu (Chapter 515)
**HEALING ARTS: BOARDS**

This is the joint sunset review bill for the Medical Board of California (MBC) Veterinary Medicine Board (VMB) under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). This bill makes changes to the practice acts and extends the boards’ sunset dates. This bill requires accredited outpatient settings to report adverse events to MBC rather than the CDPH and gives the MBC the authority to apply penalties for failure to report.

The California Department of Public Health analyzed provisions of this bill that impacted the licensing and certification functions of CDPH and deferred to DCA the provisions that impact the MBC and the VMB.
SB 357  Correa (Chapter 202)

ELECTIVE PERCUTANEOUS CORONARY INTERVENTION PILOT PROGRAM

This bill postpones the Elective Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) Pilot Program’s current sunset date for one year to January 1, 2015, and requires the program’s Advisory Oversight Committee to submit its final report to the CDPH by November 30, 2013. The purpose of this bill is to allow the PCI Pilot Program to continue for a sufficient period of time after completion of the final reports documenting the pilot’s safety and effectiveness to give the Legislature an opportunity to take informed action before the pilot’s final sunset date. It is necessary that this act take effect immediately.

SB 364  Steinberg (Chapter 567)

MENTAL HEALTH

This bill broadens the types of facilities a county may designate for the purpose of treatment and evaluation under the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act, to include specified facilities licensed or certified as mental health treatment facilities by the Department of Health Care Services or the CDPH. This bill authorizes county mental health directors to develop procedures for the designation and training of professionals who may perform functions under the LPS Act. This bill also restructures and recasts several provisions of the LPS Act to more accurately reflect the sequence of events when a person is involuntarily detained, and makes terminological and technical changes.

SB 534  Hernandez (Chapter 722)

HEALTH AND CARE FACILITIES

This bill authorizes the CDPH to adopt existing federal regulatory standards as the state licensing standards for chronic dialysis clinics, rehabilitation clinics, surgical clinics, and intermediate care facilities/developmentally disabled-nursing facilities until state regulations are adopted. This bill also creates an exemption to current law to allow a multi-story congregate living health facility to open at a location on the former McClellan Air Force Base. It is necessary that this act take effect immediately.

SB 651  Pavely (Chapter 724)

DEVELOPMENTAL CENTERS AND STATE HOSPITALS

This bill requires investigators to request a medical evidentiary examination for any resident at a state mental hospital or developmental center who is a victim or reasonably suspected to be a victim of sexual assault. This bill institutes a Class B violation for developmental centers that fail to report specified incidents that occur in distinct part long-term health care facilities, and will institute monetary penalties for general acute care hospital or acute
psychiatric hospital portions of a developmental center that fail to report specified incidents. This bill adds distinct part intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled to the definition of a long-term health care facility.

SB 809  DeSaulnier (Chapter 400)
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES: REPORTING

This bill establishes the Controlled Substance Utilization Review Evaluation System (CURES) Fund within the State Treasury to receive funds to be allocated, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Department of Justice for the purpose of funding CURES, and will make related findings and declarations.

SB 816  Committee on Health (Chapter 289)
HOSPICE FACILITIES: DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

This bill makes technical, non-substantive changes to existing laws affecting hospice facilities and developmental and intellectual disabilities in order to correct an inaccurate reference to the Code of Federal Regulations and remove outdated terminology.
AB 446  Mitchell (Chapter 589)  
**HIV TESTING**

This bill eliminates the requirement for written consent for HIV testing and instead allows oral or written consent in non-medical settings, along with physician requirements for documenting a patient’s consent. This bill specifies the information that must be provided by the medical care provider or person who administered the test to the patient after positive or negative test results are received. Patients who have a blood draw at a primary care clinic shall be offered an HIV test consistent with United States Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendation. In the case of anonymous HIV testing, AB 446 allows the electronic posting of both positive and negative HIV antibody test results to a secure Internet website that does not identify the subject of the test.

AB 506  Mitchell (Chapter 153)  
**HIV TESTING: INFANTS**

This bill allows a social worker to give written consent for an HIV test to be given to an infant (less than 12 months old) who is undergoing a physical exam or receiving medical care while the infant is in temporary custody or deemed dependent pursuant to the Welfare and Institutions Code Section 360 and Section 369.

AB 999  Bonta (Vetoed)  
**PRISONER PROTECTIONS FOR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH ACT**

This bill would have required the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop a five-year plan to expand the availability of condoms in all California prisons.

SB 249  Leno (Chapter 445)  
**PUBLIC HEALTH: HEALTH RECORDS: CONFIDENTIALITY**

This bill: 1) authorizes both local health officers and the CDPH to access electronic HIV laboratory reports submitted by laboratories; 2) authorizes local public health department staff to further disclose HIV-related local public health records to the HIV-infected person (subject of the record) or the person’s HIV health care provider for the purpose of offering and coordinating care and treatment services to the person; 3) permits the CDPH to share public health records (HIV/AIDS data) related to Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (Ryan White) clients who may be eligible for federal
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) services with PPACA qualified entities; and 4) permits qualified entities to share HIV-related beneficiary data with the CDPH.

SB 346 Beall (Chapter 658)
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: RECORDS

This bill includes in the definition of public social services publicly funded health care services administered or supervised by the department or the State Department of Health Care Services, except as specified. The bill will state that this provision clarifies existing law.

Communicable Disease Control

AB 272 Gomez (Chapter 582)
RABIES: VACCINATIONS

This bill requires all dogs to be vaccinated against rabies after the age of three months or older. This bill also requires canine rabies vaccination to be administered according to the vaccine label.
MISCELLANEOUS

Administration

AB 906  Pan (Chapter 744)
PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS

This bill bars a state department from executing a proposed personal services contract until the contracting department or agency certifies that all of the organizations that represent state employees who perform the type of work to be contracted are notified. The Department of General Services (DGS) is required to establish the above mentioned certification process.

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

AB 464  Daly (Chapter 78)
VITAL RECORDS

This bill allows vital records requests and notarized statements to be received via digitized image, defined as scanned and emailed documents. This bill also clarifies the definition of certified death record copies in the Probate Code, and removes requests for certified copies of military service records from H&SC Section 103526(a), as those requests are already subject to different provisions of existing law.

AB 1121  Atkins (Chapter 651)
GENDER IDENTITY: PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

This bill creates a new administrative process to change the gender on a birth certificate for transgender individuals. This bill requires the court to grant an uncontested gender change petition without a hearing for transgender petitioners, exempt transgender-related name change petitions from newspaper publication requirements, and extend confidentiality protections after a legal name and gender change.

Legislative and Governmental Affairs

AB 82  Committee on Budget (Chapter 23)
HEALTH

This bill implements provisions of the State Budget for FY 2013-14, as it pertains to programs administered by the DHCS, CDPH, DDS, DSH, California Health Benefit Exchange, Department of Managed Health Care, Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board and the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).
Section 16 requires the CDPH Safe Cosmetics Program to develop a website to enhance consumer understanding of the ingredients included in cosmetics and authorizes the Department to include links to other educational and information websites in order to best explain the carcinogenicity or reproductive toxicity of specific cosmetic ingredients.

Section 73 requires CDPH to notify JLBC by October 1, 2013 of any projections or assumptions used to develop the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) estimated budget for the 2013 Budget Act that will result in an inability of ADAP to provide services to ADAP clients. If the CDPH makes such a determination prior to October 1, 2013, then the department must inform the JLBC within 15 calendar day of making the determination.

This legislative report will notify the Legislature of potential ADAP service gaps before January 2014 when the PPACA health coverage programs are to be fully implemented.

Section 74 requires the CDPH to, by October 1, 2013, submit to the fiscal and appropriate policy committees of the Legislature a report describing how the department plans to address the findings and recommendations described in its “Zero-Based Budgeting Review” report (dated May 14, 2013) regarding the Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (BabyBIG).

AB 383
Wagner (Chapter 76)

MAINTENANCE OF THE CODES

This bill makes technical, non-substantive changes to various sections of California Code. The purpose of the bill is to effectuate the recommendations of the Legislative Counsel necessary for maintenance of the codes.

- Section. 1. This section updates Section 1202 of the Business and Professions Code to reference the Department of Public Health.
- Section 106. This section corrects a reference to the Code of Federal Regulations within Section 1339.40 of the H&SC as it pertains to the licensing of hospice facilities.
- Section 121. This section makes minor and technical changes to Section 106985 of the H&SC relating to the Radiologic Technology Act.
- Section 122. This section makes minor and technical changes to Section 114365.5 of the H&SC relating to cottage food operations.
- Section 123. This section makes minor and technical changes to Section 114380 of the H&SC as it pertains to retail and school food facilities.
Section 124. This section makes minor and technical changes to Section 116565 of the H&SC as it pertains to public water systems.

Section 125. This section makes minor and technical changes to Section 120365 of the H&SC as it pertains to immunization.

Section 126. This section makes a minor and technical change to Section 123327 of the H&SC pertaining to retail food vendors.

AB 1317  Frazier (Chapter 352)
STATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

This bill enacts statutory changes necessary to reflect the recent reorganization of state government and makes additional conforming name changes to reflect the assignment and reorganization of the functions of state government among the newly established executive officers and agencies.

SB 82  Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review (Chapter 34)
INVESTMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH WELLNESS ACT

This bill enacts policy changes necessary to establish the Investment in Mental Health Wellness act of 2013 as funded in the 2013-14 State Budget. This bill sets out grant criteria to be used by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to award grants for local mental health service programs.

SB 101  Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review (Chapter 361)
HEALTH

This bill makes technical changes and clarifies language regarding the liquidation of encumbrances and the transfer of appropriations from the former California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs to the Department of Health Care Services and the CDPH. This bill also makes appropriations for mental health services and creates the Healthcare Outreach and Medi-Cal Enrollment Account within the Department of Health Care Services.

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

AB 918  Cooley (Chapter 187)
EMERGENCY SERVICES: PREPAREDNESS

This bill requires the Office of Emergency Services, on or before July 31, 2015 to update the State Emergency Plan to include proposed best practices for local governments and nongovernmental entities to mobilize and evacuate people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs during an emergency or natural disaster.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BILL NUMBER</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>FINAL STATUS</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>PROGRAM*</th>
<th>PAGE NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 16</td>
<td>Pérez</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 21</td>
<td>Alejo</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 75</td>
<td>Committee on Budget</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 82</td>
<td>Committee on Budget</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 115</td>
<td>Perea</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>630</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 118</td>
<td>Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 119</td>
<td>Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 139</td>
<td>Holden</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 174</td>
<td>Bonta</td>
<td>VETO</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 240</td>
<td>Rendon</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 272</td>
<td>Gomez</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 290</td>
<td>Alejo</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 297</td>
<td>Chesbro</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 309</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 352</td>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 383</td>
<td>Wagner</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 394</td>
<td>Yamada</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>671</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 446</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 464</td>
<td>Daly</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 506</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 602</td>
<td>Yamada</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 620</td>
<td>Buchanan</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BILL NUMBER</td>
<td>AUTHOR</td>
<td>FINAL STATUS</td>
<td>CHAPTER</td>
<td>PROGRAM*</td>
<td>PAGE NUMBER</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 626</td>
<td>Skinner</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 714</td>
<td>Wieckowski</td>
<td>VETO</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>CD</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 803</td>
<td>Gomez</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 906</td>
<td>Pan</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>AD</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 918</td>
<td>Cooley</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>EP</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 974</td>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 980</td>
<td>Pan</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 999</td>
<td>Bonta</td>
<td>VETO</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1121</td>
<td>Atkins</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>651</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1168</td>
<td>Pan</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1215</td>
<td>Hagman</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1252</td>
<td>Committee on Health</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>556</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1317</td>
<td>Frazier</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 1400</td>
<td>Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 14</td>
<td>Gaines</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 82</td>
<td>Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 101</td>
<td>Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 249</td>
<td>Leno</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 304</td>
<td>Lieu</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 322</td>
<td>Hueso</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 346</td>
<td>Beall</td>
<td>SIGH</td>
<td>658</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 357</td>
<td>Correa</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 364</td>
<td>Steinberg</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 402</td>
<td>De León</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>WC</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BILL NUMBER</td>
<td>AUTHOR</td>
<td>FINAL STATUS</td>
<td>CHAPTER</td>
<td>PROGRAM*</td>
<td>PAGE NUMBER</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 460</td>
<td>Pavley</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>667</td>
<td>GD</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 465</td>
<td>Correa</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 488</td>
<td>Hueso</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>EO</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 534</td>
<td>Hernandez</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 651</td>
<td>Pavley</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 809</td>
<td>DeSaulnier</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 816</td>
<td>Committee on Health</td>
<td>SIGN</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See Programs and Acronyms on Page 19.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>AD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS, Office of</td>
<td>AS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binational Border Health, Office of</td>
<td>BH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Office</td>
<td>BO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Disease and Injury Control</td>
<td>CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicable Disease Control</td>
<td>DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking Water and Environmental Management</td>
<td>DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and Occupational Disease Control</td>
<td>EO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Preparedness Office</td>
<td>EP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, Drug, and Radiation Safety</td>
<td>FR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetic Disease Screening Programing</td>
<td>GD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Equity, Office of</td>
<td>OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Statistics and Informatics, Center for</td>
<td>HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Field Services</td>
<td>LS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing and Certification</td>
<td>LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Services, Office of</td>
<td>LS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program</td>
<td>WC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# LETTER TO JOURNAL/SIGN MESSAGES

(Letter and Sign Messages follow this index in numeric order.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BILL NUMBER</th>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>PROGRAM*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB 119</td>
<td>Committee on</td>
<td>Water Treatment Devices</td>
<td>DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental Safety</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Toxic Materials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 240</td>
<td>Rendon</td>
<td>Mutual Water Companies</td>
<td>DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 322</td>
<td>Hueso</td>
<td>Water Recycling</td>
<td>DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BILL NUMBER</td>
<td>AUTHOR</td>
<td>SUBJECT</td>
<td>PROGRAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 174</td>
<td>Bonta</td>
<td>Public School Health Centers</td>
<td>CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 714</td>
<td>Wieckowski</td>
<td>Roman Reed Spinal Cord Injury Research Fund</td>
<td>CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB 999</td>
<td>Bonta</td>
<td>Prisoner Protections for Family and Community Health Act</td>
<td>AS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
September 12, 2013

E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, California

Dear Mr. Wilson:

As the author of Assembly Bill no 119, I am requesting the inclusion into the Assembly Daily Journal my statement to provide clarity as to the intent and interpretation of the bill as it relates to the allowable sale of home water treatment devices.

AB 119 would modify existing law to require “approval” rather than “certification” of water treatment devices offered for sale in California that make health claims. That approval would be provided by an independent testing organization that has been accredited by the American NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE.

For those drinking water devices that received the Department of Public Health approval and certification prior to November 1, 2013, the Health and Safety Code Section 116836 (b) is intended to allow those existing certificates to be in force and allow the continued sales of those certified products.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Luis Alejo,
Chairman
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 8 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 240 but reducing the amount appropriated from Proposition 84 funds.

The author notes that much progress has been made in Maywood by the mutual water companies that serve the community and its partners, including the Water Replenishment District.

For these reasons I am reducing the appropriation from $7,500,000 to $1,000,000. In addition to this bill's appropriation, I also signed AB 115 that will allow the public agencies to apply on behalf of other public water systems for the benefit of the communities. The Replenishment District will have the ability to continue to partner with the companies through the existing competitive process.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
OCT 08 2013

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing SB 322 which requires the Department of Public Health in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, to investigate the feasibility of developing uniform water recycling criteria for direct potable reuse by September 2016.

This information is past due. In an effort to enhance the use of recycled water, I have proposed the consolidation of the management of the drinking water program and all other water quality programs, including recycled water, under the State Water Board.

I am directing the Water Board to ensure that this work is completed expeditiously. The 3-year time frame mandated in this bill is too slow. California needs more high quality water and recycling is key to getting there.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
OCT 9 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

Assembly Bill 174 aims to establish a pilot program in Alameda County, using non-state funds to provide school-based mental health services for students impacted by trauma.

I support the efforts of the bill but am returning it without my signature, as Alameda County can establish such a program without state intervention and may even be able to use Mental Health Services Act funding to do so.

Waiting for the state to act may cause unnecessary delays in delivering valuable mental health services to students. All counties—not just Alameda—should explore potential funding options, including Mental Health Services Act funds, to tailor programs that best meet local needs.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 445-2841
OCTOBER 5, 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 714 without my signature.

While the measure strives to do only good – namely advance research and cures for spinal cord injury – appropriating yet more state General Fund dollars to the University of California for a select purpose is not the answer.

After several years of painful cuts, last January, I proposed substantial budget increases for the University of California ($511 million over four years) with maximum flexibility for their funding, so long as they did not increase tuition. The 2013 Budget Act provided the first portion of that increased investment.

Research is a core mission of the University of California. As such, it is entirely within the university system’s discretion to fund the Spinal Cord Research Program, or any other project it deems of value. For that reason, I have consistently chosen not to support special earmarks in the University of California’s budget and leave it to the university – as deeply steeped in innovation and research as it is – to make funding decisions like this.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.

GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • (916) 445-2841
OCT 12 2013

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 999 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop a plan to expand the availability of condoms to all California prisons.

The Department currently allows family visitors to bring condoms for the purpose of the family overnight visitation program. While expansion of the program may be warranted, the Department should evaluate and implement this expansion carefully and within its existing authority.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.