

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SHB 3066

As Passed House:
February 14, 2004

Title: An act relating to donation of surplus construction property to nonprofit corporations.

Brief Description: Donating surplus construction property to nonprofit corporations.

Sponsors: By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Romero, Moeller, Clibborn, D. Simpson and Ormsby).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

State Government: 2/6/04 [DPS].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/14/04, 96-0.

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- Allows surplus building materials to be donated to nonprofit organizations.
- Mandates that surplus building materials that are donated must be used, or the money from their sale used, in the construction or repair of housing for the poor or infirm.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT

Majority Report: The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 9 members: Representatives Haigh, Chair; Miloscia, Vice Chair; Armstrong, Ranking Minority Member; Shabro, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Hunt, McDermott, Nixon, Tom and Wallace.

Staff: Matt Kuehn (786-7291).

Background:

The state sells or exchanges its surplus building materials through the Department of General Administration's (GA) purchasing department. Proceeds from the sale of the property replenish the fund which was used to originally purchase the property. Where the originating fund no longer exists, the proceeds are paid into the state general fund.

There are exceptions: abandoned historical archaeological resources are the property of the state; surplus school textbooks and educational aids must be offered to other school districts; and surplus computers are donated to school districts.

Tangible surplus personal property may be donated to emergency homeless shelters where no other agencies need the property, the agency which owns the property has authorized the donation, the nature of the property is directly germane to the needs of the homeless, and the director of the GA has determined that the donation is in the best interest of the state.

Summary of Substitute Bill:

The GA must consult with a variety of interested parties, including but not limited to: nonprofit organizations identified in the section; the Building Construction Trades Council; low-income housing groups; representatives of the used building material industry; Associated General Contractors; the Department of Labor and Industries (L&I); the Higher Education Coordinating Board; the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; representatives from construction programs at institutions of higher education; and the Department of Transportation

The agency making the property available will make the property available for curbside or dockside pick up.

The nonprofit corporation may not engage in demolition activities. If workers for the nonprofit corporation engage in construction or demolition activities those workers are no longer exempt from the prevailing wage rate set by the L&I.

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: Nonprofits such as Habitat for Humanity benefit greatly from receiving surplus material. The bill makes materials much more available to low-income housing builders. It is better to pass the bill with the proposed amendment. The proposed amendment allows the current bill to conform with the bill that is moving forward in the Senate. The amendment is the result of consultation with several other agencies.

Testimony Against: None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Romero, prime sponsor; Maureen Howard, Habitat for Humanity of Washington; Nick Federici, Washington Low-Income Housing Alliance; and Lawson Schaller, Second Use Building Materials, Inc.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.