
SENATE BILL 6392

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Strannigan, Long, West and Oke

Read first time 01/16/98. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to licensed overnight youth shelters; adding a new
2 section to chapter 74.15 RCW; creating a new section; and making an
3 appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that licensed
6 overnight youth shelters provide essential services to homeless youth
7 and are an important part of a larger network of services that protect
8 the health, welfare, and safety of our state's youth. The legislature
9 further finds most overnight youth shelters are administered by private
10 nonprofit organizations that rely primarily on local community funds
11 and volunteer efforts to support their programs. It can be costly for
12 many overnight youth shelters to meet the licensing requirements
13 established by the department of social and health services.
14 Therefore, the legislature intends to provide a nominal amount of state
15 financial support in order to assist these shelters in meeting state-
16 established standards. A small amount of state assistance will enable
17 licensed overnight youth shelters to leverage other local and private
18 funds more effectively.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.15 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The department of community, trade, and economic development is
4 authorized to provide grants to licensed overnight youth shelters for
5 the purpose of assisting such shelters in meeting the minimum
6 requirements for receiving a license under this chapter. The
7 department may provide grants of up to twenty thousand dollars per year
8 for each shelter. Only shelters that are currently licensed are
9 eligible to receive the grants. Funds may be used for the following
10 purposes, including but not limited to: Additional staff, food,
11 facility maintenance, or beds, provided that these costs are necessary
12 to meet the licensing and facility standards adopted by the department
13 of social and health services. For purposes of this section,
14 "overnight youth shelter" means a licensed facility operated by a
15 nonprofit agency that provides overnight shelter to a homeless or
16 runaway youth because of family problems or dysfunctions.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of one hundred twenty thousand
18 dollars general fund-state is appropriated for fiscal year 1999 to
19 the department of community, trade, and economic development solely for
20 the purpose of providing grants to overnight youth shelters that are
21 licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW. The grant program shall
22 conform with the requirements in section 2 of this act.

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