
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2415

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2014 Regular Session

By House Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs (originally sponsored by Representatives Parker, Ormsby, Zeiger, Walsh, Holy, Christian, Lytton, Riccelli, Fagan, Kagi, Gregerson, Orwall, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/14.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a temporary homeless status
2 certification; adding a new section to chapter 43.185C RCW; creating
3 new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the lack of a
6 permanent address is a barrier to employment for some people who
7 experience homelessness in this state. The legislature intends to
8 create the homeless status certification pilot program to study an
9 approach that facilitates access to employment for persons who lack a
10 permanent address due to their homeless condition.

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

13 (1) The department must establish a pilot program to provide a
14 certification of homeless status for persons who may need a physical or
15 mailing address for purposes of employment. The department must choose
16 one county within which to implement the program, based on the support
17 of local homeless housing and service providers, community leaders, and

1 businesses willing to partner with the department. The program may be
2 implemented countywide, or within a city or other specific region of
3 the county.

4 (2) To develop this program, the department must:

5 (a) Establish a homeless status form that requires sufficient
6 information to verify a person's homeless status and to provide the
7 address and location of a homeless housing or service provider to be
8 used as the person's own address;

9 (b) Develop a procedure for collecting and maintaining the
10 information provided on the homeless status forms, either centrally
11 through the department or through one or more local homeless housing or
12 service providers participating in the program;

13 (c) Convene regular meetings with homeless housing and service
14 providers, community leaders, homeless persons, and businesses
15 interested in implementing the program. The initial meeting should
16 take place no later than December 31, 2014, and should include an
17 agenda for creating the program and defining the responsibilities of
18 the persons, entities, and organizations that are interested in
19 implementing the program; and

20 (d) Gather and analyze data on the different phases of the program
21 implementation.

22 (3) By December 1, 2016, the department must submit a report to the
23 appropriate legislative committees that includes the number of persons
24 who filed a homeless status form, the number of persons who obtained
25 employment with use of the certification, the involvement of partners
26 within the community in implementing the program, and an evaluation and
27 recommendation of the opportunities and impediments for expanding the
28 program statewide. The evaluation and recommendation should include
29 input from statewide homeless housing and service provider networks and
30 business associations.

31 (4) This section expires June 30, 2017.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Nothing in this act may be construed to
33 create an entitlement to services or to create judicial authority to
34 order the provision of services to any person if the services are
35 unavailable or sufficient funding has not been appropriated for this

1 program.

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