

**HB 3156** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Human Services & Corrections

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that one in four  
4 families lack the financial resources to sustain their family for a  
5 period of three months at the federal poverty level. Low-income wage  
6 earners need tools to allow them to better control, manage, and  
7 increase their financial resources. The legislature is committed to  
8 supporting the collaboration of community-based, faith-based,  
9 governmental, job training, health care, and social service agencies to  
10 help low-income families achieve greater prosperity.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) The department of community, trade, and economic development  
14 must establish a process to offer consulting services to community  
15 action agencies, established under RCW 43.63A.115, who are interested  
16 in developing pilot programs to assist low-income families accumulate  
17 assets. In implementing a pilot program, the community action agency  
18 applicant is encouraged to facilitate bringing together community  
19 partners to determine the asset building programs to initiate within  
20 the community.

21 (2) The department must select the pilot sites through an  
22 application process developed by the department and beginning by July  
23 31, 2006. The department must offer consulting services to no less  
24 than four sites with at least one of the pilot sites located in eastern  
25 Washington.

26 (3) A community action agency as established in RCW 43.63A.115 may  
27 submit an application to be selected as a pilot site. To be considered  
28 for a pilot site, the application must demonstrate how the site will  
29 meet the following criteria. The application must:

1 (a) Identify the local agency that will be the lead agency for the  
2 pilot program;

3 (b) Describe how the lead agency will work with community partners,  
4 including local government, to implement the pilot program activities  
5 described in this section. The application must specifically identify  
6 the community partners with whom the community action agency will be  
7 collaborating and the role of the partners;

8 (c) Identify the areas of potential need based upon input from the  
9 community partners. Areas of potential need may include financial  
10 literacy, assistance with federal income tax preparation and the use of  
11 tax credits, the use of individual development accounts, and other  
12 asset-building strategies; and

13 (d) Identify the resources within the community that might support  
14 training for the implementation of the selected best practices chosen  
15 to address the needs identified by the community.

16 (4) The department must report to the legislature by December 1,  
17 2007, on the progress of the implementation of the pilot programs  
18 including the application process, the status of the programs, and any  
19 implementation issues that arose in initiating the pilot programs.

20 (5) As used in this section, "asset" or "asset building" means  
21 investment or savings for an investment in a family home, higher  
22 education, small business, or other long-term asset that will assist  
23 low-income families to attain greater self-sufficiency.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW  
25 to read as follows:

26 To the extent funding is appropriated, the department of community,  
27 trade, and economic development must establish a program to create an  
28 outreach campaign to increase the number of eligible families who claim  
29 the federal earned income tax credit. The department may work  
30 collaboratively with other state agencies, private and nonprofit  
31 agencies, local communities, and others with expertise that might  
32 assist the department in implementing the program.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires January 1, 2008."

1        On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "persons;" strike the  
2 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter  
3 43.63A RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date."

EFFECT:        Removes the request for proposal process in favor of an application process developed by CTED. Allows CTED to operate as a consultant to the pilot programs conducted by the community action agencies.

Clarifies that community action agencies are the local entities that would conduct the pilot program rather than the counties. Defines "asset" and adds an expiration date.

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