

1 1747-S AMH HO H4204.1

2 SHB 1747 - H COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Housing

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
8 homelessness prevention act."

9 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The legislature finds and declares
10 that:

11 (a) Families with children have been rendered homeless or are in
12 imminent danger of becoming homeless as a result of a sudden job loss
13 or other economic adversity;

14 (b) It is more economical and more socially desirable to enable
15 people to retain possession of their houses or apartments and thereby
16 avoid homelessness, than to house them in emergency shelters or in
17 other facilities intended for short-term occupancy; and

18 (c) These problems require a comprehensive approach of housing and
19 related support services.

20 (2) The legislature declares that a program designed to provide
21 short-term financial assistance to assist with mortgage or rent
22 payments and coordination of available support services is needed to
23 keep people from becoming homeless."

24 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A
25 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) The department shall develop and administer a homelessness
2 prevention program for the purpose of providing grants and technical
3 assistance to eligible organizations to operate local homelessness
4 prevention and related support services programs. For purposes of this
5 section, "eligible organizations" are those organizations eligible to
6 receive assistance through the Washington housing trust fund, chapter
7 43.185 RCW.

8 (2) The department shall select at least four eligible
9 organizations for purposes of implementing local homelessness
10 prevention programs. The local homelessness prevention programs are
11 designed to provide: (a) Interest-free loans of temporary mortgage or
12 rental assistance on behalf of families with children in imminent
13 danger of losing housing as a result of having insufficient income to
14 pay mortgage or rental costs; or (b) technical assistance to eligible
15 organizations to help recipient eligible organizations develop and
16 implement local strategies to prevent homelessness. In selecting pilot
17 programs under this section, the department shall consider:

18 (i) The eligible organization's ability, stability, and resources
19 to implement the local homelessness prevention program;

20 (ii) The eligible organization's efforts to coordinate other
21 support programs for the family, such as job search or job retraining
22 programs; and

23 (iii) Other factors the department deems appropriate.

24 (3) The recipient eligible organization shall establish priorities
25 of eligibility for temporary mortgage or rental assistance to assist
26 families with children in retaining housing. The recipient eligible
27 organization shall make a determination of eligibility regarding the
28 family's eligibility to participate in the local homelessness
29 prevention program. A determination shall include, but is not limited
30 to:

1 (a) A determination that the family is subject to immediate
2 eviction for foreclosure of nonpayment of mortgage installments or
3 nonpayment of rent, when nonpayment is attributable to illness,
4 unemployment, underemployment, or any other failure of resources beyond
5 the person's control;

6 (b) A verification of the loss of income; and

7 (c) A determination that the family does not have the financial
8 resources to make the required mortgage installment or rental payment.

9 (4) No family shall continue to receive temporary mortgage or
10 rental assistance under this section if alternative sources of mortgage
11 or rental assistance under federal, state, or local sources becomes
12 available."

13 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 43.63A
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 The department shall adopt rules to implement section 3 of this
16 act, including but not limited to:

17 (1) The maximum length of assistance available through section 3 of
18 this act;

19 (2) The eligibility of and application process for eligible
20 organizations;

21 (3) The criteria by which grants and technical assistance shall be
22 provided to eligible organizations; and

23 (4) The criteria eligible organizations shall use when entering
24 into contracts with families to make mortgage or rental assistance
25 payments."

26 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. If any provision of this act or its
27 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the

1 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
2 persons or circumstances is not affected."

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The sum of five hundred thousand
4 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
5 the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
6 department of community development for the purposes of this act."

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10 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "activities;" strike the
11 remainder of the title and insert the following: "adding new sections
12 to chapter 43.63A RCW; creating new sections; and making an
13 appropriation."