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**SENATE BILL 5767**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Talmadge, Winsley, Prentice, Snyder, Pelz, Moore and Moyer

Read first time 02/12/93. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to the establishment and operation of short-term  
2 emergency shelter services for runaway and homeless youth; adding new  
3 sections to chapter 74.13 RCW; creating a new section; making an  
4 appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that adequate  
7 services are not available to runaway youth, and that the availability  
8 of timely and appropriate services for runaway youth is a critical  
9 factor in keeping these youth from moving to the streets. The  
10 legislature further finds that local governments, private businesses,  
11 and charities are attempting to address this critical unmet need in  
12 many areas of the state.

13 (2) It is the intent of sections 2 and 3 of this act to forge a  
14 partnership between local governments, private businesses, charities  
15 and the state to support the establishment and operation of short-term  
16 shelter programs in areas of the state experiencing extreme shortages  
17 of care for runaway and homeless youth.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        The department of social and health services shall award matching  
4 grants to local governments to help support the costs of operating  
5 short-term shelters established through local government and private  
6 funding.    Funds may be used to support staff necessary to operate and  
7 maintain short-term shelters.    Funds may not be used for capital  
8 expenditures.

9        Local governments must demonstrate that the emergency shelters meet  
10 the following criteria:

- 11        (1) Shelters will be drug and alcohol free at all times;
- 12        (2) Average length of stay for youth will be short-term as defined  
13 by the applicant local government;
- 14        (3) Counseling will be available to the youth staying in the  
15 shelters to assist them in reconciling with their families or in  
16 identifying appropriate alternative residential placement; and
- 17        (4) Shelters will maintain compliance with applicable licensing and  
18 state and local building codes.

19        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
20 to read as follows:

21        (1) Grants for the establishment and/or operation of short-term  
22 shelters shall be made competitively to local governments based on  
23 their commitment to supporting short-term housing and intervention  
24 services to runaway and homeless youth, demonstrated collaboration  
25 between youth serving organizations, commitments to support from  
26 private sources, and compliance with the criteria outlined in section  
27 2 of this act.

28        (2) Fifty percent of the funding for shelters shall be community  
29 matching funds provided by private or public entities in the  
30 communities requesting funding.    Contributions of materials, supplies,  
31 physical facilities, or volunteer time may be considered as all or part  
32 of the funding provided by the community.    Federal funds may be used as  
33 matching funds.

34        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    The sum of three million dollars, or as much  
35 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending  
36 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the department of social and  
37 health services for the purposes of this act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
2    preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
3    state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
4    effect July 1, 1993.

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