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**HOUSE BILL 1805**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Orcutt and Pollet

Read first time 01/31/19. Referred to Committee on Housing,  
Community Development & Veterans.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing rental assistance to mobile home  
2 park tenants; amending RCW 59.22.050; reenacting and amending RCW  
3 59.21.010; adding new sections to chapter 59.21 RCW; creating a new  
4 section; and making an appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 59.21  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) A mobile home/manufactured housing rental assistance program  
9 is created to assist low-income tenants of mobile homes or  
10 manufactured housing to maintain an affordable level of rental  
11 payments for a mobile home lot. The mobile home/manufactured housing  
12 rental assistance program is administered by the department under the  
13 authority of RCW 59.22.050. The department may adopt administrative  
14 rules to implement this program.

15 (2) Under no circumstances may the department use amounts from  
16 the fund established under RCW 59.21.050 to provide the monetary  
17 rental assistance authorized in section 2 of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 59.21  
19 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) On a monthly basis, the department may give a tenant monetary  
2 rental assistance for the purpose of assisting the tenant in the  
3 payment of rent for a mobile home lot.

4 (2) Monetary rental assistance may not exceed the lesser of two  
5 hundred dollars or fifty percent of the monthly rent for the mobile  
6 home lot.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 59.21  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) A tenant may apply to the department to receive monetary  
10 rental assistance. The department shall consider the following  
11 factors in determining the eligibility of applicants to receive  
12 monetary rental assistance, and the amount of that assistance:

13 (a) The applicant is a low-income tenant, which has the same  
14 meaning as low-income household in RCW 59.21.021;

15 (b) The applicant is over the age of fifty-five; and

16 (c) The applicant is a tenant who has experienced a rent increase  
17 that outpaces inflation, as defined by the percentage change in the  
18 implicit price deflator published by the United States department of  
19 commerce.

20 (2) Once a tenant is approved for monetary rental assistance, the  
21 tenant is entitled to the assistance on a monthly basis for one year,  
22 unless a change in circumstance occurs earlier that requires an  
23 adjustment or termination of the assistance. The tenant is required  
24 to notify the department of any change in circumstance, including a  
25 change in household income that impacts the tenant's low-income  
26 status, or a change in monthly rent for the mobile home lot. In the  
27 case of change in circumstance, the department shall adjust or  
28 terminate the amount of the monthly monetary rental assistance as  
29 appropriate.

30 (3) A tenant must reapply annually to receive monetary rental  
31 assistance to continue to receive the assistance.

32 **Sec. 4.** RCW 59.21.010 and 2009 c 565 s 47 are each reenacted and  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
35 this section apply throughout this chapter.

36 (1) "Department" means the department of commerce.

37 (2) "Director" means the director of the department of commerce.

1 (3) "Fund" means the mobile home park relocation fund established  
2 under RCW 59.21.050.

3 (4) "Landlord" or "park-owner" means the owner of the mobile home  
4 park that is being closed at the time relocation assistance is  
5 provided.

6 (5) "Manufactured housing" has the same meaning as in RCW  
7 59.22.020.

8 (6) "Mobile home" has the same meaning as in RCW 43.22.335.

9 (7) "Mobile home lot" has the same meaning as in RCW 59.20.030.

10 (8) "Mobile home park" or "park" means real property that is  
11 rented or held out for rent to others for the placement of two or  
12 more mobile homes for the primary purpose of production of income,  
13 except where the real property is rented or held out for rent for  
14 seasonal recreational purpose only and is not intended for year-round  
15 occupancy.

16 ~~((+6))~~ (9) "Relocate" means to remove the mobile home from the  
17 mobile home park being closed and to either reinstall it in another  
18 location or to demolish it and purchase another mobile/manufactured  
19 home constructed to the standards set by the department of housing  
20 and urban development.

21 ~~((+7))~~ (10) "Relocation assistance" means the monetary  
22 assistance provided under this chapter.

23 (11) "Tenant" means a person who rents a mobile home lot for a  
24 term of one month or longer and owns the mobile home on the lot.

25 **Sec. 5.** RCW 59.22.050 and 2011 c 158 s 2 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 In order to provide general assistance to resident organizations,  
28 qualified tenant organizations, and tenants, the department shall  
29 establish an office of mobile/manufactured home relocation and rental  
30 assistance. This office shall:

31 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
32 specific purpose, provide, either directly or through contracted  
33 services, technical assistance to qualified tenant organizations as  
34 defined in RCW 59.20.030 and resident organizations or persons in the  
35 process of forming a resident organization pursuant to this chapter.  
36 The office will keep records of its activities in this area.

37 (2) Administer the mobile home relocation assistance program  
38 established in chapter 59.21 RCW, including verifying the eligibility  
39 of tenants for relocation assistance.

1       (3) Administer the mobile home/manufactured housing rental  
2 assistance program established in section 1 of this act, including  
3 verifying the initial and continued eligibility of tenants for  
4 monetary rental assistance.

5       NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The sum of two million dollars, or as much  
6 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year  
7 ending June 30, 2020, from the general fund to the department of  
8 commerce for the purposes of this act.

9       NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. If specific funding for the purposes of  
10 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
11 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
12 act is null and void.

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