

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5482

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Authorizing existing funding to house victims of human trafficking and their families.

Sponsors: Senators Kohl-Welles, Hobbs, Eide, Keiser, Fraser, Prentice and Conway.

Senate Committee on Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance
House Committee on Community Development & Housing
House Committee on General Government Appropriations & Oversight

Background: Affordable Housing for All Surcharge. There is a \$10 recording surcharge fee, of which the county auditor retains up to 5 percent for the collection and administration of the funds. Forty percent of the funds collected are remitted to the state Affordable Housing for All Account. The Department of Commerce (Commerce) uses these funds to provide housing and shelter for extremely low-income households. The remaining funds may be used by the counties to fund eligible housing activities for very low-income households, with priority for extremely low-income households by funding:

- the acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of housing projects, including units for homeownership, rental units, farm worker housing, and single-room occupancy units;
- supporting building operation and maintenance costs of housing projects;
- rental assistance vouchers; and
- operating costs for emergency shelters and overnight shelters.

Homeless Housing Recording Surcharge. The Legislature enacted the Homeless Housing and Assistance Act in 2005, the goal of which is to reduce homelessness by 50 percent statewide and in each county by July 1, 2015. This goal is to be achieved through the creation of plans to address the causes of homelessness and the implementation of solutions to homelessness through state and county homeless housing programs. The Homeless Housing and Assistance Program is funded by a \$10 surcharge for certain documents recorded by the county auditor. Of that \$10 surcharge:

- the auditor retains 2 percent;
- 60 percent of the remaining funds remain within the participating county of origin;
- any city which assumes responsibility for reducing homelessness within its boundaries receives a percentage of the surcharge equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax; and
- the remaining monies are remitted to Commerce and deposited into the Home Security Fund, a nonappropriated account, of which 12.5 percent is used for

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administering the Homeless Housing Program, and the remaining funds provide housing and shelter for the homeless.

During the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 biennia, the \$10 surcharge is increased to \$30.

There is also an \$8 recording surcharge, of which:

- 90 percent of the funds are remitted to the county for its homeless housing plans and programs that accomplished the goals of the county's plan; and
- the remaining funds are deposited into the Home Security Fund and used by Commerce program administration, housing and shelter assistance for homeless persons, and the Homeless Housing Grant Program.

Summary: The funds received by both Commerce and counties under the Affordable Housing for All Surcharge may be used to house victims of human trafficking, and their families. Funds from the Home Security Fund may also be used to house victims of human trafficking, and their families.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	94	0

Effective: July 22, 2011.