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HOUSE BILL 1862

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Reams, K. Schmidt, Horn, Hankins and Blanton

Read first time 02/13/95. Referred to Committee on Trade & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to home-matching; amending RCW 43.63A.670 and  
2 43.63A.680; and making an appropriation.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.63A.670 and 1993 c 478 s 18 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) The trend toward smaller household sizes will continue into the  
8 foreseeable future;

9 (b) Many of these households are in housing units that contain more  
10 bedrooms than occupants;

11 (c) There are older homeowners on relatively low, fixed income who  
12 are experiencing difficulties maintaining their homes; and

13 (d) There are single parents, recently widowed persons, people in  
14 the midst of divorce or separation, and handicapped that are faced with  
15 displacement due to the high cost of housing.

16 (2) The legislature declares that the purpose of RCW 43.63A.680 is  
17 to develop a ((pilot)) program designed to:

1 (a) Provide home-matching services that can enable people to  
2 continue living in their homes while promoting continuity of home  
3 ownership and community stability; ~~((and))~~

4 (b) Counter the problem of displacement among people on relatively  
5 low, fixed incomes by linking people offering living space with people  
6 seeking housing; and

7 (c) Encourage the development of model home-matching programs that  
8 can be replicated at the community level.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.63A.680 and 1993 c 478 s 19 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 (1) The department ~~((may))~~ shall develop and administer a home-  
12 matching program for the purpose of providing grants and technical  
13 assistance to eligible organizations to operate local home-matching  
14 programs. For purposes of this section, "eligible organizations" are  
15 those organizations eligible to receive assistance through the  
16 Washington housing trust fund, chapter 43.185 RCW.

17 (2) The department may select ~~((up to five))~~ eligible organizations  
18 for the purpose of implementing a local home-matching program. The  
19 local home-matching programs are designed to facilitate: (a)  
20 Intergenerational homesharing involving older homeowners sharing homes  
21 with younger persons; (b) homesharing arrangements that involve an  
22 exchange of services such as cooking, housework, gardening, or  
23 babysitting for room and board or some financial consideration such as  
24 rent; and (c) the more efficient use of available housing.

25 (3) In selecting local ~~((pilot))~~ programs for funding under this  
26 section, the department shall consider:

27 (a) The eligible organization's ability, stability, and resources  
28 to implement the local home-matching program;

29 (b) The eligible organization's efforts to coordinate other support  
30 services needed by the individual or family participating in the local  
31 home-matching program; and

32 (c) Other factors the department deems appropriate.

33 (4) The eligible organizations shall establish criteria for  
34 participation in the local home-matching program. The eligible  
35 organization shall make a determination of eligibility regarding the  
36 individuals' or families' participation in the local home-matching  
37 program. The determination shall include, but is not limited to a

1 verification of the individual's or family's history of making rent  
2 payments in a consistent and timely manner.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or  
4 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium  
5 ending June 30, 1997, from the Washington housing trust fund, created  
6 in RCW 43.185.030, to the department of community, trade, and economic  
7 development for the purposes of RCW 43.63A.680.

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