

**2SSB 5070** - H AMD TO HS COMM AMD (5070-S2.E AMH HS H3165.2) **647**  
By Representative Goodman

1 On page 41, after line 10, strike all of section 704 and insert  
2 the following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 704** (1) The department of community,  
4 trade, and economic development shall establish a pilot program to  
5 provide transitional housing assistance to offenders who are  
6 reentering the community and are in need of housing.

7 (2) There shall be a minimum of two pilot programs established  
8 in two counties in which community justice centers are located. The  
9 pilot programs shall be selected in consultation with the counties  
10 in which the pilots would be located. The department shall select  
11 the pilot site by September 1, 2007.

12 (3) The pilot program shall:

13 (a) Be operated in collaboration with the community justice  
14 center existing in the location of the pilot site;

15 (b) Offer transitional supportive housing that includes  
16 individual support and mentoring available on an ongoing basis,  
17 life skills training, and close working relationships with  
18 community justice centers and community corrections officers.  
19 Supportive housing services can be provided directly by the housing  
20 operator, or in partnership with community-based organizations;

21 (c) In providing assistance, give priority to offenders who are  
22 designated as high risk or high needs as well as those determined  
23 not to have a viable release plan by the department of corrections;  
24 and

25 (d) Optimize available funding by issuing vouchers for  
26 cost-effective community-based shared housing arrangements or other  
27 non-institutional living arrangements.

28 (4) The department may also use up to twenty percent of the  
29 funding appropriated in the operating budget for this section to  
30 support the development of additional supportive housing resources  
31 for offenders who are reentering the community.

1           (5) The department shall:  
2           (a) Collaborate with the department of corrections in  
3 developing criteria to determine who will qualify for housing  
4 assistance; and  
5           (b) Gather data, and report to the legislature by December 1,  
6 2007, on the number of offenders seeking housing, the number of  
7 offenders eligible for housing, the number of offenders who receive  
8 the housing, and the number of offenders who commit new crimes  
9 while residing in the housing.  
10          (6) The state, the department, and its employees are not liable  
11 for civil damages arising from the conduct of an offender due to  
12 the placement of an offender in short-term housing or the provision  
13 of housing assistance."

**EFFECT:** Makes the following changes to the transitional housing program:

- expands the supportive living requirements for the housing program;
- requires the program give priority to high risk and high needs offenders, as well as those without a viable release plan;
- requires the program to optimize funding through the use of vouchers for cost-effective community-based shared housing;
- allows CTED to use up to 20% of the funding appropriated to the program for development of additional supportive housing.