
HOUSE BILL 2460

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Dye and Schmick

Read first time 01/14/20. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing small counties to retain ninety-eight
2 percent of a surcharge for local homeless housing and assistance; and
3 amending RCW 36.22.179.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.22.179 and 2019 c 136 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) In addition to the surcharge authorized in RCW 36.22.178, and
8 except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, an additional
9 surcharge of sixty-two dollars shall be charged by the county auditor
10 for each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other
11 charge allowed by law. Except as provided in subsection (4) of this
12 section, the funds collected pursuant to this section are to be
13 distributed and used as follows:

14 (a) The auditor shall retain two percent for collection of the
15 fee, and of the remainder shall remit:

16 (i) For counties with a population of less than twenty-five
17 thousand, ninety-eight percent to the county to be deposited into a
18 fund that must be used by the county and its cities and towns to
19 accomplish the purposes of chapter 484, Laws of 2005, six percent of
20 which may be used by the county for the collection and local
21 distribution of these funds and administrative costs related to its

1 homeless housing plan, and the remainder for programs which directly
2 accomplish the goals of the county's local homeless housing plan,
3 except that for each city in the county which elects as authorized in
4 RCW 43.185C.080 to operate its own local homeless housing program, a
5 percentage of the surcharge assessed under this section equal to the
6 percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax
7 collected by the county shall be transmitted at least quarterly to
8 the city treasurer, without any deduction for county administrative
9 costs, for use by the city for program costs which directly
10 contribute to the goals of the city's local homeless housing plan; of
11 the funds received by the city, it may use six percent for
12 administrative costs for its homeless housing program.

13 (ii) For counties with a population of twenty-five thousand or
14 greater, sixty percent to the county to be deposited into a fund that
15 must be used by the county and its cities and towns to accomplish the
16 purposes of chapter 484, Laws of 2005, six percent of which may be
17 used by the county for the collection and local distribution of these
18 funds and administrative costs related to its homeless housing plan,
19 and the remainder for programs which directly accomplish the goals of
20 the county's local homeless housing plan, except that for each city
21 in the county which elects as authorized in RCW 43.185C.080 to
22 operate its own local homeless housing program, a percentage of the
23 surcharge assessed under this section equal to the percentage of the
24 city's local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the
25 county shall be transmitted at least quarterly to the city treasurer,
26 without any deduction for county administrative costs, for use by the
27 city for program costs which directly contribute to the goals of the
28 city's local homeless housing plan; of the funds received by the
29 city, it may use six percent for administrative costs for its
30 homeless housing program.

31 (b) The auditor shall remit the remaining funds to the state
32 treasurer for deposit in the home security fund account to be used as
33 follows:

34 (i) The department may use twelve and one-half percent of this
35 amount for administration of the program established in RCW
36 43.185C.020, including the costs of creating the statewide homeless
37 housing strategic plan, measuring performance, providing technical
38 assistance to local governments, and managing the homeless housing
39 grant program.

1 (ii) The remaining eighty-seven and one-half percent of this
2 amount must be used as follows:

3 (A) At least forty-five percent must be set aside for the use of
4 private rental housing payments; and

5 (B) All remaining funds are to be used by the department to:

6 (I) Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including,
7 but not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters;
8 grants to operate transitional housing; partial payments for rental
9 assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth
10 shelters; grants and vouchers designated for victims of human
11 trafficking and their families; and emergency shelter assistance; and

12 (II) Fund the homeless housing grant program.

13 (2) A county issuing general obligation bonds pursuant to RCW
14 36.67.010, to carry out the purposes of subsection (1)(a) of this
15 section, may provide that such bonds be made payable from any
16 surcharge provided for in subsection (1)(a) of this section and may
17 pledge such surcharges to the repayment of the bonds.

18 (3) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to (a)
19 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust,
20 (b) documents recording a birth, marriage, divorce, or death, (c) any
21 recorded documents otherwise exempted from a recording fee or
22 additional surcharges under state law, (d) marriage licenses issued
23 by the county auditor, or (e) documents recording a federal, state,
24 county, or city lien or satisfaction of lien.

25 (4) Ten dollars of the surcharge imposed under subsection (1) of
26 this section must be distributed to the counties to carry out the
27 purposes of subsection (1)(a) of this section.

28 (5) For purposes of this section, "private rental housing" means
29 housing owned by a private landlord and includes housing owned by a
30 nonprofit housing entity.

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