
SENATE BILL 6229

State of Washington

66th Legislature

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By Senators Kuderer and Wilson, C.; by request of Department of Commerce

Prefiled 01/10/20. Read first time 01/13/20. Referred to Committee on Housing Stability & Affordability.

1 AN ACT Relating to streamlining reporting for recipients of
2 housing-related state funding by removing Washington state quality
3 award program requirements; and amending RCW 43.185C.210.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.185C.210 and 2011 c 353 s 6 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

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

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

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

20 (c) Operating expenses of transitional housing facilities that
21 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
4 housing 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
12 at risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or
13 below thirty percent of the median household income for their county;

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 ~~(b) Cities and counties are exempt from the provisions of (a) of~~
4 ~~this subsection until 2018.~~

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

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

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

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

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

28 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance
29 provided through the program.

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