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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2900**

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**State of Washington**                      **61st Legislature**                      **2010 Regular Session**

**By** House Local Government & Housing (originally sponsored by Representative Goodman)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/10.

1            AN ACT Relating to supportive housing; amending RCW 43.185C.070;  
2            creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    The legislature finds that providing  
5            supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals with severe  
6            alcohol problems results in improved outcomes for the served  
7            individuals and the public. The legislature recognizes that these  
8            individuals are the highest utilizers of public crisis services,  
9            including hospital emergency departments for alcohol-related reasons,  
10           detox/sobering facilities, and jails, and that they may be recipients  
11           of general assistance or other public entitlements. The legislature  
12           also finds that providing supportive housing facilities for these  
13           individuals presents a valuable benefit that improves public health and  
14           safety and reduces public spending.

15           **Sec. 2.**    RCW 43.185C.070 and 2005 c 484 s 11 are each amended to  
16           read as follows:

17           (1) During each calendar year in which moneys from the ((homeless  
18           housing)) home security fund account are available for use by the

1 department for the homeless housing grant program, the department shall  
2 announce to all Washington counties, participating cities, and through  
3 major media throughout the state, a grant application period of at  
4 least ninety days' duration. This announcement will be made as often  
5 as the director deems appropriate for proper utilization of resources.  
6 The department shall then promptly grant as many applications as will  
7 utilize available funds, less appropriate administrative costs of the  
8 department as described in RCW 36.22.179.

9 (2) The department will develop, with advice and input from the  
10 affordable housing advisory board established in RCW 43.185B.020,  
11 criteria to evaluate grant applications.

12 (3) The department may approve applications only if they are  
13 consistent with the local and state homeless housing program strategic  
14 plans. The department may give preference to applications based on  
15 some or all of the following criteria:

16 (a) The total homeless population in the applicant local government  
17 service area, as reported by the most recent annual Washington homeless  
18 census;

19 (b) Current local expenditures to provide housing for the homeless  
20 and to address the underlying causes of homelessness as described in  
21 RCW 43.185C.005;

22 (c) Local government and private contributions pledged to the  
23 program in the form of matching funds, property, infrastructure  
24 improvements, and other contributions; and the degree of leveraging of  
25 other funds from local government or private sources for the program  
26 for which funds are being requested, to include recipient contributions  
27 to total project costs, including allied contributions from other  
28 sources such as professional, craft and trade services, and lender  
29 interest rate subsidies;

30 (d) Construction projects or rehabilitation that will serve  
31 homeless individuals or families for a period of at least twenty-five  
32 years;

33 (e) Projects which demonstrate serving homeless populations with  
34 the greatest needs, including projects that serve special needs  
35 populations;

36 (f) Geographically dispersed projects that will serve individuals  
37 in supportive housing facilities. "Supportive housing," for purposes  
38 of this section, means housing that is available for lease to, and

1 intended for, chronically homeless individuals with mental illness,  
2 chemical dependency, or other disabling or chronic health conditions.  
3 Supportive housing facilities must have supportive services provided  
4 on-site that are designed to assist tenants in achieving and sustaining  
5 housing stability. Supportive housing providers must actively seek to  
6 engage tenants in on-site supportive services, but participation in  
7 such services may not be a condition of ongoing tenancy;

8 (g) The degree to which the applicant project represents a  
9 collaboration between local governments, nonprofit community-based  
10 organizations, local and state agencies, and the private sector,  
11 especially through its integration with the coordinated and  
12 comprehensive plan for homeless families with children required under  
13 RCW 43.63A.650;

14 ((+g)) (h) The cooperation of the local government in the annual  
15 Washington homeless census project;

16 ((+h)) (i) The commitment of the local government and any  
17 subcontracting local governments, nonprofit organizations, and for-  
18 profit entities to employ a diverse workforce;

19 ((+i)) (j) The extent, if any, that the local homeless population  
20 is disproportionate to the revenues collected under this chapter and  
21 RCW 36.22.178 and 36.22.179; and

22 ((+j)) (k) Other elements shown by the applicant to be directly  
23 related to the goal and the department's state strategic plan.

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The sum of one million dollars is  
25 appropriated from the general fund to the department of commerce for  
26 expenditure into the home security fund account solely for the purposes  
27 of establishing and providing ongoing services in two geographically  
28 dispersed supportive housing facilities of at least fifty units each  
29 that are targeted for chronically homeless individuals with severe  
30 alcohol problems.

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