(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Finds that providing needy youth aging out of the state dependency system with safe and viable options for housing to avoid homelessness confers a valuable benefit on the public that is intended to improve public health, safety, and welfare.

Declares it is the goal of this state to: (1) Ensure that all youth aging out of the state dependency system have access to a decent, appropriate, and affordable home in a healthy safe environment to prevent such young people from experiencing homelessness; and

(2) Reduce each year the percentage of young people eligible for state assistance upon aging out of the state dependency system.

Provides that, beginning in September 2008, the Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a study measuring the outcomes for youth who are participating or who have participated in the independent youth housing program created in this act. The institute shall issue a report containing its preliminary findings to the legislature by December 1, 2009, and a final report by December 1, 2010.

Provides that the act shall be null and void if appropriations are not approved.