

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SSB 5099

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### As Reported by House Committee On:

Health Care

**Title:** An act relating to the designation of licensed dental directors 2by carriers offering dental only coverage.

**Brief Description:** Designating medical directors.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Winsley and Thibaudeau).

### Brief History:

#### Committee Activity:

Health Care: 2/21/02, 2/25/02 [DPA].

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Brief Summary of Substitute Bill</b><br/><b>(As Amended by House Committee)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Health carriers that offer dental only coverage must designate a licensed dentist as dental director.</li></ul> |
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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

**Majority Report:** Do pass as amended. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Cody, Chair; Schual-Berke, Vice Chair; Campbell, Ranking Minority Member; Alexander, Conway, Darneille, Edwards, Ruderman and Skinner.

**Staff:** Dave Knutson (786-7146).

### Background:

The Patient Bill of Rights requires health carriers to designate a medical director licensed to practice in this state. Health carriers that offer dental only coverage to the public are not required to have a medical director licensed as a dentist in Washington.

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### Summary of Amended Bill:

Health carriers that offer dental only coverage must designate a dental director who is licensed as a dentist in Washington or in a state determined by the Dental Assurance Commission to have substantially equivalent licensing standards.

**Amended Bill Compared to Substitute Bill:**

Dental directors may be licensed to practice in a state determined to have substantially equivalent licensing standards to Washington.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

**Effective Date of Amended Bill:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** The bill should allow dentists licensed in other states to serve as a dental director if the state they are licensed in has substantially equivalent licensing standards to Washington.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** (Concerns) Nancy Wildermuth, Regence Blue Shield.