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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1859**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Human Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Brown, Leonard, Foreman, Karahalios, L. Johnson, Lemmon, Cothorn, Long, King, Jones and Patterson)

Read first time 03/03/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment and operation of short-term  
2 emergency services including shelter for runaway and street youth;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 74.13 RCW; creating a new section; and  
4 declaring an emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that adequate  
7 services are not available to runaway youth, and that the availability  
8 of timely and appropriate services for runaway youth is a critical  
9 factor in keeping these youth from moving to the streets. The  
10 legislature further finds that local governments, private businesses,  
11 and charities are attempting to address this critical unmet need in  
12 many areas of the state.

13 (2) It is the intent of section 2 of this act to forge a  
14 partnership between local governments, private businesses, charities,  
15 and the state to support the establishment and operation of short-term  
16 shelter programs in areas of the state experiencing extreme shortages  
17 of care for runaway and homeless youth.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        The department of social and health services may award matching  
4 grants to local governments to help support the costs of operating  
5 short-term shelters established through local government and private  
6 funding.    In awarding matching grants, the department shall ensure  
7 funding for shelters is distributed on a geographically equitable  
8 basis.    Funds may be used to support staff necessary to operate and  
9 maintain short-term shelters.    Funds may not be used for capital  
10 expenditures.

11        Local governments must demonstrate that the emergency shelters meet  
12 the following criteria:

- 13        (1) Shelters will be drug and alcohol free at all times;
- 14        (2) The length of stay for youth shall not exceed twenty days;
- 15        (3) Counseling will be available to the youth staying in the  
16 shelters to assist them in reconciling with their families or in  
17 identifying appropriate alternative residential placement;
- 18        (4) The shelters will maintain compliance with applicable licensing  
19 and state and local building codes;
- 20        (5) Grants for the establishment, operation, or both, of short-term  
21 shelters shall be made competitively to local governments based on  
22 their commitment to supporting short-term housing and intervention  
23 services to runaway and homeless youth, demonstrated collaboration  
24 between youth serving organizations, commitments to support from  
25 private sources, and compliance with the assurances outlined in this  
26 section;
- 27        (6) Fifty percent of the funding for shelters shall be community  
28 matching funds provided by private or public entities in the  
29 communities requesting funding.    Contributions of materials, supplies,  
30 physical facilities, or volunteer time may be considered as all or part  
31 of the funding provided by the community.    Federal funds may be used as  
32 match for the purposes of this section.

33        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
34 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
35 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
36 effect immediately.

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