
HOUSE BILL 2010

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Maycumber, Dent, Blake, Kretz, Dye, and Manweller

Read first time 02/07/17. Referred to Committee on Community
Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to the prevention of homelessness in wildfire
2 areas; amending RCW 36.22.179 and 43.185C.060; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that wildfires have
6 left hundreds of families homeless in rural counties. For some
7 communities, wildfire is a prominent reason there are families living
8 in poverty without permanent shelters. The legislature declares that
9 wildfire prevention and response activities in rural communities are
10 a mechanism to prevent homelessness.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.22.179 and 2014 c 200 s 1 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (1) In addition to the surcharge authorized in RCW 36.22.178, and
14 except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, an additional
15 surcharge of ten dollars shall be charged by the county auditor for
16 each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge
17 allowed by law. From September 1, 2012, through June 30, 2019, the
18 surcharge shall be forty dollars. The funds collected pursuant to
19 this section are to be distributed and used as follows:

1 (a)(i) The auditor shall retain two percent for collection of the
2 fee, and of the remainder shall remit sixty percent to the county to
3 be deposited into a fund that must be used by the county and its
4 cities and towns to accomplish the purposes of chapter 484, Laws of
5 2005, six percent of which may be used by the county for
6 administrative costs related to its homeless housing plan, and the
7 remainder for programs which directly accomplish the goals of the
8 county's local homeless housing plan, except that for each city in
9 the county which elects as authorized in RCW 43.185C.080 to operate
10 its own local homeless housing program, a percentage of the surcharge
11 assessed under this section equal to the percentage of the city's
12 local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the county
13 shall be transmitted at least quarterly to the city treasurer,
14 without any deduction for county administrative costs, for use by the
15 city for program costs which directly contribute to the goals of the
16 city's local homeless housing plan; of the funds received by the
17 city, it may use six percent for administrative costs for its
18 homeless housing program.

19 (ii) For a county located east of the crest of the Cascade
20 mountain range with a population of one hundred thousand or less, any
21 funds collected and remitted to the county for the authorized
22 purposes in (a)(i) of this subsection may be used to educate
23 homeowners about wildfire risk and prevention measures and be used
24 for wildfire prevention and response activities.

25 (b) The auditor shall remit the remaining funds to the state
26 treasurer for deposit in the home security fund account. The
27 department may use twelve and one-half percent of this amount for
28 administration of the program established in RCW 43.185C.020,
29 including the costs of creating the statewide homeless housing
30 strategic plan, measuring performance, providing technical assistance
31 to local governments, and managing the homeless housing grant
32 program. Of the remaining eighty-seven and one-half percent, at least
33 forty-five percent must be set aside for the use of private rental
34 housing payments, and the remainder is to be used by the department
35 to:

36 (i) Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including,
37 but not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters;
38 grants to operate transitional housing; partial payments for rental
39 assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth

1 shelters; grants and vouchers designated for victims of human
2 trafficking and their families; and emergency shelter assistance; and
3 (ii) Fund the homeless housing grant program.
4 (2) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to (a)
5 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust,
6 (b) documents recording a birth, marriage, divorce, or death, (c) any
7 recorded documents otherwise exempted from a recording fee or
8 additional surcharges under state law, (d) marriage licenses issued
9 by the county auditor, or (e) documents recording a state, county, or
10 city lien or satisfaction of lien.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.185C.060 and 2014 c 200 s 2 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 The home security fund account is created in the state treasury,
14 subject to appropriation. The state's portion of the surcharge
15 established in RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791 must be deposited in the
16 account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for homeless
17 housing programs as described in this chapter and for wildfire
18 prevention and response activities pursuant to RCW
19 36.22.179(1)(a)(ii). If an independent audit finds that the
20 department has failed to set aside at least forty-five percent of
21 funds received under RCW 36.22.179(1)(b) after June 12, 2014, for the
22 use of private rental housing payments, the department must submit a
23 corrective action plan to the office of financial management within
24 thirty days of receipt of the independent audit. The office of
25 financial management must monitor the department's corrective action
26 plan and expenditures from this account for the remainder of the
27 fiscal year. If the department is not in compliance with RCW
28 36.22.179(1)(b) in any month of the fiscal year following submission
29 of the corrective action plan, the office of financial management
30 must reduce the department's allotments from this account and hold in
31 reserve status a portion of the department's appropriation equal to
32 the expenditures made during the month not in compliance with RCW
33 36.22.179(1)(b).

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