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SENATE BILL 6163

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators Prentice, Goings and Winsley

Read first time 01/12/98. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions, Insurance & Housing.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to registration of mobile home parks; adding a new
- 2 chapter to Title 18 RCW; and prescribing penalties.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this chapter is to establish
- 5 a registration program for mobile home parks in the state.
- 6 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
- 7 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this
- 8 chapter.
- 9 (1) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
- 10 economic development.
- 11 (2) "Director" means the director of the department of community,
- 12 trade, and economic development.
- 13 (3) "Mobile home park" has the same meaning as in RCW 59.20.030.
- 14 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** A mobile home park shall not operate in this
- 15 state without first registering with the department to do business as
- 16 a mobile home park on a form approved by the department.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The department has the power to enforce and ensure compliance with the provisions of this chapter relating to the
- 3 registration of mobile home parks.
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 5.** If the department has reasonable cause to
- 5 believe that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the department
- 6 may institute enforcement proceedings in its own name against any
- 7 mobile home park owner as follows:
- 8 (1) The department may issue an order requiring the owner to cease
- 9 and desist from the unlawful practice and take such affirmative action
- 10 as in the judgment of the department will carry out the purposes of
- 11 this chapter;
- 12 (2) The department may bring an action in superior court for
- 13 declaratory relief or injunctive relief; or
- 14 (3) The department may impose a civil penalty against an owner for
- 15 any violation of this chapter that does not exceed one thousand dollars
- 16 per violation. If an owner fails to pay the civil penalty, the
- 17 department may issue an order directing that the owner cease and desist
- 18 from further operation of the mobile home park until such time as the
- 19 civil penalty is paid or pursue enforcement of the penalty in a court
- 20 of competent jurisdiction. Any action commenced by the department
- 21 shall be brought in the county in which the department has its
- 22 executive offices or in the county where the violation occurred. A
- 23 resident or tenant living in a mobile home park or renting a home in a
- 24 mobile home park may institute an action in the appropriate court
- 25 against a mobile home park owner to enforce this chapter. In any
- 26 action brought to enforce this chapter the prevailing party shall be
- 27 awarded his or her reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
- 28 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 6.** If any provision of this act or its
- 29 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
- 30 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
- 31 persons or circumstances is not affected.
- 32 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute
- 33 a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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