
HOUSE BILL 3200

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Buck, Alexander, Kristiansen and Pearson

Read first time 01/25/2006. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing assistance for flood damage; amending
2 2005 c 488 s 324 (uncodified); adding a new section to chapter 43.330
3 RCW; creating a new section; making an appropriation; and declaring an
4 emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that citizens and
7 businesses are experiencing extensive damage from winter floods. The
8 legislature further finds that federal disaster assistance programs and
9 other forms of disaster relief are not always available to assist those
10 in need. The uncertainty of federal assistance and the part-time
11 nature of the legislature necessitates the immediate creation of a
12 flood damage relief program. Therefore, it is the intent of the
13 legislature to create a state program for flood damage assistance and
14 relief to help Washington citizens protect their homes, businesses, and
15 communities.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 The department of community, trade, and economic development shall

1 establish a flood damage relief program to provide financial assistance
2 to individuals, businesses, and local governments that have experienced
3 flood damage. The department shall establish criteria for awarding
4 grants for emergency repair and cleanup activities as a result of flood
5 damage. The criteria includes, but is not limited to:

- 6 (1) The availability of other sources of financial assistance
7 including other state or federal disaster assistance;
- 8 (2) The extent of the damage;
- 9 (3) Matching funds that may be available; and
- 10 (4) The financial need of the applicant.

11 **Sec. 3.** 2005 c 488 s 324 (uncodified) is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 **FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

14 State Drought Preparedness (05-4-009)

15 The reappropriation in this section is subject to the following
16 conditions and limitations:

17 (1) The reappropriation in this section is provided solely for
18 response to the statewide drought that was declared pursuant to chapter
19 43.83B RCW. The department of ecology may provide funding or
20 compensation for purchase or lease of water rights and to public bodies
21 as defined in RCW 43.83B.050 in connection with projects and measures
22 designed to alleviate drought conditions which may affect: Public
23 health and safety; drinking water supplies; agricultural activities; or
24 fish and wildlife survival.

25 (2) Projects or measures for which funding or compensation will be
26 provided must be connected with a water system, water source, or water
27 body which is receiving, or has been projected to receive, less than
28 seventy-five percent of normal water supply, as the result of natural
29 drought conditions. This reduction in water supply must be such that
30 it is causing, or will cause, undue hardship for the entities or fish
31 or wildlife depending on the water supply. General criteria for
32 guidelines to be established by the department of ecology for
33 distribution of funds must include: A balanced and equitable
34 distribution of the funds among the different sectors affected by
35 drought; a funding process that ensures funds are available for drought
36 impacts that arise both early and later during the course of the

1 drought; and preference for projects that leverage other federal and
2 local funds.

3 (3) Up to \$1,500,000 of the reappropriation in this section is
4 provided to the Roza irrigation district for the purchase or lease of
5 water rights.

6 Reappropriation:

7	State Drought Preparedness Account--State	((\$8,200,000))
8		<u>\$7,100,000</u>
9	Prior Biennia (Expenditures)	\$0
10	Future Biennia (Projected Costs)	\$0
11	TOTAL	((\$8,200,000))
12		<u>\$7,100,000</u>

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of one million six hundred thousand
14 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
15 the biennium ending June 30, 2007, from the state drought preparedness
16 account to the department of community, trade, and economic development
17 for the purposes of this act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
20 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
21 immediately.

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