



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BOB FERGUSON —**

May 12, 2025

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

Esteemed Colleagues:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 6, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5351 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to ensuring patient choice and access to care by prohibiting unfair and deceptive dental insurance practices."

Section 6 is an emergency clause that would make Section 4 effective as of July 1, 2025. The Office of the Insurance Commissioner has already begun working to ensure that the contract with the Ruckelshaus Center described in Section 4 will be entered by July 1, 2025. As such, there is no need for an emergency clause with respect to Section 4.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 6 of Substitute Senate Bill No. 5351.

With the exception of Section 6, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5351 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Ferguson  
Governor