

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2115**

Chapter 333, Laws of 2007

60th Legislature  
2007 Regular Session

HERITAGE BARN PRESERVATION PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/22/07

Passed by the House April 17, 2007  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 11, 2007  
Yeas 46 Nays 2

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Approved May 4, 2007, 4:47 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

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**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 **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2115** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

RICHARD NAFZIGER

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 7, 2007

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2115**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Newhouse, Lantz, B. Sullivan, Hailey, Grant, VanDeWege, Warnick, Kelley, Pedersen, Appleton, Quall, Seaquist, Hunt, Simpson, McDermott and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 3/5/07.

1            AN ACT Relating to establishing the Washington state heritage barn  
2 preservation program; amending RCW 27.34.020; adding new sections to  
3 chapter 27.34 RCW; creating new sections; and providing an expiration  
4 date.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that historic barns  
7 are essential symbols of Washington's heritage representing a  
8 pioneering spirit of industriousness. Important for their association  
9 with broad patterns of agricultural history and community development  
10 and as examples of distinct architectural styles and methods of  
11 construction, historic barns serve as highly visible icons for local  
12 residents and visitors alike. The legislature acknowledges that  
13 factors such as changes in the agricultural economy and farming  
14 technologies, prohibitive rehabilitation costs, development pressures,  
15 and regulations restricting new uses, collectively work to endanger  
16 historic barns statewide and contribute to their falling into decay or  
17 being demolished altogether.

18            As historic barns represent irreplaceable resources, and  
19 recognizing that barn preservation will work to retain these structures

1 as functional and economically viable elements of working lands, the  
2 purpose of this act is to create a system acknowledging heritage barns  
3 statewide that provides emergency assistance to heritage barn owners  
4 through matching grants, assesses the need for long-term barn  
5 preservation, and considers additional incentives and regulatory  
6 revisions that work toward the preservation of heritage barns as  
7 integral components of Washington's historic landscapes.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The Washington state heritage barn  
9 preservation program is created in the department.

10 (2) The director, in consultation with the heritage barn  
11 preservation advisory board, shall conduct a thematic study of  
12 Washington state's barns. The study shall include a determination of  
13 types, an assessment of the most unique and significant barns in the  
14 state, and a condition and needs assessment of historic barns in the  
15 state.

16 (3)(a) The department, in consultation with the heritage barn  
17 preservation advisory board, shall establish a heritage barn  
18 recognition program. To apply for recognition as a heritage barn, the  
19 barn owner shall supply to the department photos of the barn, photos of  
20 the farm and surrounding landscape, a brief history of the farm, and a  
21 construction date for the barn.

22 (b) Three times a year, the governor's advisory council on historic  
23 places shall review the list of barns submitted by the department for  
24 formal recognition as a heritage barn.

25 (4) Eligible applicants for heritage barn preservation fund awards  
26 include property owners, nonprofit organizations, and local  
27 governments.

28 (5) To apply for support from the heritage barn preservation fund,  
29 an applicant must submit an application to the department in a form  
30 prescribed by the department. Applicants must provide at least fifty  
31 percent of the cost of the project through in-kind labor, the  
32 applicant's own moneys, or other funding sources.

33 (6) The following types of projects are eligible for funding:

34 (a) Stabilization of endangered heritage barns and related  
35 agricultural buildings, including but not limited to repairs to  
36 foundations, sills, windows, walls, structural framework, and the  
37 repair and replacement of roofs; and

1 (b) Work that preserves the historic character, features, and  
2 materials of a historic barn.

3 (7) In making awards, the advisory board shall consider the  
4 following criteria:

5 (a) Relative historical and cultural significance of the barn;

6 (b) Urgency of the threat and need for repair;

7 (c) Extent to which the project preserves historic character and  
8 extends the useful life of the barn or associated agricultural  
9 building;

10 (d) Visibility of the barn from a state designated scenic byway or  
11 other publicly traveled way;

12 (e) Extent to which the project leverages other sources of  
13 financial assistance;

14 (f) Provision for long-term preservation;

15 (g) Readiness of the applicant to initiate and complete the  
16 project; and

17 (h) Extent to which the project contributes to the equitable  
18 geographic distribution of heritage barn preservation fund awards  
19 across the state.

20 (8) In awarding funds, special consideration shall be given to  
21 barns that are:

22 (a) Still in agricultural use;

23 (b) Listed on the national register of historic places; or

24 (c) Outstanding examples of their type or era.

25 (9) The conditions in this subsection must be met by recipients of  
26 funding in order to satisfy the public benefit requirements of the  
27 heritage barn preservation program.

28 (a) Recipients must execute a contract with the department before  
29 commencing work. The contract must include a historic preservation  
30 easement for between five to fifteen years depending on the amount of  
31 the award. The contract must specify public benefit and minimum  
32 maintenance requirements.

33 (b) Recipients must proactively maintain their historic barn for a  
34 minimum of ten years.

35 (c) Public access to the exterior of properties that are not  
36 visible from a public right-of-way must be provided under reasonable  
37 terms and circumstances, including the requirement that visits by

1 nonprofit organizations or school groups must be offered at least one  
2 day per year.

3 (10) All work must comply with the United States secretary of the  
4 interior's standards for the rehabilitation of historic properties;  
5 however, exceptions may be made for the retention or installation of  
6 metal roofs on a case-by-case basis.

7 (11) The heritage barn preservation fund shall be acknowledged on  
8 any materials produced and in publicity for the project. A sign  
9 acknowledging the fund shall be posted at the worksite for the duration  
10 of the preservation agreement.

11 (12) Projects must be initiated within one year of funding approval  
12 and completed within two years, unless an extension is provided by the  
13 department in writing.

14 (13) If a recipient of a heritage barn preservation fund award, or  
15 subsequent owner of a property that was assisted by the fund, takes any  
16 action within ten years of the funding award with respect to the  
17 assisted property such as dismantlement, removal, or substantial  
18 alteration, which causes it to be no longer eligible for listing in the  
19 Washington heritage register, the fund shall be repaid in full within  
20 one year.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The director shall establish a  
22 Washington state heritage barn preservation advisory board that  
23 includes:

24 (a) Two members representing owners of heritage barns nominated by  
25 recognized agricultural organizations;

26 (b) The chair of the advisory council, or the chair's designee;

27 (c) A representative of a statewide historic preservation  
28 organization;

29 (d) A representative of a county heritage commission that is  
30 recognized by the department as a certified local government;

31 (e) Two elected county officials, one appointed by the Washington  
32 state association of counties and one appointed by the Washington  
33 association of county officials;

34 (f) A representative of a private foundation with an interest in  
35 the preservation of barns;

36 (g) A representative of a land trust that is experienced with  
37 easements; and

1 (h) At least one at-large member with appropriate expertise in barn  
2 architecture, architectural history, construction, engineering, or a  
3 related field.

4 (2) The director may invite representatives of federal agencies  
5 that have barn preservation programs or expertise to participate on the  
6 advisory board, who shall serve as ex-officio members.

7 (3) The director shall work to assure that the advisory board  
8 members are from diverse geographic regions of the state. The director  
9 may serve as chair, or appoint a person to serve as chair.

10 (4) The advisory board shall provide advice to the director  
11 regarding:

12 (a) The criteria for designation of heritage barns;

13 (b) The criteria for determining eligibility for grant funds  
14 including contracting provisions between the department and grant  
15 recipients. In developing this criteria, the department and the  
16 advisory board shall consult with the state attorney general; and

17 (c) The criteria for awarding grants for barn rehabilitation.

18 (5) The advisory board shall examine regulatory issues that impose  
19 constraints on the ability to use heritage barns for contemporary  
20 economically productive purposes including building and land use codes.

21 (6) By December 1, 2010, the department shall provide a final  
22 report to appropriate committees of the legislature that summarizes the  
23 accomplishments of the program, addresses regulatory issues examined  
24 under subsection (5) of this section, and makes final recommendations.

25 (7) This section expires December 31, 2010.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The heritage barn preservation fund is  
27 created as an account in the state treasury. All receipts from  
28 appropriations and private sources must be deposited into the account.  
29 Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation.  
30 Expenditures from the account may be used only to provide assistance to  
31 owners of heritage barns in Washington state in the stabilization and  
32 restoration of their barns so that these historic properties may  
33 continue to serve the community.

34 (2) The department shall minimize the amount of funds that are used  
35 for program administration, which shall include consultation with the  
36 department of general administration's barrier-free facilities program

1 for input regarding accessibility for people with disabilities where  
2 public access to historic barns is permitted.

3 (3) The primary public benefit of funding through the heritage barn  
4 preservation program is the preservation and enhancement of significant  
5 historic properties that provide economic benefit to the state's  
6 citizens and enrich communities throughout the state.

7 **Sec. 5.** RCW 27.34.020 and 2005 c 333 s 13 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
10 this section apply throughout this chapter:

11 (1) "Advisory council" means the advisory council on historic  
12 preservation.

13 (2) "Department" means the department of archaeology and historic  
14 preservation.

15 (3) "Director" means the director of the department of archaeology  
16 and historic preservation.

17 (4) "Federal act" means the national historic preservation act of  
18 1966 (Public Law 89-655; 80 Stat. 915).

19 (5) "Heritage barn" means any large agricultural outbuilding used  
20 to house animals, crops, or farm equipment, that is over fifty years  
21 old and has been determined by the department to: (a) Be eligible for  
22 listing on the Washington heritage register or the national register of  
23 historic places; or (b) have been listed on a local historic register  
24 and approved by the advisory council. In addition to barns, "heritage  
25 barn" includes agricultural resources such as milk houses, sheds,  
26 silos, or other outbuildings, that are historically associated with the  
27 working life of the farm or ranch, if these outbuildings are on the  
28 same property as a heritage barn.

29 (6) "Heritage council" means the Washington state heritage council.

30 ((+6)) (7) "Historic preservation" includes the protection,  
31 rehabilitation, restoration, identification, scientific excavation, and  
32 reconstruction of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects  
33 significant in American and Washington state history, architecture,  
34 archaeology, or culture.

35 ((+7)) (8) "Preservation officer" means the state historic  
36 preservation officer as provided for in RCW 43.334.020.

1       (~~(8)~~) (9) "Project" means programs leading to the preservation  
2 for public benefit of historical properties, whether by state and local  
3 governments or other public bodies, or private organizations or  
4 individuals, including the acquisition of title or interests in, and  
5 the development of, any district, site, building, structure, or object  
6 that is significant in American and Washington state history,  
7 architecture, archaeology, or culture, and property used in connection  
8 therewith, or for its development.

9       (~~(9)~~) (10) "State historical agencies" means the state historical  
10 societies and the department.

11       (~~(10)~~) (11) "State historical societies" means the Washington  
12 state historical society and the eastern Washington state historical  
13 society.

14       (~~(11)~~) (12) "Cultural resource management plan" means a  
15 comprehensive plan which identifies and organizes information on the  
16 state of Washington's historic, archaeological, and architectural  
17 resources into a set of management criteria, and which is to be used  
18 for producing reliable decisions, recommendations, and advice relative  
19 to the identification, evaluation, and protection of these resources.

20       NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. If specific funding for the purposes of this  
21 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
22 June 30, 2007, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and  
23 void.

24       NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each  
25 added to chapter 27.34 RCW.

Passed by the House April 17, 2007.

Passed by the Senate April 11, 2007.

Approved by the Governor May 4, 2007.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 7, 2007.