
HOUSE BILL 1136

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Reams, Wineberry, Leonard, Brough, Sommers, Forner, Ludwig, Wolfe, Springer, Chandler, Shin, Silver, Mielke, Ballard, Karahalios, Foreman, Miller, Brumsickle, Vance, Thibaudeau, Horn, Wood, Quall, Kremen, Morton, Talcott, Tate, Cooke and Ogden

Read first time 01/15/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Economic Development & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to home matching; adding new sections to chapter
2 43.63A RCW; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that:

7 (a) The trend toward smaller household sizes will continue into the
8 foreseeable future;

9 (b) Many of these households are in housing units that contain more
10 bedrooms than occupants;

11 (c) There are older homeowners on relatively low, fixed income who
12 are experiencing difficulties maintaining their homes; and

13 (d) There are single parents, recently widowed persons, people in
14 the midst of divorce or separation, and handicapped that are faced with
15 displacement due to the high cost of housing.

16 (2) The legislature declares that the purpose of sections 2 and 3
17 of this act is to develop a pilot program designed to:

1 (a) Provide home-matching services that can enable people to
2 continue living in their homes while promoting continuity of home
3 ownership and community stability; and

4 (b) Counter the problem of displacement among people on relatively
5 low, fixed incomes by linking people offering living space with people
6 seeking housing.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) The department shall develop and administer a home-matching
10 program for the purpose of providing grants and technical assistance to
11 eligible organizations to operate local home-matching programs. For
12 purposes of this section, "eligible organizations" are those
13 organizations eligible to receive assistance through the Washington
14 housing trust fund, chapter 43.185 RCW.

15 (2) The department shall select up to five eligible organizations
16 for the purpose of implementing a local home-matching program. The
17 local home-matching programs are designed to facilitate: (a)
18 Intergenerational homesharing involving older homeowners sharing homes
19 with younger persons; (b) homesharing arrangements that involve an
20 exchange of services such as cooking, housework, gardening, or
21 babysitting for room and board or some financial consideration such as
22 rent; and (c) the more efficient use of available housing.

23 (3) In selecting local pilot programs under this section, the
24 department shall consider:

25 (a) The eligible organization's ability, stability, and resources
26 to implement the local home-matching program;

27 (b) The eligible organization's efforts to coordinate other support
28 services needed by the individual or family participating in the local
29 home-matching program; and

30 (c) Other factors the department deems appropriate.

31 (4) The eligible organizations shall establish criteria for
32 participation in the local home-matching program. The eligible
33 organization shall make a determination of eligibility regarding the
34 individuals' or families' participation in the local home-matching
35 program. The determination shall include, but is not limited to a
36 verification of the individual's or family's history of making rent
37 payments in a consistent and timely manner.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.63A RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The director shall report, by January 1, 1995, to the governor and
4 the legislature a summary of the progress and status of the home-
5 matching program. The summary shall include but need not be limited to
6 the results of the selected local home-matching pilot programs, the
7 number of persons served, and recommendations for improving the
8 program.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If any provision of this act or its
10 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
11 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
12 persons or circumstances is not affected.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of two hundred fifty thousand
14 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
15 the biennium ending June 30, 1995, from the Washington housing trust
16 fund, created in RCW 43.185.030, to the department of community
17 development for the purposes of this act.

--- END ---