
SENATE BILL 5311

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Murray, and Hatfield

Read first time 01/25/13. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to removing the requirement that housing
2 organizations apply to the Washington state quality award program; and
3 amending RCW 43.185C.210.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.185C.210 and 2011 c 353 s 6 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

10 (b) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of
11 becoming homeless and who are receiving services under chapter 13.34
12 RCW;

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

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

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

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

25 (4) Data on all program participants must be entered into and
26 tracked through the Washington homeless client management information
27 system as described in RCW 43.185C.180. For eligible organizations
28 serving victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, compliance with
29 this subsection must be accomplished in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Sec.
30 11383(a)(8).

31 ~~(5) ((a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, beginning in~~
32 ~~2011, each eligible organization receiving over five hundred thousand~~
33 ~~dollars during the previous calendar year from the transitional housing~~
34 ~~operating and rent program and from sources including: (i) State~~
35 ~~housing-related funding sources; (ii) the affordable housing for all~~
36 ~~surcharge in RCW 36.22.178; (iii) the home security fund surcharges in~~
37 ~~RCW 36.22.179 and 36.22.1791; and (iv) any other surcharge imposed~~
38 ~~under chapter 36.22 or 43.185C RCW to fund homelessness programs or~~

1 other housing programs, shall apply to the Washington state quality
2 award program for an independent assessment of its quality management,
3 accountability, and performance system, once every three years.

4 ~~(b) Cities and counties are exempt from the provisions of (a) of~~
5 ~~this subsection until 2018.~~

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

9 ~~((7))~~ (6) The department shall produce an annual transitional
10 housing operating and rent program report that must be included in the
11 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in RCW
12 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be
13 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the following
14 issue areas:

15 (a) The success of the program in helping program participants
16 transition into permanent affordable housing and achieve self-
17 sufficiency or increase their levels of self-sufficiency, which shall
18 be defined by the department based upon the costs of living, including
19 housing costs, needed to support: (i) One adult individual; and (ii)
20 two adult individuals and one preschool-aged child and one school-aged
21 child;

22 (b) The financial performance of the program related to efficient
23 program administration by the department and program operation by
24 selected eligible organizations, including an analysis of the costs per
25 program participant served;

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

29 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance
30 provided through the program.

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