
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2918

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By House Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs (originally sponsored by Representatives Orcutt, Johnson, Appleton, and Steele)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/18.

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) Rental assistance may not exceed the lesser of two hundred
5 dollars or fifty percent of the monthly rent for the mobile home lot.

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (3) A tenant must reapply annually to receive monetary assistance
30 to continue to receive such assistance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 ~~((+6))~~ (9) "Relocate" means to remove the mobile home from the
15 mobile home park being closed and to either reinstall it in another
16 location or to demolish it and purchase another mobile/manufactured
17 home constructed to the standards set by the department of housing
18 and urban development.

19 ~~((+7))~~ (10) "Relocation assistance" means the monetary
20 assistance provided under this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

38 (3) Administer the mobile home/manufactured housing rental
39 assistance program established in section 1 of this act, including

1 verifying the initial and continued eligibility of tenants for
2 monetary rental assistance.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The sum of two million dollars, or as much
4 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
5 ending June 30, 2018, from the general fund to the department of
6 commerce for the purposes of this act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If specific funding for the purposes of
8 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
9 provided by June 30, 2018, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
10 act is null and void.

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