
HOUSE BILL 1556

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Mead, Van Werven, Sells, Lovick, Eslick, and Jinkins

Read first time 01/24/19. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of the opportunities for
2 employment in hospitality grant; adding a new chapter to Title 50
3 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise.

8 (1) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the employment
9 security department.

10 (2) "Grant" means the opportunities for employment in hospitality
11 grant established in section 2 of this act.

12 (3) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social
13 and health services.

14 (4) "Targeted population" means persons who are:

15 (a) Experiencing homelessness;

16 (b) Reentering the workforce after an extended absence;

17 (c) A veteran;

18 (d) A spouse of a veteran; or

19 (e) Seeking a job in hospitality.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The opportunities for employment in
2 hospitality grant is established. The purpose of the grant is to
3 increase the number of people from the targeted population employed
4 in the hospitality industry.

5 (2) The entity or person awarded the grant must:

6 (a) Coordinate with the secretary to connect participants with
7 wraparound services available through the department of social and
8 health services for which the entity or person is eligible;

9 (b) Host a minimum of four hiring events: At least three in
10 western Washington; and at least one in eastern Washington;

11 (c) Offer the targeted population postemployment services and
12 training;

13 (d) Create an annual report, jointly with the employment security
14 department and the department of social and health services, that
15 includes data showing the number of individuals from the targeted
16 population served and the number of individuals from the targeted
17 population who are successfully employed in the hospitality industry,
18 and submit it to the relevant committees of the legislature; and

19 (e) Participate in other activities deemed by the commissioner to
20 support the purpose of the grant.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The commissioner shall:

22 (a) Develop and write the grant;

23 (b) Publicly solicit applicants for the grant;

24 (c) Award the grant; and

25 (d) Perform any audits necessary to ensure grant funds are used
26 solely to support the objectives of the grant.

27 (2) The secretary shall coordinate with grant recipients to help
28 refer individuals from the targeted population to wraparound services
29 for which they are eligible.

30 (3) A portion of the grant shall be used to cover the costs
31 incurred by the commissioner and secretary under this section.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of
33 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
34 provided by June 30, 2019, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
35 act is null and void.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any part of this act is found to be in
37 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to

1 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
2 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
3 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not
4 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application
5 to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet
6 federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of
7 federal funds by the state.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act
9 constitute a new chapter in Title 50 RCW.

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