

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SB 5224

As Passed House:

April 8, 2003

Title: An act relating to the membership of the affordable housing advisory board.

Brief Description: Adding a rental housing owner to the affordable housing advisory board.

Sponsors: By Senators Benton, Prentice, Winsley, Zarelli, Johnson, T. Sheldon, Kohl-Welles, Hale, Roach and Esser.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Trade & Economic Development: 3/20/03, 4/1/03 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 4/8/03, 95-0.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Adds a representative of the for-profit rental housing owners to the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRADE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Veloria, Chair; Eickmeyer, Vice Chair; Skinner, Ranking Minority Member; Chase, Condotta, Kristiansen, McCoy, Pettigrew and Priest.

Staff: Tracey Taylor (786-7196).

Background:

The Affordable Housing Program was created in the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development in 1991. The purpose of the program is to provide either loans or grants or both to local governments, public housing authorities, and nonprofit organizations to increase the availability and affordability of housing for households with incomes below 80 percent of the county median income.

The activities that are eligible for assistance through the Affordable Housing Program include, but are not limited to: (1) new construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of housing; (2) rent subsidies in new construction or rehabilitated multifamily units; (3) down payments or closing costs assistance for first-time home buyers; (4) mortgage subsidies for new construction or rehabilitation of eligible multifamily units; and (5) mortgage insurance guarantee or payments for eligible projects.

Currently there are 21 members of the Affordable Housing Advisory Board (Advisory Board). Nineteen members are appointed by the Governor, including representatives of the residential construction industry, the mortgage lending profession, the real estate sales profession, the apartment management and operations industry, the for-profit housing development industry, the nonprofit housing development industry, the homeless shelter operators, lower-income persons, special needs populations, the public housing authorities, and the Washington Association of Counties.

Summary of Bill:

A representative of the for-profit rental housing owners is added to the Advisory Board, increasing the total number of members of the board to 22. This representative will be appointed by the Governor.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: The for-profit rental housing owner will bring a unique perspective to the Advisory Board. Although a representative has attended in the past, he or she could not participate. The Advisory Board endorses this bill.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Ron Newbry, Yakima Valley Landowners Association; and Patty Van Den Broek, Rental Housing Association of Puget Sound.