

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 243 without my signature.

This bill would require a judge to make an order prohibiting a person convicted of specified animal-related crimes from owning, possessing, or caring for any animals for a minimum period of time. This measure is unnecessary. Judges already have the discretion to enter an order forbidding persons from caring for animals if it's warranted. Making this order mandatory could unjustly impact individuals who make a living working with or caring for animals. Consequently, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger