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HOUSE BILL 1645

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunn, Miloscia, Carlson, Mielke, Esser, Van Luven, Sump, Campbell, Morris, Bush, D. Sommers, Skinner, Benson, Radcliff, Thomas and Schoesler

Read first time 02/01/1999. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Housing & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to rental payments to landlords from public  
2 assistance; and adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Persons receiving public assistance, particularly families,  
7 frequently have great difficulty obtaining adequate housing. The  
8 department of social and health services is directed to conduct a  
9 program designed to increase the supply of housing for persons on  
10 public assistance by making rental payments directly to the landlords.

11 (2) The department shall explore the use of public and private  
12 housing providers in the implementation of the program.

13 (3) The department shall solicit not less than three and up to  
14 seven local governing bodies for participation in the program. In  
15 implementing this program the department shall:

16 (a) Stress that participation in the program by recipients on  
17 public assistance is voluntary;

18 (b) Utilize the services of either local public or private housing  
19 providers, or both, to the maximum extent feasible; and

1 (c) Give consideration to obtaining a geographic distribution and  
2 balance throughout the state when selecting participating local  
3 governing bodies.

4 (4) Prior to the convening of the 2000 regular session of the  
5 legislature, the department shall report the results of the program,  
6 together with its recommendations, to the co-chairs of the house of  
7 representatives committee on economic development, housing and trade  
8 and the chair of the senate committee on labor and workforce  
9 development.

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