## SENATE BILL REPORT SB 5172

As of January 19, 2001

**Title:** An act relating to rental payments to landlords from public assistance.

**Brief Description:** Allowing landlords to receive direct payments of rent for people on public

assistance.

Sponsors: Senators Prentice, Honeyford, Costa, Winsley, Hewitt and Kohl-Welles.

**Brief History:** 

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Financial Institutions: 1/23/01.

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

**Staff:** Joanne Conrad (786-7472)

**Background:** Many types of public assistance—programs exist in Washington State. Some of the programs make emergency shelter services available, some have low-income housing assistance and some do not deal with housing issues at all. Concern exists regarding the adequacy of the supply of low-income housing, including concern that the complexity of renting to families on assistance may act as a disincentive to landlords.

**Summary of Bill:** The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) designs a program intended to increase the supply of housing for persons on public assistance,— by paying landlords directly. DSHS considers the use of public and private housing providers, and solicits local governing bodies— for the program.

A report on program results, with recommendations, is due to the chairs of the relevant committees of the state Legislature prior to the 2002 legislative session.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 19, 2001.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.