

ESSB 5959 - H AMD 1575

By Representative Miloscia

ADOPTED 3/13/2008

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The transitional housing operating
4 and rent program is created in the department to assist individuals
5 and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming
6 homeless to secure and retain safe, decent, and affordable housing.
7 The department shall provide grants to eligible organizations, as
8 described in RCW 43.185.060, to provide assistance to program
9 participants. The eligible organizations must use grant moneys
10 for:

11 (a) Rental assistance, which includes security or utility
12 deposits, first and last month's rent assistance, and eligible
13 moving expenses to be determined by the department;

14 (b) Case management services designed to assist program
15 participants to secure and retain immediate housing and to
16 transition into permanent housing and greater levels of self-
17 sufficiency;

18 (c) Operating expenses of transitional housing facilities that
19 serve homeless families with children; and

20 (d) Administrative costs of the eligible organization, which
21 must not exceed limits prescribed by the department.

22 (2) Eligible to receive assistance through the transitional
23 housing operating and rent program are:

24 (a) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk
25 of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or below
26 fifty percent of the median household income for their county;

27 (b) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk
28 of becoming homeless and who are receiving services under chapter
29 13.34 RCW;

1 (c) Individuals or families without children who are homeless
2 or at risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at
3 or below thirty percent of the median household income for their
4 county;

5 (d) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk
6 of becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member
7 who has a mental health or chemical dependency disorder; and

8 (e) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk
9 of becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member
10 who is an offender released from confinement within the past
11 eighteen months.

12 (3) All program participants must be willing to create and
13 actively participate in a housing stability plan for achieving
14 permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

15 (4) Data on all program participants must be entered into and
16 tracked through the Washington homeless client management
17 information system as described in RCW 43.185C.180. For eligible
18 organizations serving victims of domestic violence or sexual
19 assault, compliance with this subsection must be accomplished in
20 accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11383 (a)(8).

21 (5) Beginning in 2011, each eligible organization receiving
22 over five hundred thousand dollars during the previous calendar
23 year from the transitional housing operating and rent program and
24 from sources including: (a) State housing-related funding sources;
25 (b) the affordable housing for all surcharge in RCW 36.22.178; (c)
26 the home security fund surcharges in RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791;
27 and (d) any other surcharge imposed under chapter 36.22 or 43.185C
28 RCW to fund homelessness programs or other housing programs, shall
29 apply to the Washington state quality award program for an
30 independent assessment of its quality management, accountability,
31 and performance system, once every three years.

32 (6) The department may develop rules, requirements, procedures,
33 and guidelines as necessary to implement and operate the
34 transitional housing operating and rent program.

35 (7) The department shall produce an annual transitional housing
36 operating and rent program report that must be included in the
37 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in
38 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be

1 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the
2 following issue areas:

3 (a) The success of the program in helping program participants
4 transition into permanent affordable housing and achieve self-
5 sufficiency or increase their levels of self-sufficiency, which
6 shall be defined by the department based upon the costs of living,
7 including housing costs, needed to support: (1) One adult
8 individual; and (2) two adult individuals and one preschool-aged
9 child and one school aged child.

10 (b) The financial performance of the program related to
11 efficient program administration by the department and program
12 operation by selected eligible organizations, including an analysis
13 of the costs per program participant served;

14 (c) The quality, completeness, and timeliness of the
15 information on program participants provided to the Washington
16 homeless client management information system database; and

17 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance
18 provided through the program.

19
20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The transitional housing operating and
21 rent account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All
22 receipts from sources directed to the transitional housing
23 operating and rent program must be deposited into the account.
24 Expenditures from the account may be used solely for the purpose of
25 the transitional housing operating and rent program as described in
26 section 43 of this act. Only the director of the department or the
27 director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
28 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88
29 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures."

30
31 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Adds families who are involved with child welfare services to the list of persons eligible for THOR services. Clarifies that domestic violence and sexual assault victim service providers must comply with federal data tracking requirements. Requires that organizations receiving THOR funding, and which received over \$500,000 during the previous year from state and local housing related funding sources apply to the Washington State Quality Award program every three

years. Requires CTED to define what self-sufficiency means in order to measure the performance of the THOR program.