

**SHB 2244 - H AMD 379**

By Representative Miloscia

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) A city, town, or county may not prohibit a religious  
6 organization that owns or leases real property that qualifies for a  
7 property tax exemption under chapter 84.36 RCW from hosting temporary  
8 encampments for the homeless. However, a city, town, or county may  
9 impose reasonable conditions to ensure public health and safety and may  
10 require the following:

- 11 (a) Reasonable advance notice of the encampment to the community;  
12 (b) A public meeting held in the vicinity of the proposed  
13 encampment providing information concerning the encampment before its  
14 establishment;  
15 (c) A resident limit of one hundred persons for a given encampment;  
16 (d) Compliance with regulations on the presence of children  
17 overnight in the encampment;  
18 (e) A limit on duration of an encampment, but not less than ninety  
19 days;  
20 (f) Reasonable privacy screening, such as view-obstructing fencing,  
21 from surrounding lots;  
22 (g) Submission of a parking plan for the use of on-street parking  
23 by the religious organization or the encampment due to the presence of  
24 the encampment on the religious organization's on-site parking areas;  
25 (h) Reasonable inspections of the encampment by government  
26 officials related to public safety, health, and fire safety; and  
27 (i) Establishment and enforcement of a reasonable code of conduct  
28 by encampment residents.

29 (2) Local governments may not impose permit fees for a temporary

1 encampment hosted by a religious organization that in the aggregate  
2 exceed five hundred dollars for one encampment period.

3 (3) Cities, towns, and counties must respond to a temporary  
4 encampment permit application submitted by a religious organization  
5 within sixty days of submission of a completed application.

6 (4) This section does not preclude a city, town, or county from  
7 seeking all reasonable and appropriate remedies from the host religious  
8 organization or the encampment, or both, in order to prevent or remedy  
9 an imminent threat to or impairment of public health or safety.  
10 Reasonable fines may only be imposed for endangering public health or  
11 safety or for violations of restrictions imposed under subsection  
12 (1)(a) through (h) of this section.

13 (5) This section does not affect or is not intended to affect  
14 existing agreements between cities, towns, or counties and religious  
15 organizations or homeless advocacy groups regarding homeless  
16 encampments, or to prevent the renewal of such agreements."

EFFECT: Specifies that religious organizations subject to this act are those that qualify for a property tax exemption under chapter 84.36 RCW. Outlines specific requirements that a city or county may impose in order to ensure public health and safety, which include an encampment limit of 100 persons, reasonable privacy screening, submission of parking plans, and reasonable inspections related to health and fire safety. States that reasonable fines may only be imposed for endangering public health or safety or for violations of specific authorized restrictions included in the act. Clarifies that cities, towns, and counties are not precluded from seeking reasonable and appropriate remedies from religious organizations and/or the encampment to prevent or remedy threats to public health or safety. States that existing agreements between local jurisdictions and religious organizations and the renewal of such existing agreements are not subject to this act.

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