

E2SSB 5160 - H AMD TO HHSV COMM AMD (H-1400.1/21) **654**

By Representative Caldier

ADOPTED 04/08/2021

1 On page 20, after line 4 of the striking amendment, insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The sum of \$7,500,000 for the fiscal
4 biennium ending June 30, 2023, is appropriated from the coronavirus
5 state fiscal recovery fund created in Engrossed Substitute Senate
6 Bill No. 5092 (operating budget) to the department of commerce for
7 the purposes of a landlord grant assistance program to provide
8 grants to eligible landlords for rent that was not paid during the
9 eviction moratorium pursuant to the governor's proclamation 20-19.6.
10 The department shall have such rule-making authority as the
11 department deems necessary to administer the program.

12 (1) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a landlord
13 must:

14 (a) Apply for a grant or have a property manager or property
15 management company apply for a grant on behalf of a landlord;

16 (b) Be the sole investor in the property from which they are
17 seeking rental arrears;

18 (c) Be the owner of no more than 10 dwelling units from which
19 they receive rental payments; and

20 (d) Provide proof of ownership of the property and a statement
21 certified under penalty of perjury of the amount of rent due during
22 the eviction moratorium that the landlord was not paid by the
23 tenant, through funds acquired through an emergency rental
24 assistance program provided by a governmental or nonprofit entity,
25 through the state landlord mitigation program defined in RCW
26 43.31.605, or through any other means that would reasonably be
27 considered payment of rent due.

1 (2) Eligible landlords may receive a grant of up to 80 percent
2 of the total amount of rent in arrears.

3 (3) The department will disburse funds to eligible landlords
4 within 60 days of submission of the application. Eligibility for a
5 grant under this section does not constitute an entitlement for
6 payment. If eligible applications for grants exceed the funds
7 appropriated in this section, the department must create and
8 maintain a waitlist in the order the applications are received
9 pursuant to this section. The department shall not be civilly or
10 criminally liable and may not have any penalty or cause of action of
11 any nature arise against it regarding the provision or lack of
12 provision of funds.

13 (4) The department shall provide a report to the appropriate
14 committees of the legislature by September 30, 2023, which shall
15 include the number of eligible applicants who received grants and
16 the total funds provided to such applicants, the number of eligible
17 applicants on the waitlist who did not receive grants and the total
18 amount of grants unpaid due to lack of funds, and the number of
19 ineligible applicants and the reasons for ineligibility.

20 (5) A landlord who receives a grant under this section is
21 prohibited from:

22 (a) Taking any legal action against the tenant for unpaid rent
23 or damages attributable to the same tenancy; or

24 (b) Pursuing collection, or authorizing another entity to pursue
25 collection on the landlord's behalf, against the tenant for unpaid
26 rent or damages attributable to the same tenancy.

27 (6) This section expires December 31, 2024."

EFFECT: Adds a new section that appropriates \$7,500,000 from the
Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Department of Commerce
for the Landlord Grant Assistance Program, which provides grants to
eligible landlords for unpaid rent due during the eviction
moratorium.

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