
HOUSE BILL 2229

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representative Christian

Read first time 01/09/24. Referred to Committee on Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to coordination and collaboration of homeless
2 services; adding new sections to chapter 43.185C RCW; creating a new
3 section; and providing effective dates.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the critical
6 role that provider organizations perform in delivering services to
7 prevent and respond to homelessness. Different provider organizations
8 often focus on different services, approaches, and populations.

9 The legislature finds communities and individuals would benefit
10 from improved coordination and collaboration between provider
11 organizations delivering services to prevent and respond to
12 homelessness. The legislature intends to encourage coordination and
13 collaboration between provider organizations to improve outcomes and
14 foster integrated systems of services.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) The board of county commissioners for counties with a
18 population of 200,000 or more shall hold and administer a county
19 coordination meeting of qualifying local providers that provide
20 housing and services within the county for persons at risk of or

1 experiencing homelessness. The board of county commissioners must
2 hold at least two, but no more than four, meetings each state fiscal
3 year for the purpose of coordinating homelessness assistance services
4 provided within the county. The meetings may be held virtually or in
5 person.

6 (2) (a) A qualifying local provider operating within a county with
7 a population of 200,000 or more shall attend at least one of the
8 county coordination meetings held by the board of county
9 commissioners each state fiscal year.

10 (b) For the duration of a state contract, qualifying local
11 providers shall submit an attestation annually, but no later than
12 June 20th of each year, to the awarding state agency attesting to its
13 compliance with the requirements under this section. The attestation
14 must include the date of the meeting attended and the name of the
15 representative who attended the meeting.

16 (c) A qualifying local provider who does not attend at least one
17 coordination meeting and submit the attestation as required under
18 this section is ineligible to apply for or receive any future state
19 contracts in the state fiscal year immediately following the year of
20 noncompliance with this section.

21 (3) State agencies awarding contracts to a qualifying local
22 provider operating within a county with a population of 200,000 or
23 more shall:

24 (a) Include as a provision in the contract:

25 (i) The requirement that the provider attend at least one county
26 coordination meeting held pursuant to subsection (1) of this section;
27 and

28 (ii) Notice that the failure to comply with this section makes
29 the qualifying local provider ineligible to apply for or receive any
30 future state contracts in the following fiscal year; and

31 (b) Periodically provide the board of county commissioners for
32 counties with a population of 200,000 or more with an updated list of
33 qualifying local providers that were awarded a state contract by that
34 agency.

35 (4) Local providers that provide housing and services for persons
36 at risk of or experiencing homelessness and are not qualifying local
37 providers may be invited by the board of county commissioners to
38 attend county coordination meetings. Attendance for local providers
39 that are not qualifying local providers is optional but encouraged.

1 (5) If there is a proclamation of a state of emergency in
2 accordance with chapter 43.06 RCW that prevents the board of county
3 commissioners from holding at least two county coordination meetings
4 as required under this section, the requirements under this section
5 do not apply during the year that the proclamation of a state of
6 emergency is in effect.

7 (6) For purposes of this section:

8 (a) "State contract" means a contract under chapter 39.04 or
9 39.26 RCW, grant, memorandum of understanding or any other similar
10 agreement, or a combination of contracts, grants, memoranda of
11 understanding or other similar agreements, for services in a single
12 county, in the amount of at least \$250,000 for any state fiscal year
13 that is awarded by a single state agency directly to a qualifying
14 local provider.

15 (b) "Qualifying local provider" means a provider of housing and
16 services for persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness, other
17 than a county, city, or tribal government, that is awarded a state
18 contract or state contracts by a single state agency to provide
19 services in the amount of at least \$250,000 during any fiscal year.
20 Examples of services include permanent housing; temporary housing;
21 emergency shelter; housing assistance; case coordination or
22 management; behavioral health support; and food, transportation, or
23 employment assistance.

24 (7) This section applies to state contracts awarded on or after
25 July 1, 2024.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) A state agency may not award a state contract to a qualifying
29 local provider for the provision of housing and services for persons
30 at risk of or experiencing homelessness in a given county if any
31 state agency awarded that qualifying local provider a state contract
32 for the prior fiscal year for the provision of housing and services
33 for persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness in a given county
34 and the qualifying local provider was both subject to and failed to
35 comply with the requirements under section 2 of this act.

36 (2) A state agency awarding contracts to a qualifying local
37 provider operating within a county with a population of 200,000 or
38 more shall determine whether a potential provider is eligible by
39 requiring the potential provider to attest that the provider:

1 (a) Attended at least one county coordination meeting in the
2 prior state fiscal year; or

3 (b) Was not a qualifying local provider in the prior state fiscal
4 year.

5 (3) For purposes of this section, "state contract" and
6 "qualifying local provider" have the same meaning as in section 2 of
7 this act.

8 (4) This section applies to state contracts awarded on or after
9 July 1, 2025.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act take effect
11 July 1, 2024.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1,
13 2025.

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