
HOUSE BILL 2684

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Barlow, Hasegawa, and Santos

Read first time 01/15/08. Referred to Committee on Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to the homeless families services program; amending
2 RCW 43.330.167; adding a new section to chapter 43.330 RCW; making an
3 appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.330.167 and 2004 c 276 s 718 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) There is created the homeless families services program and
8 in the custody of the state treasurer an account to be known as the
9 homeless families services fund. Revenues to the fund consist of ((a
10 ~~one-time~~)) appropriations by the legislature, private contributions,
11 and all other sources deposited in the fund.

12 (b) Expenditures from the fund may only be used for the purposes of
13 the program established in this section, including administrative
14 expenses. Only the director of the department of community, trade, and
15 economic development, or the director's designee, may authorize
16 expenditures.

17 (c) Expenditures from the fund are exempt from appropriations and
18 the allotment provisions of chapter 43.88 RCW. However, money used for

1 program administration by the department is subject to the allotment
2 and budgetary controls of chapter 43.88 RCW, and an appropriation is
3 required for these expenditures.

4 (2) The department may expend moneys from the fund to provide state
5 matching funds for housing-based supportive services for homeless
6 families over a period of at least (~~ten~~) five years.

7 (3) Activities eligible for funding through the fund include, but
8 are not limited to, the following:

9 (a) Case management;

10 (b) Counseling;

11 (c) Referrals to employment support and job training services and
12 direct employment support and job training services;

13 (d) Domestic violence services and programs;

14 (e) Mental health treatment, services, and programs;

15 (f) Substance abuse treatment, services, and programs;

16 (g) Parenting skills education and training;

17 (h) Transportation assistance;

18 (i) Child care; and

19 (j) Other supportive services identified by the department to be an
20 important link for housing stability.

21 (4) Organizations that may receive funds from the fund include
22 local housing authorities, nonprofit community or neighborhood-based
23 organizations, public development authorities, federally recognized
24 Indian tribes in the state, and regional or statewide nonprofit housing
25 assistance organizations. Priority for funding must be given to
26 organizations that demonstrate quality management practices and
27 appropriate organizational capacity.

28 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
29 to read as follows:

30 (1) The department must establish goals with yearly targets for the
31 homeless families services program. Goals must include preventing
32 homelessness and moving families to self-sufficiency.

33 (2) The department must establish performance measures to evaluate
34 and improve the overall effectiveness of the program, which at a
35 minimum must measure:

36 (a) Increases in housing stability for assisted homeless families;

1 (b) Increases in economic self-sufficiency of assisted homeless
2 families; and

3 (c) The efficiency and effectiveness of the program in using best
4 practices to meet stated goals and objectives.

5 (3) The department shall report on program performance, using the
6 goals and performance measures established under this section, annually
7 by January 15th to the appropriate committees of the legislature. The
8 report must include information from organizations participating in the
9 program consisting of, at a minimum:

10 (a) Program activities, outcomes, and performance; and

11 (b) Recommendations for changes to state policy to assist the state
12 in reaching its goal of ending homelessness.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of six million dollars, or as much
14 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending
15 June 30, 2008, from the general fund to the homeless families services
16 fund for the purposes of this act.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
19 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
20 immediately.

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