

VETO MESSAGE ON SSB 5320

May 8, 2007

To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning, without my approval as to Section 5,
Substitute Senate Bill 5320 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to creating an office of public
guardianship as an independent agency of the
judiciary."

I am a strong proponent of government management
accountability and performance. To this extent, I believe we
must be judicious in the creation of new boards and
commissions. This bill calls for the creation of a 17 member
advisory committee to the new Office of Public Guardianship.

The creation of the Office of Public Guardianship does not
necessitate creating a 17 member Advisory Committee. The
Office is created within the Administrative Offices of the
Courts and the director is selected by, and serves at the
pleasure of, the Supreme Court. These entities are capable of
providing adequate oversight of the Office and performing the
duties outlined in the bill for the advisory committee.

For these reasons, I have vetoed Section 5 of Substitute
Senate Bill 5320.

With the exception of Section 5, Substitute Senate Bill 5320
is approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor