
SENATE BILL 5217

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senator Schoesler; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/23/13. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating the Washington state quality award
2 program; amending RCW 43.17.380, 43.185C.210, and 43.185C.240; and
3 repealing RCW 43.17.390 and 43.330.084.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.17.380 and 2005 c 384 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 As used in RCW 43.17.385 (~~and 43.17.390~~):

8 (1) "State agency" or "agency" means a state agency, department,
9 office, officer, board, commission, bureau, division, institution, or
10 institution of higher education, and all offices of executive branch
11 state government-elected officials, except agencies with less than one
12 hundred full-time equivalent employees and agricultural commissions
13 under Title 15 RCW.

14 (2) "Quality management, accountability, and performance system"
15 means a nationally recognized integrated, interdisciplinary system of
16 measures, tools, and reports used to improve the performance of a work
17 unit or organization.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.185C.210 and 2011 c 353 s 6 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The transitional housing operating and rent program is created
4 in the department to assist individuals and families who are homeless
5 or who are at risk of becoming homeless to secure and retain safe,
6 decent, and affordable housing. The department shall provide grants to
7 eligible organizations, as described in RCW 43.185.060, to provide
8 assistance to program participants. The eligible organizations must
9 use grant moneys for:

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 (b) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of
26 becoming homeless and who are receiving services under chapter 13.34
27 RCW;

28 (c) Individuals or families without children who are homeless or at
29 risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below
30 thirty percent of the median household income for their county;

31 (d) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk of
32 becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member who has
33 a mental health or chemical dependency disorder; and

34 (e) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk of
35 becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member who is
36 an offender released from confinement within the past eighteen months.

37 (3) All program participants must be willing to create and actively

1 participate in a housing stability plan for achieving permanent housing
2 and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

3 (4) Data on all program participants must be entered into and
4 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information
5 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180. For eligible organizations
6 serving victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, compliance with
7 this subsection must be accomplished in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec.
8 11383(a)(8).

9 ~~(5)((a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, beginning in
10 2011, each eligible organization receiving over five hundred thousand
11 dollars during the previous calendar year from the transitional housing
12 operating and rent program and from sources including: (i) State
13 housing-related funding sources; (ii) the affordable housing for all
14 surcharge in RCW 36.22.178; (iii) the home security fund surcharges in
15 RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791; and (iv) any other surcharge imposed
16 under chapter 36.22 or 43.185C RCW to fund homelessness programs or
17 other housing programs, shall apply to the Washington state quality
18 award program for an independent assessment of its quality management,
19 accountability, and performance system, once every three years.~~

20 ~~(b) Cities and counties are exempt from the provisions of (a) of
21 this subsection until 2018.~~

22 ~~(6))~~ The department may develop rules, requirements, procedures,
23 and guidelines as necessary to implement and operate the transitional
24 housing operating and rent program.

25 ~~((7))~~ (6) The department shall produce an annual transitional
26 housing operating and rent program report that must be included in the
27 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in RCW
28 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be
29 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the following
30 issue areas:

31 (a) The success of the program in helping program participants
32 transition into permanent affordable housing and achieve self-
33 sufficiency or increase their levels of self-sufficiency, which shall
34 be defined by the department based upon the costs of living, including
35 housing costs, needed to support: (i) One adult individual; and (ii)
36 two adult individuals and one preschool-aged child and one school-aged
37 child;

1 (b) The financial performance of the program related to efficient
2 program administration by the department and program operation by
3 selected eligible organizations, including an analysis of the costs per
4 program participant served;

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

8 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance
9 provided through the program.

10 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.185C.240 and 2012 c 90 s 2 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (1) As a means of efficiently and cost-effectively providing
13 housing assistance to very-low income and homeless households:

14 (a) Any local government that has the authority to issue housing
15 vouchers, directly or through a contractor, using document recording
16 surcharge funds collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or
17 36.22.1791 must:

18 (i)(A) Maintain an interested landlord list, which at a minimum,
19 includes information on rental properties in buildings with fewer than
20 fifty units;

21 (B) Update the list at least once per quarter;

22 (C) Distribute the list to agencies providing services to
23 individuals and households receiving housing vouchers;

24 (D) Ensure that a copy of the list or information for accessing the
25 list online is provided with voucher paperwork; and

26 (E) Use reasonable best efforts to communicate and interact with
27 landlord and tenant associations located within its jurisdiction to
28 facilitate development, maintenance, and distribution of the list;

29 (ii) Using cost-effective methods of communication, convene, on a
30 semiannual or more frequent basis, landlords represented on the
31 interested landlord list and agencies providing services to individuals
32 and households receiving housing vouchers to identify successes,
33 barriers, and process improvements. The local government is not
34 required to reimburse any participants for expenses related to
35 attendance;

36 (iii) Produce data, limited to document recording fee uses and
37 expenditures, on a calendar year basis in consultation with landlords

1 represented on the interested landlord list and agencies providing
2 services to individuals and households receiving housing vouchers, that
3 include the following: Total amount expended from document recording
4 fees; amount expended on, number of households that received, and
5 number of housing vouchers issued in each of the private, public, and
6 nonprofit markets; amount expended on, number of households that
7 received, and number of housing placement payments provided in each of
8 the private, public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on and
9 number of eviction prevention services provided in the private market;
10 and amount expended on and number of other tenant-based rent assistance
11 services provided in the private market. If these data elements are
12 not readily available, the reporting government may request the
13 department to use the sampling methodology established pursuant to
14 ((e)) (b)(iii) of this subsection to obtain the data; and

15 (iv) Annually submit the calendar year data to the department by
16 October 1st, with preliminary data submitted by October 1, 2012, and
17 full calendar year data submitted beginning October 1, 2013.

18 (b) ~~((Any local government receiving more than three million five
19 hundred thousand dollars during the previous calendar year from
20 document recording surcharge funds collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178,
21 36.22.179, and 36.22.1791, must apply to the Washington state quality
22 award program, or similar Baldrige assessment organization, for an
23 independent assessment of its quality management, accountability, and
24 performance system. The first assessment may be a lite assessment.
25 After submitting an application, a local government is required to
26 reapply at least every two years.~~

27 (e)) The department must:

28 (i) Require contractors that provide housing vouchers to distribute
29 the interested landlord list created by the appropriate local
30 government to individuals and households receiving the housing
31 vouchers;

32 (ii) Using cost-effective methods of communication, annually
33 convene local governments issuing housing vouchers, landlord
34 association representatives, and agencies providing services to
35 individuals and households receiving housing vouchers to identify
36 successes, barriers, and process improvements. The department is not
37 required to reimburse any participants for expenses related to
38 attendance;

1 (iii) Develop a sampling methodology to obtain data required under
2 this section when a local government or contractor does not have such
3 information readily available. The process for developing the sampling
4 methodology must include providing notification to and the opportunity
5 for public comment by local governments issuing housing vouchers,
6 landlord association representatives, and agencies providing services
7 to individuals and households receiving housing vouchers;

8 (iv) Develop a report, limited to document recording fee uses and
9 expenditures, on a calendar year basis in consultation with local
10 governments, landlord association representatives, and agencies
11 providing services to individuals and households receiving housing
12 vouchers, that includes the following: Total amount expended from
13 document recording fees; amount expended on, number of households that
14 received, and number of housing vouchers issued in each of the private,
15 public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on, number of households
16 that received, and number of housing placement payments provided in
17 each of the private, public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on
18 and number of eviction prevention services provided in the private
19 market; and amount expended on and number of other tenant-based rent
20 assistance services provided in the private market. The information in
21 the report must include data submitted by local governments and data on
22 all additional document recording fee activities for which the
23 department contracted that were not otherwise reported; and

24 (v) Annually submit the calendar year report to the legislature by
25 December 15th, with a preliminary report submitted by December 15,
26 2012, and full calendar year reports submitted beginning December 15,
27 2013(~~and~~

28 ~~(vi) Work with the Washington state quality award program, local~~
29 ~~governments, and any other organizations to ensure the appropriate~~
30 ~~scheduling of assessments for all local governments meeting the~~
31 ~~criteria described in subsection (1)(b) of this section)).~~

32 (2) For purposes of this section:

33 (a) "Housing placement payments" means one-time payments, such as
34 first and last month's rent and move-in costs, funded by document
35 recording surcharges collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or
36 36.22.1791 that are made to secure a unit on behalf of a tenant.

37 (b) "Housing vouchers" means payments funded by document recording
38 surcharges collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or

1 36.22.1791 that are made by a local government or contractor to secure:
2 (i) A rental unit on behalf of an individual tenant; or (ii) a block of
3 units on behalf of multiple tenants.

4 (c) "Interested landlord list" means a list of landlords who have
5 indicated to a local government or contractor interest in renting to
6 individuals or households receiving a housing voucher funded by
7 document recording surcharges.

8 (3) This section expires June 30, 2017.

9 ~~((4) If section 1, chapter 90, Laws of 2012 is not enacted into
10 law by July 31, 2012, this section is null and void.))~~

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The following acts or parts of acts are each
12 repealed:

13 (1) RCW 43.17.390 (Quality management, accountability, and
14 performance system--Independent assessment) and 2009 c 564 s 931 & 2005
15 c 384 s 4; and

16 (2) RCW 43.330.084 (Washington state quality award--Reimbursement
17 of application fee) and 2007 c 249 s 4.

--- END ---