
Appropriations Committee

HB 2834

Brief Description: Implementing an identicard program to provide individuals a Washington state issued identicard.

Sponsors: Representatives Harris, Santos, Cody, Senn, Steele, Tarleton, Valdez, Davis and Pollet.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creates an identicard program in the Department of Commerce to provide state-issued identicards to homeless persons at no cost on a one-time basis.

Hearing Date: 2/3/20

Staff: Jessica Van Horne (786-7288).

Background:

State-Issued Identicards.

The Department of Licensing (DOL) issues several forms of identification to state residents, including driver's licenses and identicards. To receive an identicard from the DOL, applicants must not have a valid Washington driver's license, prove their identity by providing certain types of documentation that include a photograph and their signature, and pay a fee.

The fee for identicards is \$54, unless the applicant is: a recipient of public assistant grants referred by the Department of Social and Health Services; under the age of 18 and without a permanent residence address; an individual scheduled to be released from a juvenile rehabilitation institution or facility; or an individual who has been released from a juvenile rehabilitation institution or facility within 30 days before the date of the application. For those applicants, the identicard fee is the actual cost of producing the identicard.

Identicards are valid until the sixth anniversary of the applicant's birthdate after the card is issued, unless the identicard is issued, renewed, or extended for a period other than six years.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

State Homeless Housing Program.

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) administers the state's homeless housing program, through which it provides a range of services for homeless persons. Homeless person means an individual living outside or in a building not meant for human habitation or which they have no legal right to occupy, in an emergency shelter, or in a temporary housing program, which may include a transitional and supportive housing program if habitation time limits exist.

Summary of Bill:

A program to provide state-issued identicards to homeless individuals is established in Commerce, subject to availability of amounts appropriated for that purpose. The DOL must assist Commerce in implementing the identicard program. An individual is eligible to receive a no-cost original or renewal identicard on a one-time basis through the program if they:

- meet the definition of a homeless person on a sheltered or unsheltered basis;
- meet the DOL's criteria for issuing an identicard;
- are expected to reside within the state; and
- do not have a current and valid state-issued identicard or driver's license.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 24, 2020.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on January 1, 2021.