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**SENATE BILL 5553**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Lovelett, Robinson, Conway, Nguyen, Nobles, Wellman, and C. Wilson

Read first time 01/25/23. Referred to Committee on Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing standards for temporary emergency  
2 shelters for local adoption; and amending RCW 19.27.042.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 19.27.042 and 1991 c 139 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Effective January 1, 1992, the legislative authorities of  
7 cities and counties may adopt an ordinance or resolution to exempt  
8 from state building code requirements buildings whose character of  
9 use or occupancy has been changed in order to provide housing for  
10 indigent persons. The ordinance or resolution allowing the exemption  
11 shall include the following conditions:

12 (a) The exemption is limited to existing buildings located in  
13 this state;

14 (b) Any code deficiencies to be exempted pose no threat to human  
15 life, health, or safety;

16 (c) The building or buildings exempted under this section are  
17 owned or administered by a public agency or nonprofit corporation;  
18 and

19 (d) The exemption is authorized for no more than five years on  
20 any given building. An exemption for a building may be renewed if the  
21 requirements of this section are met for each renewal.

1           (2) By January 1, 1992, the state building code council shall  
2 adopt, by rule, guidelines for cities and counties exempting  
3 buildings under subsection (1) of this section.

4           (3) By July 1, 2026, the state building code council shall adopt,  
5 by rule, standards for temporary emergency shelters and make them  
6 available for local adoption.

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