
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6168

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & Environment (originally sponsored by Senators Prentice, Rasmussen, Hale, Sellar, T. Sheldon, Wood, McAuliffe, Kohl, Anderson, Benton and Winsley; by request of Governor Locke)

Read first time 01/28/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing and funding housing for temporary
2 workers; amending RCW 43.22.480 and 43.70.340; adding a new section to
3 chapter 19.27 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 70.114A RCW; adding
4 a new section to chapter 49.17 RCW; adding new sections to chapter
5 43.70 RCW; and repealing RCW 70.114A.080.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 19.27 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Temporary worker housing shall be constructed, altered, or
10 repaired as provided in chapter 70.114A RCW and chapter . . . , Laws of
11 1998 (this act). The construction, alteration, or repair of temporary
12 worker housing is not subject to the codes adopted under RCW 19.27.031,
13 except as provided by rule adopted under chapter 70.114A RCW or chapter
14 . . . , Laws of 1998 (this act).

15 (2) For the purpose of this section, "temporary worker housing" has
16 the same meaning as provided in RCW 70.114A.020.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.114A
18 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The department shall adopt by rule a temporary worker building
2 code in conformance with the temporary worker housing standards
3 developed under the Washington industrial safety and health act,
4 chapter 49.17 RCW, the rules adopted by the state board of health under
5 RCW 70.54.110, and the following guidelines:

6 (a) The temporary worker building code shall provide construction
7 standards for shelter and associated facilities that are safe, secure,
8 and capable of withstanding the stresses and loads associated with
9 their designated use, and to which they are likely to be subjected by
10 the elements;

11 (b) The temporary worker building code shall permit and facilitate
12 designs and formats that allow for maximum affordability, consistent
13 with the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary housing;

14 (c) In developing the temporary worker building code the department
15 of health shall consider:

16 (i) The need for dormitory type housing for groups of unrelated
17 individuals; and

18 (ii) The need for housing to accommodate families;

19 (d) The temporary worker building code shall incorporate the
20 opportunity for the use of construction alternatives and the use of new
21 technologies that meet the performance standards required by law;

22 (e) The temporary worker building code shall include standards for
23 heating and insulation appropriate to the type of structure and length
24 and season of occupancy; and

25 (f) The temporary worker building code shall include standards for
26 temporary worker housing that are to be used only during periods when
27 no auxiliary heat is required.

28 (2) In adopting the temporary worker building code, the department
29 shall make exceptions to the codes listed in RCW 19.27.031 and chapter
30 19.27A RCW, in keeping with the guidelines set forth in this section.
31 The initial temporary worker building code adopted by the department
32 shall be substantially equivalent with the temporary worker building
33 code developed by the state building code council as directed by
34 section 8, chapter 220, Laws of 1995.

35 (3) The temporary worker building code authorized and required by
36 this section shall be enforced by the department.

37 The department shall have the authority to allow minor variations
38 from the temporary worker building code that do not compromise the
39 health or safety of workers. Procedures for requesting variations and

1 guidelines for granting such requests shall be included in the rules
2 adopted under this section.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 49.17 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 By December 1, 1998, the department of labor and industries shall
6 adopt rules requiring electricity in all temporary worker housing and
7 establishing minimum requirements to ensure the safe storage, handling,
8 and preparation of food in these camps, regardless of whether
9 individual or common cooking facilities are in use.

10 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.22.480 and 1995 c 289 s 2 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (1) The department shall adopt and enforce rules that protect the
13 health, safety, and property of the people of this state by assuring
14 that all factory built housing or factory built commercial structures
15 are structurally sound and that the plumbing, heating, electrical, and
16 other components thereof are reasonably safe. The rules shall be
17 reasonably consistent with recognized and accepted principles of safety
18 and structural soundness, and in adopting the rules the department
19 shall consider, so far as practicable, the standards and specifications
20 contained in the uniform building, plumbing, and mechanical codes,
21 including the barrier free code and the Washington energy code as
22 adopted by the state building code council pursuant to chapter 19.27A
23 RCW, and the national electrical code, including the state rules as
24 adopted pursuant to chapter 19.28 RCW and published by the national
25 fire protection association or, when applicable, the temporary worker
26 building code adopted under section 2 of this act.

27 (2) The department shall set a schedule of fees which will cover
28 the costs incurred by the department in the administration and
29 enforcement of RCW 43.22.450 through 43.22.490.

30 (3) The director may adopt rules that provide for approval of a
31 plan that is certified as meeting state requirements or the equivalent
32 by a professional who is licensed or certified in a state whose
33 licensure or certification requirements meet or exceed Washington
34 requirements.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 70.114A
36 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) Beginning in fiscal year 1999 and each fiscal year thereafter,
2 the state treasurer shall transfer two million dollars from the general
3 fund to the housing trust fund. The funds transferred under this
4 section are provided solely to the department of community, trade, and
5 economic development for the development of housing for low-income farm
6 workers. The department of community, trade, and economic development
7 shall administer the funds in accordance with chapter 43.185 RCW.
8 Funds may only be expended for projects that meet the minimum standards
9 of the state building code.

10 (2) The department of community, trade, and economic development
11 shall work in cooperation with the departments of health, labor and
12 industries, and social and health services to review proposals and make
13 recommendations to the funding approval board that oversees the
14 distribution of the housing trust fund grants and loans. An advisory
15 group representing growers, farm workers, and other interested parties
16 shall be formed to assist the interagency group.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
18 to read as follows:

19 (1) Any person providing temporary worker housing as defined in
20 chapter 70.114A RCW shall secure an annual operating license prior to
21 occupancy and shall pay a fee according to RCW 43.70.340. The license
22 shall be conspicuously displayed on site.

23 (2) Licenses issued under this chapter may be suspended or revoked
24 upon the failure or refusal of the person providing temporary worker
25 housing to comply with the provisions of RCW 70.54.110, or of any rules
26 adopted under this section by the department. All such proceedings
27 shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW.

28 (3) The department may assess a civil fine in accordance with RCW
29 43.70.095 for failure or refusal to obtain a license prior to occupancy
30 of temporary worker housing. The department may refund all or part of
31 the civil fine collected once the operator obtains a valid operating
32 license.

33 (4) Civil fines under this section shall not exceed twice the cost
34 of the license plus the cost of the initial on-site inspection for the
35 first violation of this section, and shall not exceed ten times the
36 cost of the license plus the cost of the initial on-site inspection for
37 second and subsequent violations within any five-year period. The

1 department may adopt rules as necessary to assure compliance with this
2 section.

3 (5) For the purpose of this section, "temporary worker housing" has
4 the same meaning as provided in chapter 70.114A RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 This section applies to operators of temporary worker housing as
8 defined in chapter 70.114A RCW who are providing temporary worker
9 housing on farm.

10 (1) Any person who constructs, alters, or makes an addition to
11 temporary worker housing shall:

12 (a) Submit plans and specifications for the alteration, addition,
13 or new construction of this housing prior to beginning any alteration,
14 addition, or new construction on this housing;

15 (b) Apply for and obtain a temporary worker housing building permit
16 from the department prior to construction or alteration of this
17 housing; and

18 (c) Submit a plan review and permit fee to the department of health
19 pursuant to section 6 of this act.

20 (2) The department shall adopt rules as necessary, for the
21 application procedures for the temporary worker housing plan review and
22 permit process.

23 (3) Any alteration of a manufactured structure to be used for
24 temporary worker housing remains subject to chapter 43.22 RCW, and the
25 rules adopted under chapter 43.22 RCW.

26 (4) For the purpose of this section, "temporary worker housing" has
27 the same meaning as provided in chapter 70.114A RCW.

28 **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.70.340 and 1990 c 253 s 3 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) The (~~farmworker housing inspection~~) temporary worker housing
31 fund is established in the custody of the state treasury. The
32 department (~~of health~~) shall deposit all funds received under
33 subsections (2) and (3) of this section and from the legislature to
34 administer a (~~labor camp~~) temporary worker housing permitting,
35 licensing, and inspection program conducted by the department (~~of~~
36 ~~health~~). Disbursement from the fund shall be on authorization of the
37 secretary of health or the secretary's designee. The fund is subject

1 to the allotment procedure provided under chapter 43.88 RCW, but no
2 appropriation is required for disbursements.

3 (2) There is imposed a fee on each operating license issued by the
4 department ~~((of health))~~ to every operator of ~~((a labor camp))~~
5 temporary worker housing that is regulated by the state board of
6 health. ~~((The fee paid under this subsection shall include all
7 necessary inspection of the units to ensure compliance with))~~ In
8 establishing the fee to be paid under this subsection the department
9 shall consider the cost of administering a license as well as enforcing
10 applicable state board of health rules on ((labor camps.

11 ~~(a) Fifty dollars shall be charged for each labor camp containing~~
12 ~~six or less units.~~

13 ~~(b) Seventy five dollars shall be charged for each labor camp~~
14 ~~containing more than six units))~~ temporary worker housing.

15 (3) There is imposed a fee on each temporary worker housing
16 building permit issued by the department to every operator of farm
17 temporary worker housing as required by section 6 of this act. The fee
18 shall include the cost of administering a permit as well as enforcing
19 the department's temporary worker building code as adopted under
20 section 2 of this act.

21 (4) The department shall conduct a fee study for:

22 (a) A temporary worker housing operator's license;

23 (b) On-site inspections; and

24 (c) A plan review and building permit for new construction.

25 After completion of the study, the department shall adopt these
26 fees by rule by no later than December 31, 1998.

27 (5) The term of the operating license and the application
28 procedures shall be established, by rule, by the department ~~((of~~
29 ~~health))~~.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. RCW 70.114A.080 and 1995 c 220 s 8 are each
31 repealed.

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