
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2048

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 1st Special Session

By House Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Representatives Kenney, Darneille, Dunshee, Hasegawa, Green, Upthegrove, Ormsby, Haigh, McCoy, Pedersen, Ryu, Pettigrew, Ladenburg, Moscoso, Hunt, Kagi, Dickerson, Appleton, Sells, Roberts, Reykdal, Frockt, Fitzgibbon, Finn, Goodman, and Rolfes)

READ FIRST TIME 05/13/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to low-income and homeless housing assistance
2 surcharges; amending RCW 36.22.179; adding a new section to chapter
3 43.185C RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.22.179 and 2009 c 462 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) In addition to the surcharge authorized in RCW 36.22.178, and
8 except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, an additional
9 surcharge of ten dollars shall be charged by the county auditor for
10 each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge
11 allowed by law. (~~During the 2009-11 and 2011-13 biennia~~) From July
12 1, 2009, through July 31, 2011, and from July 1, 2015, through June 30,
13 2017, the surcharge shall be thirty dollars. From August 1, 2011,
14 through June 30, 2015, the surcharge shall be forty dollars. The funds
15 collected pursuant to this section are to be distributed and used as
16 follows:

17 (a) The auditor shall retain two percent for collection of the fee,
18 and of the remainder shall remit sixty percent to the county to be
19 deposited into a fund that must be used by the county and its cities

1 and towns to accomplish the purposes of chapter 484, Laws of 2005, six
2 percent of which may be used by the county for administrative costs
3 related to its homeless housing plan, and the remainder for programs
4 which directly accomplish the goals of the county's local homeless
5 housing plan, except that for each city in the county which elects as
6 authorized in RCW 43.185C.080 to operate its own local homeless housing
7 program, a percentage of the surcharge assessed under this section
8 equal to the percentage of the city's local portion of the real estate
9 excise tax collected by the county shall be transmitted at least
10 quarterly to the city treasurer, without any deduction for county
11 administrative costs, for use by the city for program costs which
12 directly contribute to the goals of the city's local homeless housing
13 plan; of the funds received by the city, it may use six percent for
14 administrative costs for its homeless housing program.

15 (b) The auditor shall remit the remaining funds to the state
16 treasurer for deposit in the home security fund account. The
17 department may use twelve and one-half percent of this amount for
18 administration of the program established in RCW 43.185C.020, including
19 the costs of creating the statewide homeless housing strategic plan,
20 measuring performance, providing technical assistance to local
21 governments, and managing the homeless housing grant program. The
22 remaining eighty-seven and one-half percent is to be used by the
23 department to:

24 (i) Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including, but
25 not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters; grants
26 to operate transitional housing; partial payments for rental
27 assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth
28 shelters; and emergency shelter assistance; and

29 (ii) Fund the homeless housing grant program.

30 (2) The surcharge imposed in this section does not apply to (a)
31 assignments or substitutions of previously recorded deeds of trust, or
32 (b) documents recording a birth, marriage, divorce, or death or any
33 documents otherwise exempted from a recording fee under state law.

34 (3) If section 2, chapter . . . , Laws of 2011 (section 2 of this
35 act) is not enacted into law by July 31, 2011, section 1, chapter . .
36 . . , Laws of 2011 (section 1 of this act) is null and void.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.185C
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) As a means of efficiently and cost-effectively providing
4 housing assistance to very-low income and homeless households:

5 (a) Any local government that has the authority to issue housing
6 vouchers, directly or through a contractor, using document recording
7 surcharge funds collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or
8 36.22.1791 must:

9 (i)(A) Maintain an interested landlord list, which at a minimum,
10 includes information on rental properties in buildings with fewer than
11 fifty units;

12 (B) Update the list at least once per quarter;

13 (C) Distribute the list to agencies providing services to
14 individuals and households receiving housing vouchers;

15 (D) Ensure that a copy of the list or information for accessing the
16 list online is provided with voucher paperwork; and

17 (E) Use reasonable best efforts to communicate and interact with
18 landlord and tenant associations located within its jurisdiction to
19 facilitate development, maintenance, and distribution of the list;

20 (ii) Using cost-effective methods of communication, convene, on a
21 semiannual or more frequent basis, landlords represented on the
22 interested landlord list and agencies providing services to individuals
23 and households receiving housing vouchers to identify successes,
24 barriers, and process improvements. The local government is not
25 required to reimburse any participants for expenses related to
26 attendance;

27 (iii) Produce data, limited to document recording fee uses and
28 expenditures, on a calendar year basis in consultation with landlords
29 represented on the interested landlord list and agencies providing
30 services to individuals and households receiving housing vouchers, that
31 include the following: Total amount expended from document recording
32 fees; amount expended on, number of households that received, and
33 number of housing vouchers issued in each of the private, public, and
34 nonprofit markets; amount expended on, number of households that
35 received, and number of housing placement payments provided in each of
36 the private, public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on and
37 number of eviction prevention services provided in the private market;
38 and amount expended on and number of other tenant-based rent assistance

1 services provided in the private market. If these data elements are
2 not readily available, the reporting government may request the
3 department to use the sampling methodology established pursuant to
4 (b)(iii) of this subsection to obtain the data; and

5 (iv) Annually submit the calendar year data to the department by
6 October 1st, with preliminary data submitted by October 1, 2012, and
7 full calendar year data submitted beginning October 1, 2013.

8 (b) The department must:

9 (i) Require contractors that provide housing vouchers to distribute
10 the interested landlord list created by the appropriate local
11 government to individuals and households receiving the housing
12 vouchers;

13 (ii) Using cost-effective methods of communication, annually
14 convene local governments issuing housing vouchers, landlord
15 association representatives, and agencies providing services to
16 individuals and households receiving housing vouchers to identify
17 successes, barriers, and process improvements. The department is not
18 required to reimburse any participants for expenses related to
19 attendance;

20 (iii) Develop a sampling methodology to obtain data required under
21 this section when a local government or contractor does not have such
22 information readily available. The process for developing the sampling
23 methodology must include providing notification to and the opportunity
24 for public comment by local governments issuing housing vouchers,
25 landlord association representatives, and agencies providing services
26 to individuals and households receiving housing vouchers;

27 (iv) Develop a report, limited to document recording fee uses and
28 expenditures, on a calendar year basis in consultation with local
29 governments, landlord association representatives, and agencies
30 providing services to individuals and households receiving housing
31 vouchers, that includes the following: Total amount expended from
32 document recording fees; amount expended on, number of households that
33 received, and number of housing vouchers issued in each of the private,
34 public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on, number of households
35 that received, and number of housing placement payments provided in
36 each of the private, public, and nonprofit markets; amount expended on
37 and number of eviction prevention services provided in the private
38 market; and amount expended on and number of other tenant-based rent

1 assistance services provided in the private market. The information in
2 the report must include data submitted by local governments and data on
3 all additional document recording fee activities for which the
4 department contracted that were not otherwise reported; and

5 (v) Annually submit the calendar year report to the legislature by
6 December 15th, with a preliminary report submitted by December 15,
7 2012, and full calendar year reports submitted beginning December 15,
8 2013.

9 (2) For purposes of this section:

10 (a) "Housing placement payments" means one-time payments, such as
11 first and last month's rent and move-in costs, funded by document
12 recording surcharges collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or
13 36.22.1791 that are made to secure a unit on behalf of a tenant.

14 (b) "Housing vouchers" means payments funded by document recording
15 surcharges collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.178, 36.22.179, or
16 36.22.1791 that are made by a local government or contractor to secure:
17 (i) A rental unit on behalf of an individual tenant; or (ii) a block of
18 units on behalf of multiple tenants.

19 (c) "Interested landlord list" means a list of landlords who have
20 indicated to a local government or contractor interest in renting to
21 individuals or households receiving a housing voucher funded by
22 document recording surcharges.

23 (3) This section expires June 30, 2017.

24 (4) If section 1, chapter . . ., Laws of 2011 (section 1 of this
25 act) is not enacted into law by July 31, 2011, this section is null and
26 void.

--- END ---