H-0057.2

## HOUSE BILL 1173

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Miloscia, Simpson, Chase, Ormsby, Hasegawa, Williams, Roberts, Goodman, and Sullivan

Read first time 01/14/09. Referred to Committee on Local Government & Housing.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to providing affordable housing for all; amending 2. RCW 43.185B.040, 36.22.178, 43.185A.100, 43.185C.005, 43.185C.010, 43.185C.020, 43.185C.040, 43.185C.050, 43.185C.070, 3 43.185C.080, 43.185C.090, 43.185C.100, 43.185C.130, 43.185C.160, 4 43.185C.900, 36.22.179, 36.22.1791, 43.185C.170, 43.185C.180, 43.185B.030, 5 6 43.20A.790, and 43.185C.150; reenacting and amending RCW 43.185.070; 7 adding new sections to chapter 43.185C RCW; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; creating new sections; and recodifying RCW 36.22.179, 8 36.22.1791, 43.20A.790, 43.63A.650, 36.22.178, 43.185A.100, and 9 43.185B.040. 10
- 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 12 Sec. 1. (1) The legislature finds that there is a NEW SECTION. 13 large, unmet need for affordable housing and affordable housing 14 assistance in the state of Washington, causing many low-income 15 individuals and families to be at risk of homelessness. The legislature declares that a decent and affordable home in a healthy, 16 safe environment for all economic segments in the state by 2020 should 17 18 be a state goal. Furthermore, this goal includes increasing the

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percentage of low-income households who are ultimately able to obtain and retain housing without government subsidies or other public support.

- (2) The legislature finds that the state should provide financial resources as well as case management to help individuals and families at risk of homelessness obtain and retain housing and work towards a goal of self-sufficiency where possible.
- (3) The legislature finds that there are many root causes of the affordable housing shortage and declares that it is critical that such causes be analyzed, effective solutions be developed, implemented, monitored, and evaluated, and that these causal factors be eliminated. The legislature also finds that there is a taxpayer and societal cost associated with a lack of jobs that pay self-sufficiency standard wages and a shortage of affordable housing, and that the state must identify and quantify that cost.
- (4) The legislature finds that the support and commitment of all sectors of the statewide community is critical to accomplishing the state's affordable housing for all goal. The legislature finds that the provision of housing and housing-related services should be administered both at the state level and at the local level. However, the state should play a primary role in: Providing financial resources to achieve the goal at all levels of government; researching, evaluating, benchmarking, and implementing best practices; continually updating and evaluating statewide housing data; developing a state plan that integrates the strategies, goals, objectives, and performance measures of all other state housing plans and programs; coordinating and supporting county government plans and activities; and directing quality management practices by monitoring both state and county government performance towards achieving interim and ultimate goals.
- (5) The legislature declares that the systematic and comprehensive performance measurement and evaluation of progress toward interim goals and the immediate state affordable housing goal of a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment for all economic segments in the state by 2020 is a necessary component of the statewide effort to end the affordable housing crisis.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This chapter may be known and cited as the Washington affordable housing for all act.

1 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. There is created within the department the 2 state affordable housing for all program. The goal of the program is a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment for all 3 economic segments in the state by 2020. Additional goals include: 4 Increasing the percentage of households of all economic segments in the 5 6 state who are self-sufficient as defined by the department according to 7 the self-sufficiency income standard determined under section 30 of 8 this act; and keeping the rising price of housing for all economic 9 segments to a rate less than that of the growth in wages for each 10 economic segment. The department shall develop appropriate performance 11 measures for all goals. The department shall develop, by county for 12 each economic segment, the quantity and dollar price of housing needed 13 and administer the affordable housing for all program. Each county 14 shall participate in the affordable housing for all program except as 15 provided in section 8 of this act; however, in the development and implementation of the program scope and requirements at the county 16 17 level, the department shall consider: The funding level to counties, 18 number of county staff available to implement the program, 19 competency of each county to meet the goals of the program; and 20 establish program guidelines, performance measures, and reporting 21 requirements appropriate to the existing capacity of the participating 22 counties.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

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- (1) "Affordable housing" means housing that has a sales price or rental amount that is within the means of households of all economic segments. The department shall adopt policies for residential rental and homeownership housing occupied by extremely low, very low, and low-income households, and for each wage decile by county, that specify the percentage of household income that may be spent on monthly housing costs, including utilities other than telephone, to qualify as affordable housing.
- 34 (2) "Affordable housing for all program" means the program 35 authorized under this chapter, as administered by the department at the 36 state level and by each county at the local level.

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(3) "At risk of homelessness" means any low, very low, or extremely low-income individual or family residing in housing that is not affordable housing.

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- (4) "County" means a county government in the state of Washington or, except under RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act), a city government or collaborative of city governments within that county if (a) the county government declines to participate in the affordable housing program and (b) as described under section 8 of this act, a city or collaborative of city governments elects to participate in the program.
- (5) "County affordable housing for all plan" or "county plan" means the plan developed by each county with the goal of ensuring that households of all economic segments in the county have a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment by 2020.
  - (6) "County affordable housing task force" means a county committee, as described in section 6 of this act, created to prepare and recommend to its county legislative authority a county affordable housing for all plan, and also to recommend expenditures of the funds from the affordable housing for all program surcharge in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act) and all other sources directed to the county's affordable housing for all program.
- 22 (7) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and 23 economic development.
- 24 (8) "Director" means the director of the department of community, 25 trade, and economic development.
  - (9) "Economic segments" means segments of the population divided by wage deciles.
- 28 (10) "Eligible organizations" means eligible organizations as 29 described in RCW 43.185.060.
- 30 (11) "Extremely low-income household" means a single person, 31 family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is 32 less than thirty percent of the median family income, adjusted for 33 household size for the county where the project is located.
- 34 (12) "Household" means a single person, family, or unrelated 35 persons living together.
- 36 (13) "Housing authority" means any of the public corporations 37 created in RCW 35.82.030.

(14) "Local government" means a county or city government in the state of Washington or, except under RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act), a city government or collaborative of city governments within that county if (a) the county government declines to participate in the affordable housing program and (b) as described under section 8 of this act, a city or collaborative of city governments elects to participate in the program.

- (15) "Low-income household," for the purposes of the affordable housing for all program, means a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is less than eighty percent of the median household income, adjusted for household size for the county where the project is located.
- (16) "Nonprofit organization" means any public or private nonprofit organization that: (a) Is organized under federal, state, or local laws; (b) has no part of its net earnings inuring to the benefit of any member, founder, contributor, or individual; and (c) has among its purposes, significant activities related to the provision of decent housing that is affordable to extremely low-income, very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households and special needs populations.
- (17) "Performance evaluation" means the process of evaluating performance by established objective, measurable criteria according to the achievement of outlined goals, measures, targets, standards, or other outcomes using a ranked scorecard from highest to lowest performance that employs a scale of one to one hundred, one hundred being the optimal score.
- (18) "Performance measurement" means the process of comparing specific measures of success with ultimate and interim goals.
- (19) "Quality management program" means a nationally recognized program using criteria similar or equivalent to the Baldridge criteria. All local governments receiving over five hundred thousand dollars a year during the previous calendar year from: State housing-related funding sources, including the Washington housing trust fund; the ending homelessness program surcharges in RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act); and any surcharges in chapter 43.185C RCW and the surcharges in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act), shall apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent

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assessment of its quality management, accountability, and performance system, once every three years beginning by January 1, 2011.

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- (20) "State affordable housing for all plan" or "state plan" means the plan developed by the department in collaboration with the affordable housing advisory board with the goal of ensuring that all economic segments in Washington have a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment by 2020.
- (21) "Very low-income household" means a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is less than fifty percent of the median family income, adjusted for household size for the county where the project is located.
- 12 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.185B.040 and 1993 c 478 s 12 are each amended to 13 read as follows:
  - (1) The department shall, in consultation with the affordable housing advisory board created in RCW 43.185B.020, prepare and ((from time to time amend a five-year)) annually update a state affordable housing ((advisory)) for all plan with an ultimate goal of achieving a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment for all economic segments by decile by county in the state by 2020. The state plan must also incorporate the strategies, objectives, goals, and performance measures of all other housing-related state plans, including the state homeless housing strategic plan required under RCW 43.185C.040 and all state housing programs. The state affordable housing for all plan may be combined with the state homeless housing strategic plan required under RCW 43.185C.040 or any other existing state housing plan as long as the requirements of all of the plans to be merged are met. The state plan must discuss linkages to all other department programs, including programs related to local government, community services, and economic development initiatives.
    - (2) The purpose of the <u>state affordable housing for all</u> plan is to:
  - (a) Document each year the quantity and price per month need for affordable housing for each local jurisdiction by economic segment in the state and the extent to which that need is being met through public and private sector ((programs, to)) housing efforts;
- 35 <u>(b) Outline the development of sound strategies and programs to</u> 36 <u>provide affordable housing to all economic segments in the state by</u> 37 <u>2020;</u>

1 (c) Measure the success of moving people in all government 2 supported housing programs to self-sufficiency;

- (d) Measure the cost-efficiency of government supported housing programs, including the documentation of the state and local cost per unit of housing with a goal of reducing the state subsidized portion to the greatest extent possible;
- (e) Establish, evaluate, and report upon performance measures, goals, and timelines that are determined by the department for the affordable housing for all program and the state and local affordable housing for all plans, as well as for all federal, state, and local housing programs and plans operated or coordinated by the department, including: (i) Federal block grant programs; (ii) the Washington housing trust fund; and (iii) all local surcharge funds collected with the purpose of addressing homelessness and affordable housing; and
- (f) Facilitate state and county government planning to meet the state affordable housing ((needs of the state, and to enable the development of sound strategies and programs for affordable housing)) for all goal.
- ((The information in the five-year housing advisory plan must include:
  - (a) An assessment of the state's housing market trends;
- (b) An assessment of the housing needs for all economic segments of the state and special needs populations;
- (c) An inventory of the supply and geographic distribution of affordable housing units made available through public and private sector programs;
- (d) A status report on the degree of progress made by the public and private sector toward meeting the housing needs of the state;  $\dot{i}$
- (e) An identification of state and local regulatory barriers to affordable housing and proposed regulatory and administrative techniques designed to remove barriers to the development and placement of affordable housing; and
- (f) Specific recommendations, policies, or proposals for meeting the affordable housing needs of the state.
- (2))) (3)(a) The department, in consultation with the affordable housing advisory board, shall develop recommendations for affordable housing for all program performance measures, short-term and long-term goals, and timelines, as well as information to be collected, analyzed,

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and reported upon in the state and local affordable housing for all plans. One performance measure must address the program's effectiveness in achieving the ultimate goal of a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment for all economic segments in the state by 2020. A second specific performance measure must be to ensure that the rate of growth in the overall price of housing for each economic segment is less than that of the overall growth in wages for each economic segment. A third specific performance measure must address the existence and effectiveness of linkages and coordination between the department's housing programs and other department programs, including programs related to local government, community services, and economic development initiatives. The department shall present its recommendations for additional performance measures to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2009. 

- (b) Performance measures and other required plan components must be reviewed annually by the department after soliciting feedback from the affordable housing advisory board, appropriate committees of the legislature, and all county affordable housing for all task forces.
- (c) The department may determine a timeline to implement and measure each performance measure for the state and county affordable housing for all programs, except that the state and all counties participating in the affordable housing for all program must implement and respond to all performance measures by January 1, 2012, unless the department determines that a performance measure is not applicable to a specific county based on parameters and thresholds established by the department.
- (4) The ((five-year)) state affordable housing ((advisory)) for all plan required under ((subsection (1) of)) this section must be submitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature on or before ((February 1, 1994)) January 15, 2011, and subsequent updated plans must be submitted ((every five years)) by January 15th each year thereafter.
- (((b) Each February 1st, beginning February 1, 1995, the department shall submit an annual progress report, to the legislature, detailing the extent to which the state's affordable housing needs were met during the preceding year and recommendations for meeting those needs))
- (5) To guide counties in preparation of their county affordable housing for all plans required under section 7 of this act, the

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- department shall issue, by December 31, 2010, guidelines for preparing county plans consistent with this chapter. County plans must include, at a minimum, the same information reporting and analysis on a local level and the same performance measures as the state plan.
  - (6) Each year, beginning in 2011, the department shall:

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- (a) Summarize key information from county plans, including a summary of local city and county housing program activities and a summary of legislative recommendations;
  - (b) Conduct annual performance evaluations of county plans; and
- 10 <u>(c) Conduct annual performance evaluations of all counties</u>
  11 <u>according to their performance in achieving affordable housing goals</u>
  12 stated in their county plans.
  - (7) The department shall include a summary of county affordable housing for all plans and the results of performance evaluations in the state affordable housing for all plan beginning in 2011.
- 16 (8) Based on changes to the general population and in the housing
  17 market, the department may revise the performance measures and goals of
  18 the state affordable housing for all plan and set goals for years
  19 following December 31, 2020.
  - NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. Each county shall convene a county affordable housing task force. The task force must be a committee, made up of volunteers, created to prepare and recommend to the county legislative authority a county affordable housing for all plan and also to recommend appropriate expenditures of the affordable housing for all program funds provided for in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act) and any other sources directed to the county program. The county affordable housing task force must include a representative of the county, a representative from the city with the highest population in the county, a representative from all other cities in the county with a population greater than fifty thousand, a member representing beneficiaries of affordable housing programs, other members as may be required to maintain eligibility for federal funding related to housing programs and services, and a representative from both a private nonprofit organization and a private for-profit organization with experience in very low-income housing. The task force may be the same as the homeless housing task force created in RCW 43.185C.160 or the

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same as another existing task force or other formal committee that meets the requirements of this section.

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NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. (1) Except as provided in section 8 of this act, each county shall direct its affordable housing task force to prepare and recommend to its county legislative authority a county affordable housing for all plan for its jurisdictional area. county shall adopt a county plan by June 30, 2011, and update the plan annually by June 30th thereafter. All county plans must be forwarded to the department by the date of adoption. County affordable housing for all plans may be combined with the local homeless housing plans required under RCW 43.185C.040, county comprehensive plans required under RCW 36.70A.040, or any other existing plan addressing housing within a county as long as the requirements of all of the plans to be merged are met. For counties required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, county affordable housing for all plans must be consistent with the housing elements of comprehensive plans described in RCW 36.70A.070(2). County plans must also be consistent with any existing local homeless housing plan required in RCW 43.185C.050. County plans must include a discussion of the effectiveness of linkages and coordination with county or regional community services and economic development plans.

- (2) County affordable housing for all plans must be primarily focused on (a) ensuring that households of all economic segments, including those households at risk of homelessness, in the county jurisdictional area have a decent and affordable home in a healthy, safe environment by 2020 with a priority placed on achieving this goal for low-income households and (b) increasing the percentage of households who ultimately are able to access affordable housing without government assistance. County affordable housing for all plans must include:
- (i) At a minimum, the same information, analysis, and performance measures as the state affordable housing for all plan, including information and performance measurement data, where available, on state supported housing programs and all city and county housing programs, including local housing-related levy initiatives, housing-related tax exemption programs, and federally funded programs operated or coordinated by local governments;

(ii) Timelines for the accomplishment of interim goals and targets, and for the acquisition of projected financing that is appropriate for outlined goals and targets;

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- (iii) An identification of challenges to reaching the affordable housing for all goal;
- (iv) A total estimated amount of funds needed to reach the local affordable housing for all goal and an identification of potential funding sources; and
- (v) State legislative recommendations to enable the county to achieve its affordable housing for all goals. Legislative recommendations must be specific and, if necessary, include an estimated amount of funding required and suggestions of an appropriate funding source.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. (1) Any county may decline to participate in the affordable housing for all program authorized in this chapter by forwarding to the department a resolution adopted by the county legislative authority stating the intention not to participate. A copy of the resolution must also be transmitted to the county auditor and treasurer. Counties that decline to participate shall not be required to establish an affordable housing task force or to create a county affordable housing for all plan. Counties declining to participate in the affordable housing for all program shall continue to collect and utilize the affordable housing for all surcharge for the purposes described in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act); however, such counties shall not be allocated any additional affordable housing for all program funding that is specifically provided for program planning, implementation, performance and quality management, and administrative Counties may opt back into the affordable housing for all program authorized by this chapter at a later date through a process and timeline to be determined by the department.

(2) If a county declines to participate in the affordable housing for all program authorized in this chapter, a city or formally organized collaborative of cities within that county may forward a resolution to the department stating its intention and willingness to operate an affordable housing for all program within its jurisdictional limits. The department must establish procedures to choose amongst cities or collaboratives of cities in the event that more than one city

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- 1 or collaborative of cities express an interest in participating in the
- 2 program. Participating cities or collaboratives of cities must fulfill
- 3 the same requirements as counties participating in the affordable
- 4 housing for all program.

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- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 9.** A county may subcontract with any other 6 county, city, town, housing authority, community action agency, or 7 other nonprofit organization for the execution of programs contributing to the affordable housing for all goal. All subcontracts must be: 8 9 Consistent with the county affordable housing for all plan adopted by 10 the legislative authority of the county; time limited; and filed with the department, and must have specific performance terms as specified 11 12 by the county. County governments must strongly encourage each 13 subcontractor under the affordable housing for all program to apply to 14 the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of its quality management, accountability, and performance 15 16 This authority to subcontract with other entities does not 17 affect participating counties' ultimate responsibility for meeting the requirements of the affordable housing for all program. 18
- 19 **Sec. 10.** RCW 36.22.178 and 2007 c 427 s 1 are each amended to read 20 as follows:
- 21 The surcharge provided for in this section shall be named the 22 affordable housing for all surcharge.
  - (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a surcharge of ten dollars per instrument shall be charged by the county auditor for each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge authorized by law. The county may retain up to five percent of these funds collected solely for the collection, administration, and local distribution of these funds. remaining funds, forty percent of the revenue generated through this surcharge will be transmitted monthly to the state treasurer who will deposit the funds into the affordable housing for all account created in RCW 43.185C.190. The department of community, trade, and economic development must use these funds to provide housing and shelter for extremely low-income households, including but not limited to grants for building operation and maintenance costs of housing projects or units within housing projects that are affordable to extremely low-

income households with incomes at or below thirty percent of the area median income, and that require a supplement to rent income to cover ongoing operating expenses.

- (2) All of the remaining funds generated by this surcharge will be retained by the county and be deposited into a fund that must be used by the county and its cities and towns for eligible housing activities as described in this subsection that serve very low-income households with incomes at or below fifty percent of the area median income. The portion of the surcharge retained by a county shall be allocated to eligible housing activities that serve extremely low and very low-income households in the county and the cities within a county according to an interlocal agreement between the county and the cities within the county consistent with countywide and local housing needs and policies. A priority must be given to eligible housing activities that serve extremely low-income households with incomes at or below thirty percent of the area median income. Eligible housing activities to be funded by these county funds are limited to:
- (a) Acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of housing projects or units within housing projects that are affordable to very low-income households with incomes at or below fifty percent of the area median income, including units for homeownership, rental units, seasonal and permanent farm worker housing units, and single room occupancy units;
- (b) Supporting building operation and maintenance costs of housing projects or units within housing projects eligible to receive housing trust funds, that are affordable to very low-income households with incomes at or below fifty percent of the area median income, and that require a supplement to rent income to cover ongoing operating expenses;
- (c) Rental assistance vouchers for housing units that are affordable to very low-income households with incomes at or below fifty percent of the area median income, to be administered by a local public housing authority or other local organization that has an existing rental assistance voucher program, consistent with or similar to the United States department of housing and urban development's section 8 rental assistance voucher program standards; and
- (d) Operating costs for emergency shelters and licensed overnight youth shelters.

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- 1 (3) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to 2 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust.
- (4) All counties shall report at least annually by May 1st upon 3 receipts and expenditures of the affordable housing for all surcharge 4 funds created in this section to the department. The department may 5 require more frequent reports. The report must include the amount of 6 funding generated by the surcharge, the total amount of funding 7 distributed to date, the amount of funding allocated to each eligible 8 housing activity, a description of each eligible housing activity 9 funded, including information on the income or wage level and numbers 10 of extremely low, very low, and low-income households the eligible 11 housing activity is intended to serve, and the outcome or anticipated 12
- 14 Sec. 11. This chapter does not require either the NEW SECTION. department or any local government to expend any funds to accomplish 15 the goals of this chapter other than the revenues authorized in this 16 17 act and other revenue that may be appropriated by the legislature for 18 However, neither the department nor any local these purposes. 19 government may use any funds authorized in this act to supplant or 20 reduce any existing expenditures of public money to address the 21 affordable housing shortage.

outcome of each eligible housing activity.

22 **Sec. 12.** RCW 43.185A.100 and 2006 c 349 s 11 are each amended to 23 read as follows:

The department((¬)) shall collaborate with the housing finance commission, the affordable housing advisory board, and all local governments, housing authorities, and other ((nonprofits)) eligible organizations receiving state housing funds, affordable housing for all funds, home security funds, or financing through the housing finance commission ((shall, by December 31, 2006, and annually thereafter, review current housing reporting requirements related to housing programs and services and give)) to include in the state affordable housing for all plan, by December 31, 2010, recommendations, where possible:

34 <u>(1) To streamline and simplify all housing planning, application,</u>
35 and reporting requirements ((to the department of community, trade, and

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economic development, which will compile and present the recommendations annually to the legislature. The entities listed in this section shall also give recommendations for additional)); and

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(2) For legislative actions that could promote the affordable housing for all goal and the state goal to end homelessness.

- Sec. 13. RCW 43.185.070 and 2005 c 518 s 1802 and 2005 c 219 s 2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:
- (1) During each calendar year in which funds from the housing trust fund or other legislative appropriations are available for use by the department for the housing assistance program, the department shall announce to all known interested parties, and through major media throughout the state, a grant and loan application period of at least ninety days' duration. This announcement shall be made as often as the director deems appropriate for proper utilization of resources. department shall then promptly grant as many applications as will utilize available funds less appropriate administrative costs of the department. Administrative costs paid out of the housing trust fund may not exceed five percent of annual revenues available for distribution to housing trust fund projects. In awarding funds under chapter, the department shall provide for a geographic distribution on a statewide basis.
- (2) The department shall give first priority to applications for projects and activities which utilize existing privately owned housing stock including privately owned housing stock purchased by nonprofit public development authorities and public housing authorities as created in chapter 35.82 RCW. As used in this subsection, privately owned housing stock includes housing that is acquired by a federal agency through a default on the mortgage by the private owner. Such projects and activities shall be evaluated under subsection (3) of this section. Second priority shall be given to activities and projects which utilize existing publicly owned housing stock. All projects and activities shall be evaluated by some or all of the criteria under subsection (3) of this section, and similar projects and activities shall be evaluated under the same criteria.
- (3) The department shall give preference for applications based on some or all of the criteria under this subsection, and similar projects and activities shall be evaluated under the same criteria:

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(a) The degree of leveraging of other funds that will occur; 1

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- 2 (b) The degree of commitment from programs to provide necessary habilitation and support services for projects focusing on special 3 4 needs populations;
  - (c) Recipient contributions to total project costs, including allied contributions from other sources such as professional, craft and trade services, and lender interest rate subsidies;
- 8 (d) Local government project contributions in the form of 9 infrastructure improvements, and others;
- (e) Projects that encourage ownership, management, and other project-related responsibility opportunities; 11
- 12 (f) Projects that demonstrate a strong probability of serving the 13 original target group or income level for a period of at least twenty-14 five years;
- (g) The applicant has the demonstrated ability, stability and 15 resources to implement the project; 16
  - (h) The applicant has committed to quality improvement and submitted an application to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of its quality management, accountability, and performance system within the previous three years;
    - (i) Projects which demonstrate serving the greatest need;
- 22 (((i))) (j) Projects that provide housing for persons and families 23 with the lowest incomes;
- ((<del>(j)</del>)) (k) Projects that provide housing for persons at risk of 24 25 homelessness;
  - (1) Projects serving special needs populations which are under statutory mandate to develop community housing;
- 28  $((\frac{k}{k}))$  m Project location and access to employment centers in 29 the region or area;
- 30 (((1))) (n) Projects that provide employment and training opportunities for disadvantaged youth under a youthbuild or youthbuild-31 32 type program as defined in RCW 50.72.020; and
- $((\frac{m}{m}))$  (o) Project location and access to available public 33 transportation services. 34
- 35 (4) The department shall only approve applications for projects for 36 ((mentally ill)) persons with mental illness that are consistent with 37 a regional support network six-year capital and operating plan.

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1 **Sec. 14.** RCW 43.185C.005 and 2005 c 484 s 1 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

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Despite laudable efforts by all levels of government, private individuals, nonprofit organizations, and charitable foundations to end homelessness, the number of homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness in Washington is unacceptably high. The state's homeless population, furthermore, includes a large number of families with children, youth, and employed persons. The legislature finds that the fiscal and societal costs of homelessness are high for both the public and private sectors, and that ending homelessness ((should)) must be a goal for state and local government.

The legislature finds that there are many causes of homelessness, including: A shortage of affordable housing; a shortage of family-wage jobs which undermines housing affordability; a lack of an accessible and affordable health care system available to all who suffer from physical and mental illnesses and chemical and alcohol dependency; domestic violence; ((and)) a lack of education and job skills necessary to acquire adequate wage jobs in the economy of the twenty-first century; inadequate availability of services for citizens with mental disorders, chemical dependency disorders, or developmental disabilities living in the community; and the difficulties faced by formerly institutionalized persons in reintegrating to society and finding stable employment and housing.

support and commitment of all sectors of the statewide community is critical to the chances of success in ending homelessness in Washington. While the provision of housing and housing-related services to the homeless should be administered at the local level to best address specific community needs, the legislature also recognizes the need for the state to play a primary coordinating, supporting, ((and)) monitoring, and evaluating role. There must be a clear assignment of responsibilities and a clear statement of achievable and quantifiable goals. Systematic statewide data collection ((homelessness)) homeless individuals in Washington must be a critical component of such a program enabling the state to work with local governments not only to count all homeless people in the state, but to record and manage information about homeless persons ((and)) in order to assist them in finding housing and other supportive services that

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can help them, when possible, achieve the highest degree of selfsufficiency and economic independence that is appropriate given their specific abilities and situations.

The systematic collection and rigorous evaluation of homeless data, a <u>nationwide</u> search for and implementation through adequate resource allocation of best practices, and the systematic measurement of progress toward interim goals and the ultimate goal of ending homelessness are all necessary components of a statewide effort to end homelessness in Washington by ((<del>July 1, 2015</del>)) <u>December 31, 2019</u>.

**Sec. 15.** RCW 43.185C.010 and 2007 c 427 s 3 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- 14 (1) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and 15 economic development.
- 16 (2) "Director" means the director of the department of community, 17 trade, and economic development.
  - (3) "Homeless person" means an individual living outside or in a building not meant for human habitation or which they have no legal right to occupy, in an emergency shelter, or in a temporary housing program which may include a transitional and supportive housing program if habitation time limits exist. This definition includes substance abusers, people with mental illness, and sex offenders who are homeless.
  - (4) "Washington homeless census" or "census" means ((an annual)) a statewide census conducted at least annually as a collaborative effort by towns, cities, counties, community-based organizations, and state agencies, with the technical support and coordination of the department, to count and collect (( $\frac{1}{2}$  at a conduction about all homeless individuals in Washington.
  - (5) "Home security fund account" means the state treasury account receiving the state's portion of income from revenue from the sources established by RCW 36.22.179 (as recodified by this act), RCW 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act), and all other sources directed to the homeless housing and assistance program.
- 36 (6) "((Homeless housing)) <u>Ending homelessness</u> grant program" means 37 the ((<del>vehicle by</del>)) <u>program established in RCW 43.185C.070, 43.185C.080,</u>

and 43.185C.090 under which competitive grants are awarded by the department, utilizing moneys from the ((homeless housing)) home security fund account, to local governments for programs directly related to ((housing homeless individuals and families,)) addressing the root causes of homelessness, preventing homelessness, collecting data and information on homeless individuals, and ((other efforts directly related to housing homeless persons)) implementing quality management programs.

- (7) "Local government" means a county government in the state of Washington or a city government, if the legislative authority of the city affirmatively elects to accept the responsibility for housing homeless persons within its ((borders)) jurisdiction.
- (8) "Housing continuum" means the progression of individuals along a housing-focused continuum with homelessness at one end and homeownership at the other.
- (9) "Local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness task force" means a voluntary local committee created under RCW 43.185C.160 to ((advise a local government on the creation of)) develop a local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan and participate in a local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program. ((It must include a representative of the county, a representative of the largest city located within the county, at least one homeless or formerly homeless person, such other members as may be required to maintain eligibility for federal funding related to housing programs and services and if feasible, a representative of a private nonprofit organization with experience in low-income housing.))
- (10) "Long-term private or public housing" means subsidized and unsubsidized rental or owner-occupied housing in which there is no established time limit for habitation of less than two years.
- (11) "Interagency council on homelessness" means a committee appointed by the governor and consisting of, at least, policy level representatives of the following entities: (a) The department of community, trade, and economic development; (b) the department of corrections; (c) the department of social and health services; (d) the department of veterans affairs; and (e) the department of health.
- (12) "Performance measurement" means the process of comparing specific measures of success against ultimate and interim goals.

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(13) "Performance evaluation" means the process of evaluating performance by established objective, measurable criteria according to the achievement of outlined goals, measures, targets, standards, or other outcomes, using a ranked scorecard from highest to lowest performance that employs a scale of one to one hundred, one hundred being the optimal score.

- program using criteria similar or equivalent to the Baldridge criteria. All local governments receiving over five hundred thousand dollars a year during the previous calendar year from: State housing-related funding sources, including the Washington housing trust fund; the ending homelessness program surcharges in RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act); and any surcharges in this chapter and the surcharges in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act), shall apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of its quality management, accountability, and performance system, once every three years beginning by January 1, 2011.
- (15) "Community action agency" means a nonprofit private or public organization established under the economic opportunity act of 1964.
- $((\frac{14}{1}))$  <u>(16)</u> "Housing authority" means any of the public corporations created by chapter 35.82 RCW.
- (((15) "Homeless housing)) (17) "Ending homelessness program" means the program authorized under this chapter as administered by the department at the state level and by the local government or its designated subcontractor at the local level.
- $((\frac{16}{\text{"Homeless housing}}))$   $\underline{(18)}$  "Local ending homelessness plan" means the  $((\frac{\text{ten-year}}{\text{year}}))$  plan developed by the  $((\frac{\text{county or other}}{\text{or other}}))$  local government to address  $((\frac{\text{housing for homeless persons}}{\text{bomelessness}}))$  ending  $\underline{\text{homelessness}}$ .
- ((<del>(17)</del> "Homeless housing)) (19) "State ending homelessness strategic plan" means the ((<del>ten-year</del>)) plan developed by the department, in consultation with the interagency council on homelessness, the state advisory council on homelessness, and the affordable housing advisory board, to end homelessness.
- (((18))) (20) "Washington homeless client management information system" means a database of information about homeless individuals in the state used to coordinate resources to assist homeless clients to

- obtain and retain housing and reach greater levels of self-sufficiency or economic independence when appropriate, depending upon their individual situations.
- 4 (21) "Good family wage job" means a job that pays at or above one
  5 of the two self-sufficiency income standards established under section
  6 30 of this act which for an individual means enough income to support
  7 one adult individual, and for a family means enough income to support
  8 two adult individuals, one preschool-aged child, and one school-aged
  9 child.
- 10 (22) "Unsheltered homeless" means a homeless individual or homeless
  11 individuals living outside or in a building not intended for human
  12 habitation or in which the individual or individuals have no legal
  13 right to occupy.
- 14 (23) "At risk of homelessness" means any low, very low, or 15 extremely low-income individual or family residing in housing that is 16 not affordable housing.
- 17 **Sec. 16.** RCW 43.185C.020 and 2005 c 484 s 5 are each amended to 18 read as follows:
- 19 There is created within the department the ((homeless housing)) 20 ending homelessness program to develop and ((coordinate)) implement a statewide <a href="mailto:ending-homelessness">ending-homelessness</a> strategic plan ((aimed at housing 21 homeless persons)), coordinate and monitor local government ending 22 23 homelessness plans and programs, and implement and manage an ending homelessness grant program. The ending homelessness program has an 24 25 established short-term goal of reducing the homeless population 26 statewide and in each county by seventy percent by July 1, 2015, and an ultimate goal of ending homelessness by December 31, 2019. The ending 27 28 homelessness program ((shall be)) is developed and administered by the 29 department with advice and input from the affordable housing advisory 30 board established in RCW 43.185B.020.
- 31 **Sec. 17.** RCW 43.185C.040 and 2005 c 484 s 7 are each amended to 32 read as follows:

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(1) ((Six months after the first Washington homeless census,)) The department shall, in consultation with the interagency council on homelessness, the state advisory council on homelessness, and the affordable housing advisory board, prepare and ((publish a ten-year))

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homeless housing)) annually update a state ending homelessness 1 2 strategic plan ((which shall)) that must outline statewide goals and performance measures ((and shall be coordinated with the plan for 3 homeless families with children required under RCW 43.63A.650. To 4 5 quide local governments in preparation of their first local homeless 6 housing plans due December 31, 2005, the department shall issue by 7 October 15, 2005, temporary guidelines consistent with this chapter and including the best available data on each community's homeless 8 9 population)) to meet the needs of all homeless populations, including chronic homeless, unsheltered homeless, short-term homeless, families, 10 individuals, and youth, as well as to meet the needs of individuals and 11 families at risk of homelessness. Local governments' ((ten-year 12 homeless housing)) local ending homelessness plans ((shall not)) must 13 include all of the performance measures included in the state ending 14 homelessness strategic plan and must be substantially ((inconsistent)) 15 consistent with the goals and program recommendations of ((the 16 temporary guidelines and, when amended after 2005,)) the state ending 17 homelessness strategic plan. 18

(2)(a) Program outcomes and performance measures and goals ((shall)) must be created by the department ((and reflected)) in consultation with the interagency council on homelessness and a task force established by the department consisting of the committee chairs of the appropriate committees of the legislature, representatives appointed by the director from a minimum of five local ending homelessness task forces representing both urban and rural areas and communities east and west of the Cascade mountains, and a representative from a statewide membership organization that advocates for ending homelessness. All performance measures must have targets and timelines. The task force must also produce guidelines for local governments regarding methods, techniques, and data suggested to measure each performance measure. Performance measures, yearly targets, and corresponding measurement guidelines must be established by December 31, 2009, and must be reviewed annually by the department and the interagency council on homelessness after soliciting feedback from all local ending homelessness task forces. Performance measures must be included in the department's ((homeless housing)) state ending homelessness strategic plan ((as well as)) and all local ending homelessness plans.

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(b) The department may determine a timeline for implementation and measurement of each performance measure for the state and local ending homelessness plans, except that the state and all local governments must implement and respond to all performance measures by December 31, 2011, unless the department finds that a performance measure is not applicable to a specific local area according to parameters and thresholds established by the department.

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- (c) Performance measures must be created, at a minimum, to gauge the success of the state and each local government in the following areas:
- 11 <u>(i) The cost of ending homelessness in comparison with available</u> 12 and committed resources;
  - (ii) The total capital and service dollars required statewide and by county to meet the two goals outlined in RCW 43.185C.020, the assessment of which must include a determination of the current shortfall of funds as well as recommendations to reduce the total amount of funds determined to be needed to meet the goals;
    - (iii) The self-sufficiency of persons in Washington;
- 19 <u>(iv) The achievement of an appropriate level of self-sufficiency</u> 20 <u>for homeless individuals;</u>
- 21 <u>(v) The quality and completeness of the Washington homeless client</u>
  22 <u>management information system database;</u>
  - (vi) The quality of the performance management systems of state agencies, local governments, and local government subcontractors executing programs, as authorized by RCW 43.185C.080(1), that contribute to the overall goal of ending homelessness; and
    - (vii) The quality of local ending homelessness plans.
  - Performance measurements are reported upon by city and county qeography, including demographics with yearly or more frequent targets.
  - (3) Interim goals against which state and local governments' performance may be measured <u>must also be described and reported upon in the state ending homelessness strategic plan</u>, including:
- 33 (a) ((By the end of year one, completion of the first census as described in RCW 43.185C.030;
- 35 (b)) By the end of each subsequent year, goals common to all state
  36 and local programs which are measurable and the achievement of which
  37 would move that community toward housing its homeless population; ((and

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(c))) (b) By July 1, 2015, reduction of the homeless population statewide and in each county by ((fifty)) seventy percent; and

- (c) By December 31, 2020, the reduction of the homeless population statewide and in each county by one hundred percent, representing the end of homelessness in Washington.
- ((+3)) (4) The department shall develop a consistent statewide data gathering instrument to monitor the performance of cities and counties receiving <u>ending homelessness</u> grants in order to determine compliance with the terms and conditions set forth in the <u>ending homelessness</u> grant application or required by the department.
- (5) The department shall, in consultation with the interagency council on homelessness, the state advisory council on homelessness, and the affordable housing advisory board, report annually to the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature ((an assessment of)) information about:
  - (a) All state programs addressing homeless housing and services;
- (b) The state's performance in furthering the goals of the state  $((ten-year\ homeless\ housing))$  ending homelessness strategic plan; and
- (c) The performance of each participating local government in creating and executing a local (( $\frac{homeless\ housing}{homelessness}$ )) ending homelessness plan (( $\frac{which}{homeless}$ )) that meets the requirements of this chapter. (( $\frac{The}{homeless}$ )
- (a) The reduction in the number of homeless individuals and families from the initial count of homeless persons;
- (b) The number of new units available and affordable for homeless families by housing type
- (c) The number of homeless individuals identified who are not offered suitable housing within thirty days of their request or identification as homeless;
- (d) The number of households at risk of losing housing who maintain it due to a preventive intervention;
  - (e) The transition time from homelessness to permanent housing;
- 33 (f) The cost per person housed at each level of the housing continuum;
- 35 <del>(g) The ability to successfully collect data and report</del> 36 <del>performance;</del>
- 37 (h) The extent of collaboration and coordination among public

bodies, as well as community stakeholders, and the level of community support and participation;

(i) The quality and safety of housing provided; and

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- (j) The effectiveness of outreach to homeless persons, and their satisfaction with the program.
- (4))) (6) The state plan must also include a response to each recommendation included in the local plans for policy changes to assist in ending homelessness and a summary of the recommendations to the legislature to streamline and simplify all homeless planning and reporting requirements.
- 11 (7) Based on the performance of local ((homeless housing)) ending 12 homelessness programs in meeting their interim goals, on general 13 population changes and on changes in the homeless population recorded 14 in the ((annual)) census, the department may revise the performance measures and goals of the state ((homeless housing strategic plan)) 15 ending homelessness plans, set goals for years following the initial 16 17 ten-year period, and recommend changes in local governments' ending 18 homelessness plans.
- 19 **Sec. 18.** RCW 43.185C.050 and 2005 c 484 s 8 are each amended to 20 read as follows:
  - (1)(a)(i) Each local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness task force shall prepare and recommend to its local government legislative authority a ((ten-year homeless housing)) local ending homelessness plan for its jurisdictional area ((which shall be not inconsistent)) that is consistent with the department's ((statewide temporary guidelines, for the December 31, 2005, plan, and thereafter the department's ten-year homeless housing)) state ending homelessness strategic plan and ((which shall be)) is aimed at eliminating homelessness, with a minimum goal of reducing homelessness by ((fifty)) seventy percent by July 1, 2015, and an ultimate goal of ending homelessness by December 31, 2020. ((The local government may amend the proposed local plan and shall adopt a plan by December 31, 2005. Performance in meeting the goals of this local plan shall be assessed annually in terms of the performance measures published by the Local governments must update their local ending department.)) homelessness plan annually on a schedule to be determined by the department.

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(ii) Local plans must include specific strategic objectives and 1 2 performance measures, consistent with the state plan, and must include corresponding action plans. Local plans must address identified 3 strategies to meet the needs of all homeless populations, including 4 chronic homeless, unsheltered homeless, short-term homeless, families, 5 individuals, and youth, as well as to meet the needs of individuals and 6 families at risk of homelessness. Local plans must specifically 7 identify efforts to meet the needs of homeless students. Each local 8 plan must include the total estimated cost of accomplishing the goals 9 of the plan to reduce homelessness by seventy percent by July 1, 2015, 10 and an ultimate goal of ending homelessness by December 31, 2020, and 11 12 must include an accounting of total committed funds for this purpose. 13 Local plans must include a strategy for implementing or continually 14 improving a quality management program.

- (b)(i) The department must conduct an annual performance evaluation of each local plan by December 31st of each year beginning in 2009. The department must also conduct an annual performance evaluation of each local government's performance related to its local plan by December 31st of each year beginning in 2009. A local government's performance must be evaluated using, at a minimum, the performance measures outlined in RCW 43.185C.040(2).
- (ii) In addition to the performance measures mandated in RCW 43.185C.040(2), local plans may include specific local performance measures adopted by the local government legislative authority( $(\tau)$ ) and ((may)) must include recommendations for ((any)) state legislation needed to meet the state or local plan goals. The recommendations must be specific and must, if funding is required, include an estimated amount of funding required and suggestions for an appropriate funding source.
  - (2) Eligible activities under the local plans include:
- 31 (a) Rental and furnishing of dwelling units for the use of homeless 32 persons;
  - (b) Costs of developing affordable housing for homeless persons, and services for formerly homeless individuals and families residing in transitional housing or permanent housing and still at risk of homelessness;
- 37 (c) Operating subsidies for transitional housing or permanent 38 housing serving formerly homeless families or individuals;

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(d) Services to prevent homelessness, such as emergency eviction prevention programs, including temporary rental subsidies to prevent homelessness;

- (e) Temporary services to assist persons leaving state institutions and other state programs to prevent them from becoming or remaining homeless;
  - (f) Outreach services for homeless individuals and families;
- (g) Development and management of local ((homeless)) ending homelessness plans, including homeless census data collection( $(\div)$ ) and information, identification of goals, performance measures, strategies, and costs, and evaluation of progress towards established goals;
- (h) Rental vouchers payable to landlords for persons who are homeless or below thirty percent of the median income or in immediate danger of becoming homeless; ((and))
- (i) Implementing a quality management program and applying to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of quality management, accountability, and performance systems or applying to the full examination Washington state quality award program; and
- 19 <u>(j)</u> Other activities to reduce and prevent homelessness as 20 identified for funding in the local plan.
- **Sec. 19.** RCW 43.185C.070 and 2005 c 484 s 11 are each amended to 22 read as follows:
  - (1) During each calendar year in which moneys from the ((homeless housing)) home security fund account are available for use by the department for the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness grant program, the department shall announce to all Washington counties, participating cities, and through major media throughout the state, a grant application period of at least ninety days' duration. Grants may be awarded for programs directly related to addressing the root causes of homelessness, preventing homelessness, collecting data and information on homeless individuals, and implementing quality management programs. Only a local government participating in the ending homelessness program is eligible to receive an ending homelessness grant. This announcement will be made as often as the director deems appropriate for proper utilization of resources. The department shall then promptly grant as many applications as will

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utilize available funds, less appropriate administrative costs of the department as described in RCW 36.22.179 (as recodified by this act).

- (2) The department ((will)) shall develop, ((with advice and input from the affordable housing advisory board established in RCW 43.185B.020)) in consultation with the interagency council on homelessness, criteria to evaluate grant applications.
- (3) The department may approve <u>only those</u> applications ((<del>only if they</del>)) <u>that</u> are consistent with the local and state ((<del>homeless housing program strategic</del>)) <u>ending homelessness</u> plans. The department may give preference to applications based on some or all of the following criteria:
- (a) The total homeless population in the applicant local government service area, as reported by the most recent ((annual)) Washington homeless census;
- (b) Current local expenditures to provide housing for the homeless and to address the underlying causes of homelessness as described in RCW 43.185C.005;
- (c) Local government and private contributions pledged to the program in the form of matching funds, property, infrastructure improvements, and other contributions; and the degree of leveraging of other funds from local government or private sources for the program for which funds are being requested, to include recipient contributions to total project costs, including allied contributions from other sources such as professional, craft, and trade services, and lender interest rate subsidies;
- (d) ((Construction projects or rehabilitation that will serve homeless individuals or families for a period of at least twenty-five years;
- (e) Projects which demonstrate serving homeless populations with the greatest needs, including projects that serve special needs populations;
- (f))) The degree to which the applicant project represents a collaboration between local governments, nonprofit community-based organizations, local and state agencies, and the private sector((\(\tau\)) especially through its integration with the coordinated and comprehensive plan for homeless families with children required under RCW 43.63A.650));

 $((\frac{g}{g}))$  <u>(e)</u> The cooperation of the local government in the 2  $(\frac{g}{g})$  Washington homeless census  $(\frac{g}{g})$ ;

- ((<del>(h)</del>)) <u>(f) The number of homeless censuses or other homeless counts conducted by the local government beyond the annual census requirement;</u>
- (g) The commitment of the local government and any subcontracting local governments, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit entities to employ a diverse work force and pay wages at or above the self-sufficiency standard;
- (h) The commitment of the local government to apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of its quality management, accountability, and performance system or apply to the full examination Washington state quality award program;
  - (i) The extent that a local government's subcontractors commit to apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of their quality management, accountability, and performance systems or apply to the full examination Washington state quality award program;
- (j) The extent, if any, that the local homeless population is disproportionate to the revenues collected under this chapter and RCW 36.22.178 and 36.22.179 (as recodified by this act); and
- $((\frac{j}{j}))$  (k) Other elements shown by the applicant to be directly related to the goal and the department's state <u>ending homelessness</u> strategic plan.
  - **Sec. 20.** RCW 43.185C.080 and 2005 c 484 s 12 are each amended to read as follows:
    - (1) ((Only a local government is eligible to receive a homeless housing grant from the homeless housing account. Any city may assert responsibility for homeless housing within its borders if it so chooses, by forwarding a resolution to the legislative authority of the county stating its intention and its commitment to operate a separate homeless housing program. The city shall then receive a percentage of the surcharge assessed under RCW 36.22.179 equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the county. A participating city may also then apply separately for homeless housing program grants. A city choosing to operate a separate homeless housing program shall be responsible for complying with all of

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the same requirements as counties and shall adopt a local homeless housing plan meeting the requirements of this chapter for county local plans. However, the city may by resolution of its legislative authority accept the county's homeless housing task force as its own and based on that task force's recommendations adopt a homeless housing plan specific to the city.

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(2))) Local governments ((applying for homeless housing funds)) may subcontract with any other local government, housing authority, community action agency, or other nonprofit organization for the execution of programs contributing to the overall goal of ending homelessness within a defined service area. All subcontracts ((shall)) consistent with the local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan adopted by the legislative authority of the local government, time limited, and filed with the department, and ((shall)) must have specific performance terms. Local governments must strongly encourage all subcontractors under the ending homelessness program to apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of their quality management, accountability, and performance systems or apply to the full examination Washington state quality award While a local government has the authority to subcontract program. with other entities, the local government continues to maintain the ultimate responsibility for the ((homeless housing)) homelessness program within its ((borders)) jurisdiction.

((\(\frac{(3+)}{3}\)) (2) A county may decline to participate in the program authorized in this chapter by forwarding to the department a resolution adopted by the county legislative authority stating the intention not to participate. A copy of the resolution ((\(\frac{shall}{shall}\))) \(\text{must}\) also be transmitted to the county auditor and treasurer. If ((\(\frac{such a}{a}\))) \(\text{the}\) resolution is adopted, all of the funds otherwise due to the county under RCW ((\(\frac{43.185C.060 \text{ shall}}{shall}\))) \(\frac{36.22.179 \text{ and } 36.22.1791\) (as recodified by this act), \(\text{minus funds due to any city that has chosen to participate through the process established in subsection (3) of this section, \(\text{must}\) be remitted monthly to the state treasurer for deposit in the ((\(\text{homeless housing}\))) \(\text{home security fund}\) account, without any reduction by the county for collecting or administering the funds. Upon receipt of the resolution, the department shall promptly begin to identify and contract with one or more entities eligible under this section to create and execute a local ((\(\text{homeless housing}\))) \(\text{ending}\)

homelessness plan for the county meeting the requirements of this chapter. The department shall expend all of the funds received from the county under this subsection to carry out the purposes of this chapter ((484, Laws of 2005)) in the county, ((provided that)) but the department may retain six percent of these funds to offset the cost of managing the county's program.

- (3) Any city may assert responsibility for homeless housing within its borders, by forwarding a resolution to the legislative authority of the county stating its intention and its commitment to operate a separate ending homelessness program. A city choosing to operate a separate ending homelessness program receives a percentage of the surcharges assessed under RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act) equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the county. A participating city may also then apply separately for ending homelessness grants. A city choosing to operate a separate ending homelessness program must comply with all of the same requirements as counties and shall adopt a local ending homelessness plan meeting the requirements of this chapter for local ending homelessness plans.
- (4) A resolution by the county declining to participate in the program ((shall have)) has no effect on the ((ability)) authority of each city in the county to assert its right to manage its own program under this chapter, and the county shall monthly transmit to the city the funds due under ((this chapter)) RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act).
- **Sec. 21.** RCW 43.185C.090 and 2005 c 484 s 13 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall allocate <u>ending homelessness</u> grant moneys from the ((homeless housing)) <u>home security fund</u> account to finance in whole or in part programs and projects in approved local ((homeless housing)) <u>ending homelessness</u> plans ((to assist homeless individuals and families gain access to adequate housing, prevent at risk individuals from becoming homeless, address the root causes of homelessness, track and report on homeless related data, and facilitate the movement of homeless or formerly homeless individuals along the housing continuum toward more stable and independent housing)) for programs directly related to addressing the root causes of homelessness, preventing

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- 1 homelessness, collecting data and information on homeless individuals,
- 2 and implementing quality management programs. The department may issue
- 3 criteria or guidelines to guide local governments in the application
- 4 process.

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- 5 **Sec. 22.** RCW 43.185C.100 and 2005 c 484 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:
- 7 The department shall provide technical assistance to any 8 participating local government that requests such assistance. 9 Technical assistance activities may include:
- 10 (1) Assisting local governments to identify appropriate parties to participate on local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness task 12 forces;
  - (2) Assisting local governments to identify appropriate service providers with which the local governments may subcontract for service provision and development activities, when necessary;
  - (3) Assisting local governments to implement or expand homeless census programs to meet ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program requirements;
- 19 (4) Assisting local governments in the local implementation and 20 updating of the homeless client management information system as 21 required in RCW 43.185C.180;
  - (5) Assisting local governments to apply to the Washington state quality award program for an independent assessment of their quality management, accountability, and performance systems or apply to the full examination Washington state quality award program;
- 26 (6) Assisting local governments to strongly encourage all
  27 subcontractors to apply to the Washington state quality award program
  28 for an independent assessment of their quality management,
  29 accountability, and performance systems or apply to the full
  30 examination Washington state quality award program;
- 31 (7) Assisting local governments to create quality ending 32 homelessness plans;
- 33 <u>(8)</u> Assisting in the identification of "best practices" from other areas;
- $((\frac{5}{}))$  (9) Assisting in identifying additional funding sources for specific projects; and

1 ((<del>(6)</del>)) <u>(10)</u> Training local government and subcontractor staff, 2 including quality management training.

**Sec. 23.** RCW 43.185C.130 and 2005 c 484 s 17 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall ensure that the state's interest is protected upon the development, use, sale, or change of use of projects constructed, acquired, or financed in whole or in part through the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness grant program. These policies may include, but are not limited to: (1) Requiring a share of the appreciation in the project in proportion to the state's contribution to the project, or (2) requiring a lump sum repayment of the grant upon the sale or change of use of the project.

- **Sec. 24.** RCW 43.185C.160 and 2005 c 485 s 1 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
  - (1) Each county shall create ((a homeless housing)) an ending homelessness task force to develop a ((ten-year homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan addressing short-term and long-term services and housing ((for homeless persons)) to prevent and reduce homelessness by seventy percent by July 1, 2015, and to achieve the ultimate goal of ending homelessness by December 31, 2020.

Membership on the task force may include representatives of the counties, cities, towns, housing authorities, civic and faith organizations, schools, community networks, human services providers, law enforcement personnel, criminal justice personnel, including prosecutors, probation officers, and jail administrators, substance abuse treatment providers, mental health care providers, emergency health care providers, businesses, at-large representatives of the community, and a homeless or formerly homeless individual.

In lieu of creating a new task force, a local government may designate an existing governmental or nonprofit body ((which)) that substantially conforms to this section and ((which)) includes at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual to serve as its homeless representative. As an alternative to a separate plan, two or more local governments may work in concert to develop and execute a joint  $((homeless\ housing))$  local ending homelessness plan, or to contract with another entity to do so according to the requirements of this

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- chapter. While a local government has the authority to subcontract with other entities, the local government continues to maintain the ultimate responsibility for the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program within its borders.
  - ((A county may decline to participate in the program authorized in this chapter by forwarding to the department a resolution adopted by the county legislative authority stating the intention not to participate. A copy of the resolution shall also be transmitted to the county auditor and treasurer. If a county declines to participate, the department shall create and execute a local homeless housing plan for the county meeting the requirements of this chapter.))
  - (2) In addition to developing a ((ten-year homeless housing)) <u>local</u> ending homelessness plan, each task force shall establish guidelines consistent with the statewide ((homeless housing)) <u>ending homelessness</u> strategic plan, as needed, for the following:
    - (a) Emergency shelters;
    - (b) Short-term housing needs;
    - (c) Temporary encampments;
- 19 (d) <u>Rental voucher programs;</u>
- 20 <u>(e) Timely housing opportunities for unsheltered homeless;</u>
- 21 (f) Supportive housing for chronically homeless persons; ((and
- 22 (e))) (g) Long-term housing; and
- 23 (h) Prevention services.

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- Guidelines must include, when appropriate, standards for health and safety and notifying the public of proposed facilities to house the homeless.
  - (3) Each county((, including counties exempted from creating a new task force under subsection (1) of this section,)) shall report to the department of community, trade, and economic development ((such)) any information ((as may be)) needed to ensure compliance with this chapter.
- 32 **Sec. 25.** RCW 43.185C.900 and 2005 c 484 s 2 are each amended to 33 read as follows:
- This chapter may be known and cited as the <u>ending</u> homelessness ((housing and assistance)) act.

1 **Sec. 26.** RCW 36.22.179 and 2007 c 427 s 4 are each amended to read 2 as follows:

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- (1) In addition to the surcharge authorized in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act), and except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, an additional surcharge of ten dollars shall be charged by the county auditor for each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge allowed by law. The funds collected pursuant to this section are to be distributed and used as follows:
- (a) The auditor shall retain two percent for collection of the fee, and of the remainder shall remit sixty percent to the county to be deposited into a fund that must be used by the county and its cities and towns to accomplish the purposes of this chapter, six percent of which may be used by the county for administrative costs related to its ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan and for activities related to performance evaluation and quality management programs, including costs associated with the Washington state quality award program, and the remainder for programs which directly accomplish the goals of the county's local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan, except that for each city in the county which elects as authorized in RCW 43.185C.080 to operate its own local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program, a percentage of the surcharge assessed under this section equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the county shall be transmitted at least quarterly to the city treasurer, without any deduction for county administrative costs, for use by the city for program costs which directly contribute to the goals of the city's local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan; of the funds received by the city, it may use six percent for administrative costs for its ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program.
- (b) The auditor shall remit the remaining funds to the state treasurer for deposit in the home security fund account. The department may use twelve and one-half percent of this amount for administration of the program established in RCW 43.185C.020, including the costs of creating the statewide ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness strategic plan, measuring performance and quality management, including costs associated with the Washington state quality award program, providing technical assistance to local

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governments, and managing the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness grant program. The remaining eighty-seven and one- half percent is to be used by the department to:

- (i) Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including, but not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters; grants to operate transitional housing; partial payments for rental assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth shelters; and emergency shelter assistance; and
- 9 (ii) Fund the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness grant 10 program.
- 11 (2) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to 12 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust.
- **Sec. 27.** RCW 36.22.1791 and 2007 c 427 s 5 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
  - (1) In addition to the surcharges authorized in RCW 36.22.178 and 36.22.179 (as recodified by this act), and except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the county auditor shall charge an additional surcharge of eight dollars for each document recorded, which is in addition to any other charge allowed by law. The funds collected under this section are to be distributed and used as follows:
  - (a) The auditor shall remit ninety percent to the county to be deposited into a fund six percent of which may be used by the county for administrative costs related to its ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan and for activities related to performance evaluation and quality management programs, including costs associated with the Washington state quality award program, and the remainder for programs that directly accomplish the goals of the county's local ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan, except that for each city in the county that elects, as authorized in RCW 43.185C.080, to operate its own ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness program, a percentage of the surcharge assessed under this section equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate excise tax collected by the county must be transmitted at least quarterly to the city treasurer for use by the city for program costs that directly contribute to the goals of the city's ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness plan.
  - (b) The auditor shall remit the remaining funds to the state treasurer for deposit in the home security fund account. The

- department may use the funds for administering the program established 1 in RCW 43.185C.020, including the costs of creating and updating the 2 statewide ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness strategic plan, 3 measuring performance and quality management, including costs 4 associated with the Washington state quality award program, providing 5 6 technical assistance to local governments, and managing the ((homeless 7 housing)) ending homelessness grant program. Remaining funds may also 8 be used to:
- (i) Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including, but 10 not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters; grants 11 housing; partial payments to operate transitional for rental 12 assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth 13 shelters; and emergency shelter assistance; and

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- 14 (ii) Fund the ((homeless housing)) ending homelessness grant 15 program.
- (2) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to 16 17 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust.
- Sec. 28. RCW 43.185C.170 and 2006 c 349 s 7 are each amended to 18 read as follows: 19
  - (1) The interagency council on homelessness, as defined in RCW 43.185C.010, shall ((be convened not later than)) convene by August 31, 2006, and shall meet at least two times each year and report to the appropriate committees of the legislature annually by December 31st on its activities.
    - (2) The interagency council on homelessness shall work to create greater levels of interagency coordination and to coordinate state agency efforts with the efforts of state and local entities addressing homelessness.
    - (3) The interagency council on homelessness must respond to all state and local legislative and policy recommendations included in the state and local ending homelessness plans. The interagency council must annually present its strategy for addressing the issues raised to the appropriate committees of the legislature and must also include a report on the actions taken to date that address these issues.
      - (4) The interagency council shall seek to:
- 36 (a) Align homeless-related housing and supportive service policies 37 among state agencies;

1 (b) Identify ways in which providing housing with appropriate 2 services can contribute to cost savings for state agencies;

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- (c) Identify policies and actions that may contribute to homelessness or interfere with its reduction;
- (d) Review and improve strategies for discharge from state institutions that contribute to homelessness;
- (e) Recommend policies to either improve practices or align resources, or both, including those policies requested by the affordable housing advisory board or through state and local housing plans; and
- 11 (f) Ensure that the housing status of people served by state 12 programs is collected in consistent formats available for analysis.
- 13 **Sec. 29.** RCW 43.185C.180 and 2006 c 349 s 8 are each amended to 14 read as follows:
  - (1) In order to improve services for the homeless, the department, within amounts appropriated by the legislature for this specific purpose, shall implement the Washington homeless client management information system for the ongoing collection and updates of information about all homeless individuals in the state.
  - (2) Information about homeless individuals for the Washington homeless client management information system shall come from the Washington homeless census ((and)), from state agencies, and from community organizations providing services to homeless individuals and Personally identifying information about homeless individuals for the Washington homeless client management system may only be collected after having obtained informed, reasonably time limited written consent from the homeless individual to whom the information relates. Data collection ((shall)) must be done in a manner consistent with federally informed consent guidelines regarding human research which, at a minimum, require that individuals be informed about the expected duration of their participation, explanation of whom to contact for answers to pertinent questions about the data collection and their rights regarding their personal identifying information, an explanation regarding whom to contact in the event of injury to the individual related to the homeless client survey, a description of any reasonably foreseeable risks to the

homeless individual, and a statement describing the extent to which confidentiality of records identifying the individual will be maintained.

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- (3) The Washington homeless client management information system shall serve as an online information and referral system to enable local governments and providers to connect homeless persons in the database with available housing and other support services. Local governments shall develop a capacity for continuous case management, including independent living plans, when appropriate, to assist homeless persons.
- (4) The information in the Washington homeless client management information system will also provide the department with the information to consolidate and analyze data about the extent and nature of homelessness in Washington state, giving emphasis to information about the extent and nature of homelessness in Washington state among families with children.
- (5) The system may be merged with other data gathering and reporting systems and shall:
  - (a) Protect the right of privacy of individuals;
- (b) Provide for consultation and collaboration with all relevant state agencies, including the department of social and health services, experts, and community organizations involved in the delivery of services to homeless persons; and
- 24 (c) Include related information held or gathered by other state 25 agencies.
  - (6) Within amounts appropriated by the legislature, for this specific purpose, the department shall evaluate the information gathered and disseminate the analysis and the evaluation broadly, using appropriate computer networks as well as written reports.
- 30 (7) The Washington homeless client management information system 31 ((shall)) <u>must</u> be implemented by December 31, 2009, and updated with 32 new homeless client information at least ((annually)) <u>twice each year</u>.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 30. A new section is added to chapter 43.185C RCW to read as follows:
- 35 The department shall establish two self-sufficiency income 36 standards based upon the cost of living, including housing costs, which 37 include mortgage or rent payments and utilities other than telephone,

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for each county in the state. The self-sufficiency income standards 1 2 must be based upon the costs needed to support: (1) One adult individual; and (2) two adult individuals and one preschool-aged child 3 4 and one school-aged child. These income standards will be translated 5 into an equivalent hourly wage rate assuming one full-year, full-time earner for the self-sufficiency income standards for each county. By 6 7 December 31, 2009, the department shall deliver to the appropriate 8 committees of the legislature the self-sufficiency income standards and a report that details the number and percentage of individuals 9 10 statewide and in each county who do not have a good family wage job and, as a result, earn less than the self-sufficiency income standards, 11 12 as well as the number and percentage of individuals statewide and in 13 each county who have a good family wage job and, as a result, earn an 14 amount equivalent to or more than the self-sufficiency income 15 standards.

16 **Sec. 31.** RCW 43.185B.030 and 1993 c 478 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

The affordable housing advisory board shall:

- (1) Analyze those solutions and programs that could begin to address the state's need for housing that is affordable for all economic segments of the state, and special needs populations, including but not limited to programs or proposals which provide for:
- 23 (a) Financing for the acquisition, rehabilitation, preservation, or 24 construction of housing;
  - (b) Use of publicly owned land and buildings as sites for affordable housing;
    - (c) Coordination of state initiatives with federal initiatives and financing programs that are referenced in the Cranston-Gonzalez national affordable housing act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12701 et seq.), as amended, and development of an approved housing strategy as required in the Cranston-Gonzalez national affordable housing act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12701 et seq.), as amended;
- 33 (d) Identification and removal, where appropriate and not 34 detrimental to the public health and safety, or environment, of state
- 35 and local regulatory barriers to the development and placement of

36 affordable housing;

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1 (e) Stimulating public and private sector cooperation in the development of affordable housing; and

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- (f) Development of solutions and programs affecting housing, including the equitable geographic distribution of housing for all economic segments, as the advisory board deems necessary;
- (2) Consider both homeownership and rental housing as viable options for the provision of housing. The advisory board shall give consideration to various types of residential construction and innovative housing options, including but not limited to manufactured housing;
- (3) Review, evaluate, and make recommendations regarding existing and proposed housing programs and initiatives including but not limited to tax policies, land use policies, and financing programs. The advisory board shall provide recommendations to the director, along with the department's response in the annual housing report to the legislature required in RCW 43.185B.040 (as recodified by this act); and
- (4) Prepare and submit to the director <u>and to the legislature</u>, by each December 1st, beginning December 1, 1993, a report ((detailing its)) that (a) details the board's findings and (b) discusses the measurable relationship between jobs paying less than the self-sufficiency income standard, established under section 30 of this act, and housing affordability, and make specific program, legislative, and funding recommendations and any other recommendations it deems appropriate.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 32. A new section is added to chapter 43.185C RCW to read as follows:
- The joint legislative audit and review committee shall conduct two performance audits of the ending homelessness program. The first audit must be conducted by December 31, 2011. The second audit must be conducted by December 31, 2015. Each audit must take no longer than six months or one hundred thousand dollars to complete.
- 33 **Sec. 33.** RCW 43.20A.790 and 1999 c 267 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:
- 35 (1) The department <u>of social and health services</u> shall collaborate 36 with the department ((<del>of community, trade, and economic development</del>))

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- in the development of ((the)) a coordinated and comprehensive plan for homeless families with children ((required under RCW 43.63A.650, which designates the department of community, trade, and economic development as the state agency with primary responsibility for providing shelter and housing services to homeless families with children. In fulfilling its responsibilities to collaborate with the department of community, trade, and economic development pursuant to RCW 43.63A.650,)) that must be integrated into the state ending homelessness strategic plan created in RCW 43.185C.040. The department of social and health services shall develop, administer, supervise, and monitor its portion of the plan((-The department's portion of the plan shall)), which must contain at least the following elements:
  - (a) Coordination or linkage of services with shelter and housing;
  - (b) Accommodation and addressing the needs of homeless families in the design and administration of department programs;
  - (c) Participation of the department's local offices in the identification, assistance, and referral of homeless families; and
  - (d) Ongoing monitoring of the efficiency and effectiveness of the plan's design and implementation.
  - (2) The department shall include community organizations involved in the delivery of services to homeless families with children, and experts in the development and ongoing evaluation of the plan.
  - ((<del>3)</del> The duties under this section shall be implemented within amounts appropriated for that specific purpose by the legislature in the operating and capital budgets.))
- **Sec. 34.** RCW 43.185C.150 and 2005 c 484 s 21 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

This chapter does not require either the department or any local government to expend any funds to accomplish the goals of this chapter other than the revenues authorized in chapter 484, Laws of 2005 and the revenues authorized in RCW 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act). However, neither the department nor any local government may use any funds authorized in chapter 484, Laws of 2005 or the revenues authorized in RCW 36.22.1791 (as recodified by this act) to supplant or reduce any existing expenditures of public money for the reduction or prevention of homelessness or services for homeless persons.

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- NEW SECTION. Sec. 35. The department of community, trade, and 1 2 economic development shall contract with the Washington institute for public policy to conduct a study to determine the most effective, 3 accurate, and comprehensive way for counties and the state of 4 Washington to measure and evaluate the societal cost of homelessness. 5 The department shall not spend more than one hundred thousand dollars 6 7 on the study, and the results of the study must be presented to the 8 appropriate committees of the legislature by June 30, 2010.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 36.** RCW 36.22.179, 36.22.1791, 43.20A.790, and 43.63A.650 are each recodified as sections in chapter 43.185C RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 37. RCW 36.22.178, 43.185A.100, and 43.185B.040 are each recodified as sections in chapter 43.--- RCW (created in section 38 of this act).
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 38. Sections 1 through 4, 6 through 9, and 11 of this act constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 39. The code reviser shall alphabetize and renumber the definitions in RCW 43.185C.010.

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