



JENNIFER KENT  
*Director*

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
*Governor*

June 22, 2018

The Honorable Anthony J. Portantino, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2206  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Portantino:

ASSEMBLY BILL 1801 (AS AMENDED JUNE 7, 2018) - OPPOSE

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) must inform you of its opposition to Assembly Bill (AB) 1801.

AB 1801 would require DHCS to establish a Commission on Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Public Education and Testing (Commission) in order to examine data and develop recommendations regarding congenital CMV. AB 1801 would require the Commission to submit a report to the Legislature no later than December 31, 2019, and an additional report to the Legislature on or before December 31, 2022, that includes its findings.

Although DHCS supports raising awareness around CMV transmission, DHCS must oppose AB 1801 because it would undermine the California Department of Public Health's universal newborn screening program, which follows the guidance of the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel. This is California's existing process and program for which universal testing for specified diseases in newborns occurs.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 440-7500.

Sincerely,

*o/s/by: MR, for*

Carol Gallegos  
Deputy Director

cc: See next page

Honorable Anthony J. Portantino

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cc; The Honorable Adrin Nazarian  
Co-Chair and Members, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Senate Republican Caucus  
Senate Floor Analysis  
CHHS Legislative Unit  
Department of Finance  
GO Deputy Legislative Secretary