
SENATE BILL 6272

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Senators Berkey, Hobbs, Fairley, Keiser, Kilmer, McDermott, Kauffman, Kohl-Welles, Murray, Shin, Regala, Kline, Spanel, Rasmussen, and Franklin; by request of Governor Gregoire

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding financial literacy through education
2 and counseling to promote greater homeownership security; adding new
3 sections to chapter 43.320 RCW; making appropriations; and declaring an
4 emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.320 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 The director of financial institutions or the director's designee
9 shall:

10 (1) Disseminate information to the public concerning the laws
11 regulating financial institutions of this state; and

12 (2) Provide assistance to members of the public in obtaining
13 information about financial products.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.320 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 The director of financial institutions or the director's designee
17 may establish, administer, and implement financial literacy and
18 education programs, including but not limited to:

1 (1) Education and outreach programs that assist Washington citizens
2 of all ages in understanding saving, investing, and budgeting, and
3 other skills necessary to obtain individual financial independence,
4 fiscal responsibility, and financial management skills.

5 (2) Counseling, marketing, and outreach programs regarding
6 residential mortgage transactions, nontraditional or subprime
7 mortgages, predatory lending practices, or other financial products or
8 practices in the marketplace relating to homeownership.

9 The department may deliver the programs in subsections (1) and (2)
10 of this section using grants, contracts, or interagency agreements with
11 state and local governments and other nongovernmental organizations as
12 necessary. The department may coordinate these programs with ongoing
13 efforts by other public and private sector entities to maximize the
14 programs' effectiveness.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.320 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 The director or his or her designee shall convene an interagency
18 work group to identify current state funded efforts to support
19 financial literacy, assess whether there are opportunities to create a
20 centralized location of information regarding these existing state
21 efforts, and to identify whether there are opportunities for expanding
22 partnerships with other community entities also providing financial
23 literacy services. A report of the findings and recommendations of
24 this interagency work group shall be due to the governor and the
25 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2008.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The sum of seven hundred thousand
27 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
28 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the
29 department of financial institutions for homeownership prepurchase
30 outreach and education and postpurchase counseling and support.

31 (2) The sum of eight hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof
32 as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June
33 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of financial
34 institutions for homeownership prepurchase outreach and education and
35 postpurchase counseling and support.

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 takes effect
4 immediately.

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