To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1160 without my signature.

This bill would require local law enforcement to make certain findings and determinations within six hours of interruption of communication service in barricade, hostage and emergency circumstances. While I applaud the author’s efforts to authorize interruption of service only in the most extreme cases, the extent of the findings in the bill that must be made by officers engaged in conflict could divert attention away from resolving the conflict without further threat to public safety.

I encourage the author and law enforcement agencies to engage in discussion in the upcoming legislative session and send me a bill that balances protection of speech with the ability of law enforcement to utilize this tool in the protection of public health and safety.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown Jr.