
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1921

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Housing (originally sponsored by Representatives Springer, Pettigrew, Santos, Walsh, Appleton, McDonald, Kenney, Darneille, Hasegawa and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/16/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing assistance to homeless individuals and
2 families; adding new sections to chapter 43.185C RCW; and making
3 appropriations.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The transitional housing operating and rent program is created
8 in the department to assist homeless individuals and families secure
9 and retain safe, decent, and affordable housing. For the purposes of
10 the transitional housing operating and rent program, the department
11 shall develop program eligibility criteria that includes, but is not
12 limited to, the definition of homeless person in RCW 43.185C.010, and
13 shall also take into consideration factors that contribute to or
14 precipitate homelessness including, but not limited to, domestic
15 violence. The department shall provide grants to eligible
16 organizations, as described in RCW 43.185.060, to provide assistance to
17 program participants. The eligible organizations must use grant moneys
18 for:

1 (a) Rental assistance, which includes security or utility deposits,
2 first and last month's rent assistance, and eligible moving expenses to
3 be determined by the department;

4 (b) Case management services designed to assist program
5 participants to secure and retain immediate housing and to transition
6 into permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency;

7 (c) Operating expenses of transitional housing facilities that
8 serve homeless families with children; and

9 (d) Administrative costs of the eligible organization, which must
10 not exceed limits prescribed by the department.

11 (2) Eligible to receive assistance through the transitional housing
12 operating and rent program are:

13 (a) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of
14 becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below fifty
15 percent of the median household income for their county; and

16 (b) Individuals or families without children who are homeless or at
17 risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below
18 thirty percent of the median household income for their county.

19 (3) All program participants must be willing to create and actively
20 participate in a housing stability plan for achieving permanent housing
21 and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

22 (4) Data on all program participants must be entered into and
23 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information
24 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180.

25 (5) The department encourages all eligible organizations funded
26 through the program to have a quality management system and to submit
27 an application to the Washington state quality award program to
28 evaluate that system. Beginning in 2009, all organizations funded
29 through the program receiving over five hundred thousand dollars a year
30 during the previous calendar year from: This program; other state
31 housing related funding sources, including the housing trust fund;
32 housing finance commission programs; and the ending homelessness
33 program surcharge in RCW 36.22.179 and the surcharges in RCW 36.22.178,
34 shall apply to the full examination Washington state quality award
35 program once every three years beginning by January 1, 2010.

36 (6) The department may develop rules, requirements, procedures, and
37 guidelines as necessary to implement and operate the transitional
38 housing operating and rent program.

1 (7) The department shall produce an annual transitional housing
2 operating and rent program report that must be included in the
3 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in
4 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be
5 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the following
6 issue areas:

7 (a) The success of the program in helping program participants
8 transition into permanent housing and increase their levels of self-
9 sufficiency;

10 (b) The financial performance of the program related to efficient
11 program administration by the department and program operation by
12 selected eligible organizations, including an analysis of the costs per
13 program participant served;

14 (c) The quality, completeness, and timeliness of the information on
15 program participants provided to the Washington homeless client
16 management information system database; and

17 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance
18 provided through the program.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 The transitional housing operating and rent account is created in
22 the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from sources directed
23 to the transitional housing operating and rent program must be
24 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used
25 solely for the purpose of the transitional housing operating and rent
26 program as described in section 1 of this act. Only the director of
27 the department or the director's designee may authorize expenditures
28 from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under
29 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for
30 expenditures.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The sum of seven million five hundred
32 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
33 appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, from the general
34 fund to the transitional housing operating and rent account created in
35 section 2 of this act for the purpose of implementing and operating the
36 transitional housing operating and rent program. The first two million

1 five hundred dollars of the appropriation shall be distributed to
2 eligible organizations that will utilize available funds, less
3 appropriate administrative costs of the department of community, trade,
4 and economic development, to be used for the purposes described in
5 section 1(1) (a) through (d) of this act solely to serve families with
6 children under the age of eighteen. All remaining appropriated moneys,
7 less appropriate administrative costs of the department of community,
8 trade, and economic development, shall be used solely for the purposes
9 described in section 1(1) (a), (b), and (d) of this act to serve those
10 eligible under section 1(2) of this act.

11 (2) The sum of seven million five hundred thousand dollars, or as
12 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
13 ending June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the transitional housing
14 operating and rent account created in section 2 of this act for the
15 purpose of implementing and operating the transitional housing
16 operating and rent program. The first two million five hundred dollars
17 of the appropriation shall be distributed to eligible organizations
18 that will utilize available funds, less appropriate administrative
19 costs of the department of community, trade, and economic development,
20 to be used for the purposes described in section 1(1) (a) through (d)
21 of this act solely to serve families with children under the age of
22 eighteen. All remaining appropriated moneys, less appropriate
23 administrative costs of the department of community, trade, and
24 economic development, shall be used solely for the purposes described
25 in section 1(1) (a), (b), and (d) of this act to serve those eligible
26 under section 1(2) of this act.

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