

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**HOUSE BILL 3156**

59th Legislature  
2006 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 4, 2006  
Yeas 96 Nays 1

---

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate February 28, 2006  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

---

**President of the Senate**

Approved

---

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Richard Nafziger, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 3156** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

---

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

HOUSE BILL 3156

---

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2006 Regular Session

State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Darneille, Haler, Dickerson, Morrell, Pettigrew  
and Simpson

Read first time 01/23/2006. Referred to Committee on Economic  
Development, Agriculture & Trade.

1            AN ACT Relating to creating a pilot program to assist in asset  
2 building for low-income persons; adding new sections to chapter 43.63A  
3 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that one in four  
6 families lack the financial resources to sustain their family for a  
7 period of three months at the federal poverty level. Low-income wage  
8 earners need tools to allow them to better control, manage, and  
9 increase their financial resources. The legislature is committed to  
10 supporting the collaboration of community-based, faith-based,  
11 governmental, job training, health care, and social service agencies to  
12 help low-income families achieve greater prosperity.

13            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15            (1) The department of community, trade, and economic development  
16 must establish a process to offer consulting services to community  
17 action agencies, established under RCW 43.63A.115, who are interested  
18 in developing pilot programs to assist low-income families accumulate

1 assets. In implementing a pilot program, the community action agency  
2 applicant is encouraged to facilitate bringing together community  
3 partners to determine the asset building programs to initiate within  
4 the community.

5 (2) The department must select the pilot sites through an  
6 application process developed by the department and beginning by July  
7 31, 2006. The department must offer consulting services to no less  
8 than four sites with at least one of the pilot sites located in eastern  
9 Washington.

10 (3) A community action agency as established in RCW 43.63A.115 may  
11 submit an application to be selected as a pilot site. To be considered  
12 for a pilot site, the application must demonstrate how the site will  
13 meet the following criteria. The application must:

14 (a) Identify the local agency that will be the lead agency for the  
15 pilot program;

16 (b) Describe how the lead agency will work with community partners,  
17 including local government, to implement the pilot program activities  
18 described in this section. The application must specifically identify  
19 the community partners with whom the community action agency will be  
20 collaborating and the role of the partners;

21 (c) Identify the areas of potential need based upon input from the  
22 community partners. Areas of potential need may include financial  
23 literacy, assistance with federal income tax preparation and the use of  
24 tax credits, the use of individual development accounts, and other  
25 asset-building strategies; and

26 (d) Identify the resources within the community that might support  
27 training for the implementation of the selected best practices chosen  
28 to address the needs identified by the community.

29 (4) The department must report to the legislature by December 1,  
30 2007, on the progress of the implementation of the pilot programs  
31 including the application process, the status of the programs, and any  
32 implementation issues that arose in initiating the pilot programs.

33 (5) As used in this section, "asset" or "asset building" means  
34 investment or savings for an investment in a family home, higher  
35 education, small business, or other long-term asset that will assist  
36 low-income families to attain greater self-sufficiency.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.**   A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW  
2   to read as follows:

3        To the extent funding is appropriated, the department of community,  
4   trade, and economic development must establish a program to create an  
5   outreach campaign to increase the number of eligible families who claim  
6   the federal earned income tax credit.   The department may work  
7   collaboratively with other state agencies, private and nonprofit  
8   agencies, local communities, and others with expertise that might  
9   assist the department in implementing the program.

10        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 4.**   This act expires January 1, 2008.

--- END ---