(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Prohibits the secretary of the department of health from: (1) Increasing a licensing fee for an ambulatory surgical facility licensed under chapter 70.230 RCW before July 1, 2018; or

(2) Commencing the adoption of rules to increase a licensing fee before July 1, 2018.

Requires an ambulatory surgical facility to be surveyed by the department of health no more than once every eighteen months or no more than once every thirty-six months depending on certain circumstances.

Addresses payors that contract with ambulatory surgical facilities that require successful completion of a survey as part of the contract.

Requires the department of health to: (1) Report to the legislative fiscal committees by December 1, 2016, and December 1, 2017, if it anticipates that the amounts raised by ambulatory surgical facility licensing fees will not be sufficient to defray the costs of regulating ambulatory surgical facilities; and

(2) Conduct a benchmark survey to compare Washington's system for licensing ambulatory surgical facilities with the ambulatory surgical facility licensing systems of other states with a similar number of licensed ambulatory surgical facilities.

Repeals the ambulatory surgical facility account.

VETO MESSAGE ON SSB 5778

March 31, 2016

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 7, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5778 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to ambulatory surgical facilities."

Section 7 is a fiscal null and void clause, but this bill does not have a fiscal impact. Therefore the clause is not necessary.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 7 of Substitute Senate Bill No. 5778.

With the exception of Section 7, Substitute Senate Bill No. 5778 is approved.

Respectfully submitted, Jay Inslee Governor