

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5959**

60th Legislature  
2008 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate March 13, 2008  
YEAS 49 NAYS 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 13, 2008  
YEAS 95 NAYS 2

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5959** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5959**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2008 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**60th Legislature**

**2008 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Kilmer, Shin, Sheldon, Kohl-Welles, Delvin, and McAuliffe)

READ FIRST TIME 01/17/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding availability of housing for  
2 individuals and families at risk of homelessness; creating new  
3 sections; and repealing RCW 59.18.600.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The transitional housing operating and  
6 rent program is created in the department to assist individuals and  
7 families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless to  
8 secure and retain safe, decent, and affordable housing. The department  
9 shall provide grants to eligible organizations, as described in RCW  
10 43.185.060, to provide assistance to program participants. The  
11 eligible organizations must use grant moneys for:

12 (a) Rental assistance, which includes security or utility deposits,  
13 first and last month's rent assistance, and eligible moving expenses to  
14 be determined by the department;

15 (b) Case management services designed to assist program  
16 participants to secure and retain immediate housing and to transition  
17 into permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency;

18 (c) Operating expenses of transitional housing facilities that  
19 serve homeless families with children; and

1 (d) Administrative costs of the eligible organization, which must  
2 not exceed limits prescribed by the department.

3 (2) Eligible to receive assistance through the transitional housing  
4 operating and rent program are:

5 (a) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of  
6 becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below fifty  
7 percent of the median household income for their county;

8 (b) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of  
9 becoming homeless and who are receiving services under chapter 13.34  
10 RCW;

11 (c) Individuals or families without children who are homeless or at  
12 risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below  
13 thirty percent of the median household income for their county;

14 (d) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk of  
15 becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member who has  
16 a mental health or chemical dependency disorder; and

17 (e) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk of  
18 becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member who is  
19 an offender released from confinement within the past eighteen months.

20 (3) All program participants must be willing to create and actively  
21 participate in a housing stability plan for achieving permanent housing  
22 and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

23 (4) Data on all program participants must be entered into and  
24 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information  
25 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180. For eligible organizations  
26 serving victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, compliance with  
27 this subsection must be accomplished in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec.  
28 11383(a)(8).

29 (5) Beginning in 2011, each eligible organization receiving over  
30 five hundred thousand dollars during the previous calendar year from  
31 the transitional housing operating and rent program and from sources  
32 including: (a) State housing-related funding sources; (b) the  
33 affordable housing for all surcharge in RCW 36.22.178; (c) the home  
34 security fund surcharges in RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791; and (d) any  
35 other surcharge imposed under chapter 36.22 or 43.185C RCW to fund  
36 homelessness programs or other housing programs, shall apply to the  
37 Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of

1 its quality management, accountability, and performance system, once  
2 every three years.

3 (6) The department may develop rules, requirements, procedures, and  
4 guidelines as necessary to implement and operate the transitional  
5 housing operating and rent program.

6 (7) The department shall produce an annual transitional housing  
7 operating and rent program report that must be included in the  
8 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in RCW  
9 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be  
10 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the following  
11 issue areas:

12 (a) The success of the program in helping program participants  
13 transition into permanent affordable housing and achieve self-  
14 sufficiency or increase their levels of self-sufficiency, which shall  
15 be defined by the department based upon the costs of living, including  
16 housing costs, needed to support: (i) One adult individual; and (ii)  
17 two adult individuals and one preschool-aged child and one school-aged  
18 child;

19 (b) The financial performance of the program related to efficient  
20 program administration by the department and program operation by  
21 selected eligible organizations, including an analysis of the costs per  
22 program participant served;

23 (c) The quality, completeness, and timeliness of the information on  
24 program participants provided to the Washington homeless client  
25 management information system database; and

26 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance  
27 provided through the program.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The transitional housing operating and rent  
29 account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts  
30 from sources directed to the transitional housing operating and rent  
31 program must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the  
32 account may be used solely for the purpose of the transitional housing  
33 operating and rent program as described in section 1 of this act. Only  
34 the director of the department or the director's designee may authorize  
35 expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment  
36 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not  
37 required for expenditures.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.**   RCW 59.18.600 (Rental to offenders--  
2   Limitation on liability) and 2007 c 483 s 602 are each repealed.

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