

# 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 by carriers offering dental only coverage.

**Brief Description:** Designating medical directors.

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

### Brief History:

#### Committee Activity:

Health Care: 3/20/01, 3/23/01 [DP].

#### Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- Health carriers that offer dental only coverage must designate a licensed dentist as dental director.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

**Majority Report:** Do pass. Signed by 13 members: Representatives Campbell, Republican Co-Chair; Cody, Democratic Co-Chair; Schual-Berke, Democratic Vice Chair; Skinner, Republican Vice Chair; Alexander, Ballasiotes, Darneille, Edmonds, Edwards, Marine, McMorris, Pennington and Ruderman.

**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 Bill:

Health carriers that offer dental only coverage must designate a dental director who is licensed as a dentist in Washington

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

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

**Testimony For:** Medical directors for health carriers that offer dental only coverage should be licensed dentists. This will protect consumers.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Senator Winsley, prime sponsor.