

**SHB 1201 - H AMD 18**

By Representative Leavitt

1 Beginning on page 2, line 13, strike all of sections 2 and 3 and  
2 insert the following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 38.52  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) A political subdivision, under existing plan structures,  
6 shall, to the extent practicable based on available resources and  
7 site-specific circumstances, address cosheltering for emergency  
8 shelters in each update of its local comprehensive emergency  
9 management plan required by RCW 38.52.070.

10 (2) A political subdivision, under existing plan structures,  
11 shall, to the extent practicable based on available resources and  
12 site-specific circumstances, identify emergency shelters able to  
13 accommodate persons with companion animals.

14 (3) Whenever a political subdivision identifies any number of  
15 emergency shelters in response to a natural disaster or extreme  
16 weather event, it should, to the extent practicable, identify at  
17 least one coshelter.

18 (4) An emergency shelter that is identified to accommodate  
19 persons with companion animals must have safety procedures regarding  
20 the sheltering of companion animals and comply with disaster  
21 assistance policies and procedures published by the federal emergency  
22 management agency.

23 (5) A political subdivision shall provide companion animal  
24 emergency preparedness information on its website, including:

25 (a) To the extent practicable, whether each identified emergency  
26 shelter can accommodate companion animals;

27 (b) Information for creating a companion animal evacuation plan  
28 and emergency checklist, consistent with the federal emergency  
29 management agency recommendations; and

30 (c) Identification of local organizations that provide emergency  
31 companion animal assistance.

32 (6) The following definitions apply to this section:

- 1 (a) "Companion animal" means a domesticated animal, such as a dog  
2 or cat, that is commonly kept in the home for pleasure rather than  
3 for commercial purposes;
- 4 (b) "Coshelter" means a temporary shelter that allows an  
5 individual to stay in an adjacent area or the same facility as a  
6 companion animal;
- 7 (c) "Emergency shelter" means a temporary location that provides  
8 basic shelter for individuals affected by an emergency or disaster;  
9 and
- 10 (d) "Existing plan structure" means planning documents describing  
11 how political subdivisions, in collaboration with nonprofit  
12 organizations, and state and federal government, will provide  
13 emergency shelter and temporary housing to individuals displaced by a  
14 disaster."

15 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Makes the following changes:

- Removes the identification of cooling and warming centers that can accommodate companion animals from a political subdivision's update to its local comprehensive emergency management plan.
- Requires a political subdivision to identify emergency shelters that can accommodate companion animals in its existing plan structures.
- Removes definitions of cooling center and warming center.
- Defines an "existing plan structure" as a planning document describing how a political subdivision, in collaboration with nonprofit organizations, the state government, and the federal government will provide emergency shelter and temporary housing to an individual displaced by a disaster.
- Amends the definition of "coshelter" to mean a temporary shelter that allows an individual to stay in an adjacent area or the same facility as a companion animal.

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