
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2818

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Boldt, Darneille, Pearson, Cooper, Linville, Hudgins, Kessler, Lantz, Conway, Simpson, G., Edwards, Sullivan, Kenney, Wood, Schual-Berke, Chase, Santos, Ormsby and Dickerson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to housing-based support services for homeless
2 families; amending RCW 43.20A.790; reenacting and amending RCW
3 43.79A.040; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and making an
4 appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that homeless families
7 who have access to supportive services, such as counseling, employment
8 support and job training, health care treatment and programs, parenting
9 skills education and training, child care, and transportation
10 assistance, are more likely to achieve housing stability than families
11 without access to those services. The legislature finds that linkages
12 between supportive services and transitional housing must be
13 strengthened in order to provide homeless families with the necessary
14 skills and supports to sustain stable housing as they transition out of
15 homelessness. However, the unpredictable nature of current service
16 funding limits new housing development and puts existing programs for
17 homeless families at risk.

18 The legislature finds that the sound families initiative in Pierce,
19 King, and Snohomish counties provides a successful model of combining

1 public funding and private support for services and housing for
2 homeless families. Recent outcomes of the sound families initiative
3 include increased work activity and increased income levels among
4 households eligible for the federal temporary assistance for needy
5 families program who were provided housing-based supportive services.
6 A strong partnership between private resources and public services can
7 greatly increase the successful transition of homeless families to
8 stable housing and employment.

9 The legislature further finds that in order to make the public-
10 private model work statewide, an ongoing stable source of service funds
11 is essential. State funds could provide the catalyst for significant
12 private contributions that would spur development of housing-based
13 support services statewide. Where there is a strong public-private
14 partnership to support the provision of services, as is the case with
15 the sound families initiative, the return on the investment of public
16 funds far exceeds that initial expenditure. With a one-time investment
17 in housing-based supportive services for homeless families that is
18 supplemented and sustained with ongoing private investments, the long-
19 term availability of resources for those families can be ensured.

20 Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to create, and make
21 an initial investment of state funds in, a homeless families services
22 fund that will leverage private resources and thereby ensure the long-
23 term availability of stable housing to support homeless families
24 throughout the state.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
26 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

27 (1) "Advisory board" means the homeless families services fund
28 advisory board established under this chapter.

29 (2) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and
30 economic development.

31 (3) "Director" means the director of community, trade, and economic
32 development.

33 (4) "Fund" means the homeless families services fund established
34 under this chapter.

35 (5) "Homeless family" means a family that is eligible for services
36 funded through the emergency shelter assistance program carried out
37 within the department of community, trade, and economic development.

1 (6) "Program" means the homeless families services fund program
2 established under this chapter.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** There is created within the department of
4 community, trade, and economic development the homeless families
5 services fund program to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) There is created in the custody of the
7 state treasurer an account to be known as the homeless families
8 services fund. The fund shall include a one-time appropriation by the
9 legislature, private contributions, and all other sources.

10 (2) Expenditures from the fund may only be used for the purposes of
11 the program established under this chapter, except for administrative
12 expenses.

13 (3) Expenditures from the fund are exempt from appropriations and
14 the allotment provisions of chapter 43.88 RCW. However, money used for
15 program administration by the department is subject to the allotment
16 and budgetary controls of chapter 43.88 RCW, and an appropriation is
17 required for these expenditures.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The homeless families services fund
19 advisory board is hereby established to advise the department in the
20 design and administration of the fund. The director shall provide
21 staff and administrative support to the advisory board in carrying out
22 the provisions of this chapter.

23 (2) The advisory board shall consist of ten members to be appointed
24 by the governor, as follows:

25 (a) A representative of the department of social and health
26 services;

27 (b) A representative of the regional support networks;

28 (c) A representative of a local housing authority that provides
29 federal section 8 vouchers to homeless families, and which primarily
30 serves a rural population;

31 (d) A representative of a local housing authority that provides
32 federal section 8 vouchers to homeless families, and which primarily
33 serves an urban population;

34 (e) An individual with expertise in the design or evaluation of
35 service delivery to homeless families;

1 (f) An individual with expertise in the provision of supportive
2 services to homeless families who primarily serves a rural population;

3 (g) An individual with expertise in the provision of supportive
4 services to homeless families who primarily serves an urban population;

5 (h) An individual with expertise in the development and operation
6 of low-income housing, including housing set aside for homeless
7 families; and

8 (i) Two individuals with expertise in private philanthropy.

9 (3) Members of the advisory board shall serve terms of four years
10 and may be appointed for successive terms of four years. The governor
11 may stagger the terms of the initial members of the board so that
12 approximately one-fourth of the members' terms expire each year. The
13 advisory board shall select a chair from among its members.

14 (4) Members of the advisory board shall be reimbursed for travel
15 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Duties of the advisory board shall include
17 the following:

18 (1) Recommending criteria for determination of grant allocations
19 from the fund, which shall include, but need not be limited to:

20 (a) Guidelines for the amounts of allocations of grants from the
21 fund, taking into consideration the variation in housing market and
22 services costs throughout the state;

23 (b) Guidelines for the minimum amount of matching funds that an
24 applicant to the fund must secure in order to qualify for a grant from
25 the fund;

26 (c) Criteria that an applicant to the fund must meet in order to
27 demonstrate that the proposed housing and services are financially
28 viable and meet quality standards;

29 (d) Necessary qualifications and capacity of an applicant to the
30 fund; and

31 (e) Guidelines for geographic distribution of funds from the fund
32 in order to foster development of supportive housing statewide;

33 (2) Reviewing applications to the fund and making recommendations
34 to the director on the allocation of grants from the fund;

35 (3) Recommending performance and outcome measures for recipients of
36 grants from the fund;

1 (4) Recommending an evaluation method for the homeless families
2 services fund program;

3 (5) Investigating administrative options for the fund, including
4 administration by a community foundation or other nonprofit
5 organization that would manage state funds along with private
6 contributions to the fund on behalf of the department, which could
7 include contracting with recipients of grants from the fund, dispersing
8 funds to recipients of grants from the fund, monitoring performance of
9 recipients of grants from the fund, and evaluating the overall
10 effectiveness of the program; and

11 (6) Working with housing authorities, community-based service and
12 housing providers, or other applicants to the fund to identify
13 additional sources of revenue for the fund.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) The department shall use funds from the
15 fund and other legislative appropriations to provide state matching
16 funds for housing-based supportive services for homeless families over
17 a period of at least ten years.

18 (2) Services funded through the homeless families services fund
19 shall be coordinated with existing and available services and shall not
20 inappropriately duplicate any other state-funded services available to
21 homeless families assisted through the fund. The fund shall not be
22 used to supplant existing funding.

23 (3) Activities eligible for funding through the fund include, but
24 are not limited to, the following:

25 (a) Case management;

26 (b) Counseling;

27 (c) Referrals to employment support and job training services and
28 direct employment support and job training services;

29 (d) Domestic violence services and programs;

30 (e) Mental health treatment, services, and programs;

31 (f) Substance abuse treatment, services, and programs;

32 (g) Parenting skills education and training;

33 (h) Transportation assistance;

34 (i) Child care; and

35 (j) Other supportive services identified by the department to be an
36 important link for housing stability.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Organizations that may receive funds from
2 the fund include local housing authorities, nonprofit community or
3 neighborhood-based organizations, public development authorities,
4 federally recognized Indian tribes in the state, and regional or
5 statewide nonprofit housing assistance organizations.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The department shall collect information
7 from recipients of grants from the fund to evaluate and improve the
8 overall effectiveness of the homeless families services fund program.
9 Areas of evaluation shall include, but need not be limited to, the
10 following:

- 11 (1) Increases in housing stability for assisted homeless families;
- 12 (2) Increases in economic self-sufficiency of assisted homeless
13 families;
- 14 (3) Increases in independent living skills of assisted homeless
15 families; and
- 16 (4) Decreases in the use of state-funded services or the costs of
17 state-funded services and income support for assisted homeless
18 families.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) The department shall report to the
20 appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature by December
21 1, 2004, with a preliminary plan for implementation of this chapter.

22 (2) The department and the advisory board shall thereafter report
23 on an annual basis to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of
24 the legislature regarding the status of applications to and grant
25 allocations from the fund and performance of the program.

26 **Sec. 11.** RCW 43.20A.790 and 1999 c 267 s 2 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The department shall collaborate with the department of
29 community, trade, and economic development in the development of the
30 coordinated and comprehensive plan for homeless families with children
31 required under RCW 43.63A.650, which designates the department of
32 community, trade, and economic development as the state agency with
33 primary responsibility for providing shelter and housing services to
34 homeless families with children. In fulfilling its responsibilities to
35 collaborate with the department of community, trade, and economic

1 development pursuant to RCW 43.63A.650, the department shall develop,
2 administer, supervise, and monitor its portion of the plan. The
3 department's portion of the plan shall contain at least the following
4 elements:

5 (a) Coordination or linkage of services with shelter and housing;

6 (b) Accommodation and addressing the needs of homeless families in
7 the design and administration of department programs;

8 (c) Participation of the department's local offices in the
9 identification, assistance, and referral of homeless families; and

10 (d) Ongoing monitoring of the efficiency and effectiveness of the
11 plan's design and implementation.

12 (2) The department shall include community organizations involved
13 in the delivery of services to homeless families with children, and
14 experts in the development and ongoing evaluation of the plan.

15 (3) The department shall coordinate with the department of
16 community, trade, and economic development in supporting the work of
17 the homeless families services fund program established pursuant to
18 section 3 of this act. As part of its coordination efforts, the
19 department shall work with organizations receiving grants from the
20 homeless families services fund to identify and coordinate the
21 provision of services offered by the department that meet the goals of
22 the homeless families services fund program.

23 (4) The duties under this section shall be implemented within
24 amounts appropriated for that specific purpose by the legislature in
25 the operating and capital budgets.

26 **Sec. 12.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2003 c 403 s 9, 2003 c 313 s 10, 2003
27 c 191 s 7, 2003 c 148 s 15, 2003 c 92 s 8, and 2003 c 19 s 12 are each
28 reenacted and amended to read as follows:

29 (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited, invested,
30 and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with RCW 43.84.080
31 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the money were in the
32 state treasury.

33 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust
34 fund shall be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be
35 known as the investment income account.

36 (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment
37 of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds

1 including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and
2 disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state
3 agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to
4 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to
5 financial institutions. Payments shall occur prior to distribution of
6 earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

7 (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings
8 credited to the investment income account to the state general fund
9 except under (b) and (c) of this subsection.

10 (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive their
11 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's
12 average daily balance for the period: The Washington promise
13 scholarship account, the college savings program account, the
14 Washington advanced college tuition payment program account, the
15 agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment
16 fund, the students with dependents grant account, the basic health plan
17 self-insurance reserve account, the contract harvesting revolving
18 account, the Washington state combined fund drive account, the
19 Washington international exchange scholarship endowment fund, the
20 developmental disabilities endowment trust fund, the energy account,
21 the fair fund, the fruit and vegetable inspection account, the game
22 farm alternative account, the grain inspection revolving fund, the
23 juvenile accountability incentive account, the law enforcement
24 officers' and fire fighters' plan 2 expense fund, the local tourism
25 promotion account, the produce railcar pool account, the rural
26 rehabilitation account, the stadium and exhibition center account, the
27 youth athletic facility account, the self-insurance revolving fund, the
28 sulfur dioxide abatement account, the children's trust fund, ~~((and))~~
29 the investing in innovation account, and the homeless families services
30 fund. However, the earnings to be distributed shall first be reduced
31 by the allocation to the state treasurer's service fund pursuant to RCW
32 43.08.190.

33 (c) The following accounts and funds shall receive eighty percent
34 of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or
35 fund's average daily balance for the period: The advanced right of way
36 revolving fund, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving
37 account, the city and county advance right-of-way revolving fund, the

1 federal narcotics asset forfeitures account, the high occupancy vehicle
2 account, the local rail service assistance account, and the
3 miscellaneous transportation programs account.

4 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
5 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings
6 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** The sum of five million dollars, or as much
8 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund to
9 the homeless families services fund for the fiscal year ending June 30,
10 2005, to carry out the purposes of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 1 through 10 of this act
12 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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