SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1709

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2023 Regular Session

By House Capital Budget (originally sponsored by Representatives Tharinger, Macri, Alvarado, Ramel, and Reed; by request of Department of Commerce)

AN ACT Relating to housing programs administered by the 1 2 department of commerce; amending RCW 43.185.010, 43.185.030, 3 43.185.070, 43.185.074, 43.185.080, 43.185A.010, 43.185A.020, 18.85.311, 31.04.025, 4 43.185A.060, 43.185A.070, 39.35D.080, 5 43.63A.680, 43.79.201, 43.185C.200, 43.185C.210, 47.12.063, 59.24.060, 82.14.400, and 82.45.100; reenacting and amending RCW 6 7 43.185.050; adding new sections to chapter 43.185A RCW; adding a new 8 section to chapter 42.56 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.185B RCW; recodifying RCW 43.185.010, 43.185.030, 43.185.050, 43.185.070, 9 43.185.074, 43.185.080, and 43.185.110; and repealing RCW 43.185.015, 10 43.185.076, 11 43.185.020, 43.185.060, 43.185.090, 43.185.100, 12 43.185.120, 43.185.130, 43.185.140, 43.185.910, 43.185A.030, 43.185A.050, 43.185A.080, 43.185A.090, 13 43.185A.100, 43.185A.110, 43.185A.120, and 43.185A.900. 14

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

16 Sec. 1. RCW 43.185.010 and 1991 c 356 s 1 are each amended to 17 read as follows:

18 The legislature finds that current economic conditions, federal 19 housing policies and declining resources at the federal, state, and 20 local level adversely affect the ability of low and very low-income 21 persons to obtain safe, decent, and affordable housing. 1 The legislature further finds that members of over ((one hundred 2 twenty thousand households live in housing units which are 3 overcrowded, lack plumbing, are otherwise threatening to health and 4 safety, and have rents and utility payments which exceed thirty 5 percent of their income)) 150,000 households pay more than 50 percent 6 of their income for rent and housing costs.

7 The legislature further finds that minorities, rural households, 8 and migrant farmworkers require housing assistance at a rate which 9 significantly exceeds their proportion of the general population.

10 The legislature further finds that one of the most dramatic 11 housing needs is that of persons needing special housing-related 12 services, such as ((the mentally ill)) individuals with mental 13 <u>illness</u>, recovering alcoholics, frail elderly persons, families with 14 members who have disabilities, and single parents. These services 15 include medical assistance, counseling, chore services, and child 16 care.

The legislature further finds that ((housing assistance programs in the past have often failed to help those in greatest need)) state investments in affordable housing, as enabled by the legislature in 1986, have exceeded \$1,800,000,000 to provide over 55,000 units of safe and affordable housing to low-income individuals.

((The legislature declares that it is in the public interest to establish a continuously renewable resource known as the housing trust fund and housing assistance program to assist low and very lowincome citizens in meeting their basic housing needs, and that the needs of very low-income citizens should be given priority and that whenever feasible, assistance should be in the form of loans.))

28 Sec. 2. RCW 43.185.030 and 2016 sp.s. c 36 s 936 are each 29 amended to read as follows:

30 There is hereby created in the state treasury an account to be 31 known as the Washington housing trust fund. The housing trust fund shall include revenue from the sources established by this chapter, 32 appropriations by the legislature, private contributions, repayment 33 of loans, and all other sources. ((During the 2015-2017 fiscal 34 biennium, the legislature may transfer from the Washington housing 35 trust fund to the home security fund account and to the state general 36 37 fund such amounts as reflect the excess balance in the fund.))

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Sec. 3. RCW 43.185.050 and 2021 c 332 s 7032 and 2021 c 130 s 5 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows: 2

3 (1) The department must use moneys from the housing trust fund and other legislative appropriations to finance in whole or in part 4 any loan((s)) or grant projects that will provide <u>affordable</u> housing 5 6 for persons and families with special housing needs and ((with incomes at or below fifty percent of the median family income for the 7 county or standard metropolitan statistical area where the project is 8 located)) who are low-income households. 9

10 (2) At least thirty percent of these moneys used in any given funding cycle must be for the benefit of projects located in rural 11 12 areas of the state as defined by the department. If the department determines that it has not received an adequate number of suitable 13 applications for rural projects during any given funding cycle, the 14 department may allocate unused moneys for projects in nonrural areas 15 16 of the state.

17 (((2))) <u>(3) The department must prioritize allocating at least,</u> but not limited to, 10 percent of these moneys used in any given 18 19 funding cycle to organizations that serve and are substantially governed by individuals disproportionately impacted by homelessness, 20 including black, indigenous, and other people of color and, lesbian, 21 gay, bisexual, queer, transgender, and other gender-diverse 22 individuals. 23

(4) Activities eligible for assistance from the housing trust 24 25 fund and other legislative appropriations include, but are not 26 limited to:

27 (a) New construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of low and 28 very low-income housing units;

29 (b) ((Rent subsidies;

30 (c) Matching funds for social services directly related to 31 providing housing for special-need tenants in assisted projects;

32 (d) Technical)) Preconstruction technical assistance, design and finance services and consultation, and administrative costs for 33 eligible nonprofit community or neighborhood-based organizations; 34

(((e))) <u>(c)</u> Administrative costs for housing assistance groups or 35 organizations when such grant or loan will substantially increase the 36 recipient's access to housing funds other than those available under 37 38 this chapter;

39 ((((f))) (d) Shelters ((and related services)) for the homeless, 40 including emergency shelters and overnight youth shelters;

1 (((g) Mortgage subsidies, including temporary rental and mortgage
2 payment subsidies to prevent homelessness;

3 (h) Mortgage insurance guarantee or payments for eligible
4 projects;

5 (i) Down payment or closing cost assistance for eligible first-6 time home buyers;

7 (j)) (e) Down payment or closing costs assistance for low-income
8 first-time home buyers;

9 <u>(f)</u> Acquisition of housing units for the purpose of preservation 10 as low-income ((or very low-income)) housing;

11 (((k))) <u>(g)</u> Projects making <u>affordable</u> housing <u>projects</u> more 12 accessible to ((families)) <u>low-income households</u> with members who 13 have disabilities; and

14 (((1))) (h) Remodeling and improvements as required to meet 15 building code, licensing requirements, or legal operations to 16 residential properties owned and operated by an entity eligible under 17 RCW 43.185A.040, which were transferred as described in RCW 18 82.45.010(3)(t) by the parent of a child with developmental 19 disabilities.

20 (((3) Preference must be given for projects that include an early 21 learning facility, as defined in RCW 43.31.565.

22 (4))<u>(5)(a)</u> Legislative appropriations from capital bond proceeds 23 may be used ((only)) for the costs of projects authorized under 24 subsection (((2)(a), (i), and (j)))<u>(4)</u> of this section, ((and not 25 for the administrative costs of the department,)) except ((that 26 during the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, the)) for costs of subsection 27 <u>(4)(c) of this section.</u>

28 (b) The department may use up to three percent of the 29 appropriations from capital bond proceeds <u>or other new appropriations</u> 30 <u>for affordable housing investments</u> for administrative costs 31 associated with application, distribution, and project development 32 activities of the <u>affordable</u> housing ((assistance)) program.

33 (c) Reappropriations must not be included in the calculation of
 34 the annual funds available for determining the administrative costs.

35 (((5)))(6)(a) Moneys received from repayment of housing trust 36 fund loans ((from appropriations from capital bond proceeds)) or 37 other affordable housing appropriations may be used for all 38 activities necessary for the proper functioning of the affordable 39 housing ((assistance)) program ((except for activities authorized 40 under subsection (2)(b) and (c) of this section)), including, but not 1 limited to, providing preservation funding, as provided in section 12 2 of this act, and preconstruction technical assistance as provided in 3 RCW 43.185.080 (as recodified by this act).

4 (((6) Administrative costs associated with application, 5 distribution, and project development activities of the department 6 may not exceed three percent of the annual funds available for the 7 housing assistance program. Reappropriations must not be included in 8 the calculation of the annual funds available for determining the 9 administrative costs.

10 (7)) (b) Administrative costs associated with compliance and 11 monitoring activities of the department may not exceed ((one-12 quarter)) four-tenths of one percent annually of the contracted 13 amount of state investment in ((the housing assistance program)) 14 affordable housing programs.

15 Sec. 4. RCW 43.185.070 and 2019 c 325 s 5013 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

(1) During each calendar year in which funds from the housing 17 18 trust fund or other legislative appropriations are available for use by the department for the <u>affordable</u> housing ((assistance)) program, 19 the department must announce to all known interested parties, and 20 ((through major media throughout the state)) on its website, a grant 21 22 and loan application period of at least ((ninety)) 60 days' duration. This announcement must be made as often as the director deems 23 24 appropriate for proper utilization of resources. The department must 25 then promptly grant as many applications as will utilize available funds less appropriate administrative costs of the department as 26 27 provided in RCW 43.185.050 (as recodified by this act).

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(2) In awarding funds under this chapter, the department must:

(a) Provide for a geographic distribution on a statewide basis;and

31 (b) ((Until June 30, 2013, consider)) <u>Consider</u> the total cost and 32 per-unit cost of each project for which an application is submitted 33 for funding ((under RCW 43.185.050(2) (a) and (j))), as compared to 34 similar housing projects constructed or renovated within the same 35 geographic area.

36 (3) ((The department, with advice and input from the affordable 37 housing advisory board established in RCW 43.185B.020, or a 38 subcommittee of the affordable housing advisory board, must report 39 recommendations for awarding funds in a cost-effective manner. The 1 report must include an implementation plan, timeline, and any other
2 items the department identifies as important to consider to the
3 legislature by December 1, 2012.

(4))) The department must give first priority to applications for 4 projects and activities ((which utilize existing privately owned 5 6 housing stock including privately owned housing stock purchased by nonprofit public development authorities and public housing 7 authorities as created in chapter 35.82 RCW. As used in this 8 subsection, privately owned housing stock includes housing that is 9 10 acquired by a federal agency through a default on the mortgage by the private owner. Such projects and activities must be evaluated under 11 subsection (5) of this section. Second priority must be given to 12 activities and projects which utilize existing publicly owned housing 13 stock)) that increase the total number of units of affordable housing 14 15 in the state. All projects and activities must be evaluated by some 16 or all of the criteria under subsection $((\frac{5}{5}))$ (6) of this section, 17 and similar projects and activities shall be evaluated under the same criteria. 18

19 <u>(4) The department must use a separate application form for</u> 20 <u>applications to provide homeownership opportunities and evaluate</u> 21 <u>homeownership project applications as allowed under chapter 43.185A</u> 22 <u>RCW.</u>

(5) <u>The department must collaborate with public entities that</u> finance affordable housing, including the housing finance commission, cities, and counties, in determining the criteria for evaluating applications.

27 <u>(6)</u> The department must give preference for applications based on 28 some or all of the criteria under this subsection, and similar 29 projects and activities must be evaluated under the same criteria:

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

31 (b) The degree of commitment from programs to provide necessary 32 habilitation and support services for projects focusing on special 33 needs populations;

34 (c) Recipient contributions to total project costs, including 35 allied contributions from other sources such as professional, craft 36 and trade services, and lender interest rate subsidies;

37 (d) Local government project contributions in the form of 38 infrastructure improvements, and others;

39 (e) Projects that encourage ownership, management, and other 40 project-related responsibility opportunities; 1 (f) Projects that demonstrate a strong probability of serving the 2 original target group or income level for a period of at least 3 ((twenty-five)) <u>40</u> years;

4 (g) The applicant has the demonstrated ability, stability and 5 resources to implement the project;

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(h) Projects which demonstrate serving the greatest need;

7 (i) Projects that provide housing for persons and families with 8 the lowest incomes;

9 (j) Projects serving special needs populations which ((are 10 under)) <u>fulfill</u> statutory mandates to develop community housing;

11 (k) Project location and access to employment centers in the 12 region or area;

(1) Projects that provide employment and training opportunities for disadvantaged youth under a youthbuild or youthbuild-type program as defined in RCW 50.72.020;

16 (m) Project location and access to available public 17 transportation services; ((and))

(n) Projects involving collaborative partnerships between local school districts and either public housing authorities or nonprofit housing providers, that help children of low-income families succeed in school. To receive this preference, the local school district must provide an opportunity for community members to offer input on the proposed project at the first scheduled school board meeting following submission of the grant application to the department;

25 (o) The degree of funding that has already been committed to the 26 project by nonstate entities; and

27 (p) Projects that demonstrate a strong readiness to proceed to 28 construction.

29 <u>(7) Once the department has determined the prioritization of</u> 30 <u>applications, the department must award funding to the ranked</u> 31 <u>projects at a sufficient level to complete the financing package</u> 32 <u>necessary for an applicant to move forward with the affordable</u> 33 <u>housing project.</u>

34 <u>(8) The department may not establish a maximum per-applicant</u>
35 <u>award.</u>

36 Sec. 5. RCW 43.185.074 and 1987 c 513 s 11 are each amended to 37 read as follows:

38 The director shall designate grant and loan applications for 39 approval and for funding under the revenue from remittances made

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1 pursuant to RCW ((18.85.310. These applications shall then be 2 reviewed for final approval by the broker's trust account board 3 created by RCW 18.85.500.

4 The director shall submit to the broker's trust account board 5 within any fiscal year only such applications which in their 6 aggregate total funding requirements do not exceed the revenue to the 7 housing trust found [fund] from remittances made pursuant to RCW 8 18.85.310 for the previous fiscal year)) 18.85.285.

9 Sec. 6. RCW 43.185.080 and 1991 c 356 s 6 are each amended to 10 read as follows:

11 (1) The department may use moneys from the housing trust fund and other legislative appropriations, ((but not appropriations from 12 capital bond proceeds,)) to provide preconstruction technical 13 assistance to eligible recipients seeking to construct, rehabilitate, 14 or finance housing-related services for very low and low-income 15 16 persons. The department shall emphasize providing preconstruction technical assistance services to rural areas and small cities and 17 towns, to nonprofits serving marginalized communities without a 18 history of receiving housing trust fund or other affordable housing 19 investments, and to other nonprofit community organizations led by 20 and for black, indigenous, and persons of color. The department may 21 22 contract with private and nonprofit organizations to provide this technical assistance. The department may contract for any of the 23 24 following services:

(a) Financial planning and packaging for housing projects,
 including alternative ownership programs, such as limited equity
 partnerships and syndications;

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(b) Project design, architectural planning, and siting;

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(c) Compliance with planning requirements;

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(d) Securing matching resources for project development;

31 (e) Maximizing local government contributions to project 32 development in the form of land donations, infrastructure 33 improvements, waivers of development fees, locally and state-managed 34 funds, zoning variances, or creative local planning;

35 (f) Coordination with local planning, economic development, and 36 environmental, social service, and recreational activities;

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(g) Construction and materials management; and

38 (h) Project maintenance and management.

1 (2) The department shall publish requests for proposals which 2 specify contract performance standards, award criteria, and 3 contractor requirements. In evaluating proposals, the department 4 shall consider the ability of the contractor to provide technical 5 assistance to low and very low-income persons and to persons with 6 special housing needs.

7 Sec. 7. RCW 43.185A.010 and 2013 c 145 s 4 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

9 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 10 this section apply throughout this chapter.

11 (1) "Affordable housing" means residential housing for rental occupancy which, as long as the same is occupied by low-income 12 households, requires payment of monthly housing costs, including 13 utilities other than telephone, of no more than thirty percent of the 14 15 ((family's)) household's income. The department must adopt policies 16 for residential homeownership housing, occupied by low-income households, which specify the percentage of family income that may be 17 18 spent on monthly housing costs, including utilities other than telephone, to qualify as affordable housing. 19

(2) "Contracted amount" ((has the same meaning as provided in RCW
 43.185.020)) means the aggregate amount of all state funding for
 which the department has monitoring and compliance responsibility.

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(4) "Director" means the director of the department of commerce.

(3) "Department" means the department of commerce.

(5) "First-time home buyer" means ((an individual or his or her spouse or domestic partner who have not owned a home during the three-year period prior to purchase of a home)):

28 (a) An individual or the individual's spouse who has had no
29 ownership in a principal residence during the three-year period
30 ending on the date of purchase of the property;

31 (b) A single parent who has only owned a home with a former 32 spouse while married;

33 (c) An individual who is a displaced homemaker as defined in 24 34 C.F.R. Sec. 93.2 as it exists on the effective date of this section, 35 or such subsequent date as may be provided by the department by rule, 36 consistent with the purposes of this section, and has only owned a 37 home with a spouse; (d) An individual who has only owned a principal residence not
 permanently affixed to a permanent foundation in accordance with
 applicable regulations; or

4 <u>(e) An individual who has only owned a property that is</u> 5 <u>determined by a licensed building inspector as being uninhabitable</u>.

6 (6) "Low-income household" means a single person, family or 7 unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is less than 8 eighty percent of the median family income, adjusted for household 9 size, for the county where the project is located.

10 Sec. 8. RCW 43.185A.020 and 1995 c 399 s 103 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

12 The affordable housing program is created in the department for 13 the purpose of developing <u>and preserving affordable housing</u> and 14 coordinating public and private resources targeted to meet the 15 affordable housing needs of low-income households in the state of 16 Washington. The program shall be developed and administered by the 17 department with advice and input from the affordable housing advisory 18 board established in RCW 43.185B.020.

19 Sec. 9. RCW 43.185A.060 and 1991 c 356 s 15 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

21 The department shall adopt policies to ensure that the state's interest will be protected upon either the sale or change of use of 22 23 projects financed in whole or in part under RCW ((43.185A.030(2) (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e))) 43.185.050(4) (as recodified by this act). 24 These policies may include, but are not limited to: (1) Requiring 25 payment to the state of a share of the appreciation in the project in 26 27 proportion to the state's contribution to the project; (2) requiring a lump-sum repayment of the loan or grant upon the sale or change of 28 29 use of the project; or (3) requiring a deferred payment of principal 30 or principal and interest on loans after a specified time period. The policies must require projects to remain as affordable housing for a 31 minimum of 40 years except for projects that provide homes for low-32 income first-time home buyers, which must remain affordable for a 33 34 minimum of 25 years.

35 Sec. 10. RCW 43.185A.070 and 1991 c 356 s 16 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

1 ((The)) (1) To the extent funds are appropriated for this 2 purpose, the director shall monitor the activities of recipients of 3 grants and loans under this chapter to determine compliance with the 4 terms and conditions set forth in its application or stated by the 5 department in connection with the grant or loan.

6 (2) Personally identifiable information of occupants or 7 prospective tenants of affordable housing or the street address of 8 the residential real property occupied or applied for by tenants or 9 prospective tenants of affordable housing, obtained by the department 10 of commerce during monitoring activities or contract administration 11 are exempt from inspection and copying under section 11 of this act.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 42.56 13 RCW to read as follows:

Information obtained by the department of commerce under chapter 43.185A RCW during monitoring activities or contract administration that reveals the name or other personal information of occupants or prospective tenants of affordable housing, or the street address of the residential real property occupied or applied for by tenants or prospective tenants of affordable housing, is exempt from disclosure under this chapter.

21 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 12. A new section is added to chapter 43.185A 22 RCW to read as follows:

(1) In order to maintain the long-term viability of affordable housing, using funding from the housing trust fund account established under RCW 43.185.030 (as recodified by this act) or from other legislative appropriations, the department may make competitive grant or loan awards to projects in need of major building improvements, preservation repairs, or system replacements.

(2) The department must solicit and review applications andevaluate projects based on the following criteria:

(a) The age of the property, with priority given to buildingsthat are more than 15 years old;

33 (b) The population served, with priority given to projects
 34 serving persons or families with the lowest incomes;

35 (c) The degree to which the applicant demonstrates that the 36 improvements will result in a reduction of operating or utility 37 costs, or both; (d) The potential for additional years added to the affordability
 commitment period of the property; and

3 (e) Other criteria that the department considers necessary to 4 achieve the purpose of the housing trust fund program.

5 (3) The department must require an award recipient to submit a 6 property capital needs assessment, in a form acceptable to the 7 department, prior to contract execution.

8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 13. A new section is added to chapter 43.185A 9 RCW to read as follows:

10 (1) The department must report on its website on an annual basis, 11 for each funding cycle:

12 (a) The number of homeownership and multifamily rental projects13 funded;

14 (b) The percentage of funding allocated to homeownership and 15 multifamily rental projects; and

16 (c) For both homeownership and multifamily rental projects, the 17 total number of households being served at up to 80 percent of the 18 area median income, up to 50 percent of the area median income, and 19 up to 30 percent of the area median income.

20 (2) All housing trust fund loan or grant recipients, except for those receiving preservation awards under section 12 of this act, 21 must provide certified final development cost reports to the 22 23 department in a form acceptable to the department. The department 24 must use the certified final development cost reports data as part of 25 its cost containment policy and to report to the legislature. Beginning December 1, 2023, and continuing every odd-numbered year, 26 27 the department must provide the appropriate committees of the 28 legislature with a report of its final cost data for each project funded through the housing trust fund. Such cost data must, at a 29 30 minimum, include:

31 (a) Total development cost per unit for each project completed 32 within the past two complete fiscal years; and

33 (b) Descriptive statistics such as average and median per unit 34 costs, regional cost variation, and other costs that the department 35 deems necessary to improve cost controls and enhance understanding of 36 development costs.

37 (3) The department must coordinate with the housing finance 38 commission to identify relevant development costs data and ensure 39 that the measures are consistent across relevant agencies.

1 Sec. 14. RCW 18.85.311 and 2008 c 23 s 38 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

Remittances received by the state treasurer pursuant to RCW 18.85.285 shall be divided between the housing trust fund created by RCW 43.185.030 (as recodified by this act), which shall receive seventy-five percent and the real estate education program account created by RCW 18.85.321, which shall receive twenty-five percent.

8 Sec. 15. RCW 31.04.025 and 2015 c 229 s 20 are each amended to 9 read as follows:

(1) Each loan made to a resident of this state by a licensee, or persons subject to this chapter, is subject to the authority and restrictions of this chapter.

13 (2) This chapter does not apply to the following:

(a) Any person doing business under, and as permitted by, any law
of this state or of the United States relating to banks, savings
banks, trust companies, savings and loan or building and loan
associations, or credit unions;

18 (b) Entities making loans under chapter 19.60 RCW (pawnbroking);

19 (c) Entities conducting transactions under chapter 63.14 RCW 20 (retail installment sales of goods and services), unless credit is 21 extended to purchase merchandise certificates, coupons, open or 22 closed loop stored value, or other similar items issued and 23 redeemable by a retail seller other than the retail seller extending 24 the credit;

25 (d) Entities making loans under chapter 31.45 RCW (check cashers 26 and sellers);

(e) Any person making a loan primarily for business, commercial,
or agricultural purposes unless the loan is secured by a lien on the
borrower's primary dwelling;

(f) Any person selling property owned by that person who provides financing for the sale when the property does not contain a dwelling and when the property serves as security for the financing. This exemption is available for five or fewer transactions in a calendar year. This exemption is not available to individuals subject to the federal S.A.F.E. act or any person in the business of constructing or acting as a contractor for the construction of residential dwellings;

37 (g) Any person making loans made to government or government 38 agencies or instrumentalities or making loans to organizations as 39 defined in the federal truth in lending act;

(h) Entities making loans under chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW
 (housing trust fund);

3 (i) Entities making loans under programs of the United States 4 department of agriculture, department of housing and urban 5 development, or other federal government program that provides 6 funding or access to funding for single-family housing developments 7 or grants to low-income individuals for the purchase or repair of 8 single-family housing;

9 (j) Nonprofit housing organizations making loans, or loans made, 10 under housing programs that are funded in whole or in part by federal 11 or state programs if the primary purpose of the programs is to assist 12 low-income borrowers with purchasing or repairing housing or the 13 development of housing for low-income Washington state residents;

14 (k) Entities making loans which are not residential mortgage 15 loans under a credit card plan;

(1) Individuals employed by a licensed residential mortgage loan servicing company engaging in activities related to servicing, unless licensing is required by federal law or regulation; and

(m) Entities licensed under chapter 18.44 RCW that process payments on seller-financed loans secured by liens on real or personal property.

(3) The director may, at his or her discretion, waive applicability of the consumer loan company licensing provisions of this chapter to other persons, not including individuals subject to the S.A.F.E. act, making or servicing loans when the director determines it necessary to facilitate commerce and protect consumers.

(4) The burden of proving the application for an exemption or exception from a definition, or a preemption of a provision of this chapter, is upon the person claiming the exemption, exception, or preemption.

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(5) The director may adopt rules interpreting this section.

32 Sec. 16. RCW 39.35D.080 and 2005 c 12 s 12 are each amended to 33 read as follows:

Except as provided in this section, affordable housing projects funded out of the state capital budget are exempt from the provisions of this chapter. On or before July 1, 2008, the department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) commerce shall identify, implement, and apply a sustainable building program for affordable housing projects that receive housing trust fund (under

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1 chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW) funding in a state capital budget. The department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) 2 commerce shall not develop its own sustainable building standard, but 3 shall work with stakeholders to adopt an existing sustainable 4 building standard or criteria appropriate for affordable housing. Any 5 6 application of the program to affordable housing, including any monitoring to track the performance of either sustainable features or 7 energy standards or both, is the responsibility of the department of 8 ((community, trade, and economic development)) commerce. Beginning in 9 10 2009 and ending in 2016, the department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) <u>commerce</u> shall report to the department as 11 12 required under RCW 39.35D.030(3)(b).

13 Sec. 17. RCW 43.63A.680 and 1993 c 478 s 19 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1) The department may develop and administer a home-matching program for the purpose of providing grants and technical assistance to eligible organizations to operate local home-matching programs. For purposes of this section, "eligible organizations" are those organizations eligible to receive assistance through the Washington housing trust fund, chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW.

21 (2) The department may select up to five eligible organizations 22 for the purpose of implementing a local home-matching program. The local home-matching programs are designed to 23 facilitate: (a) 24 Intergenerational homesharing involving older homeowners sharing 25 homes with younger persons; (b) homesharing arrangements that involve an exchange of services such as cooking, housework, gardening, or 26 27 babysitting for room and board or some financial consideration such as rent; and (c) the more efficient use of available housing. 28

29 (3) In selecting local pilot programs under this section, the 30 department shall consider:

(a) The eligible organization's ability, stability, and resourcesto implement the local home-matching program;

33 (b) The eligible organization's efforts to coordinate other 34 support services needed by the individual or family participating in 35 the local home-matching program; and

36 (c) Other factors the department deems appropriate.

37 (4) The eligible organizations shall establish criteria for 38 participation in the local home-matching program. The eligible 39 organization shall make a determination of eligibility regarding the

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individuals' or families' participation in the local home-matching program. The determination shall include, but is not limited to a verification of the individual's or family's history of making rent payments in a consistent and timely manner.

5 **Sec. 18.** RCW 43.79.201 and 2016 sp.s. c 36 s 930 are each 6 amended to read as follows:

7 The charitable, educational, penal and reformatory (1)institutions account is hereby created, in the state treasury, into 8 which account there shall be deposited all moneys arising from the 9 10 sale, lease or transfer of the land granted by the United States 11 government to the state for charitable, educational, penal and reformatory institutions by section 17 of the enabling act, or 12 otherwise set apart for such institutions, except all moneys arising 13 from the sale, lease, or transfer of that certain one hundred 14 15 thousand acres of such land assigned for the support of the 16 University of Washington by chapter 91, Laws of 1903 and section 9, 17 chapter 122, Laws of 1893.

18 (2) If feasible, not less than one-half of all income to the charitable, educational, penal, and reformatory institutions account 19 20 shall be appropriated for the purpose of providing housing, including 21 repair and renovation of state institutions, for persons with mental illness or developmental disabilities, or youth who are blind, deaf, 22 or otherwise disabled. If moneys are appropriated for community-based 23 24 housing, the moneys shall be appropriated to the department of 25 commerce for the housing assistance program under chapter ((43.185))43.185A RCW. During the 2015-2017 fiscal biennium, the legislature 26 27 may transfer from the charitable, educational, penal and reformatory 28 institutions account to the state general fund such amounts as reflect excess fund balance of the account. 29

30 Sec. 19. RCW 43.185C.200 and 2007 c 483 s 604 are each amended 31 to read as follows:

(1) The department of ((community, trade, and economic
 development)) commerce shall establish a pilot program to provide
 grants to eligible organizations, as described in RCW ((43.185.060))
 43.185A.040, to provide transitional housing assistance to offenders
 who are reentering the community and are in need of housing.

37 (2) There shall be a minimum of two pilot programs established in38 two counties. The pilot programs shall be selected through a request

1 for proposal process and in consultation with the department of 2 corrections. The department shall select the pilot sites by January 3 1, 2008.

4

(3) The pilot program shall:

5 (a) Be operated in collaboration with the community justice 6 center existing in the location of the pilot site;

7 (b) Offer transitional supportive housing that includes 8 individual support and mentoring available on an ongoing basis, life 9 skills training, and close working relationships with community 10 justice centers and community corrections officers. Supportive 11 housing services can be provided directly by the housing operator, or 12 in partnership with community-based organizations;

(c) In providing assistance, give priority to offenders who are designated as high risk or high needs as well as those determined not to have a viable release plan by the department of corrections;

16 (d) Optimize available funding by utilizing cost-effective 17 community-based shared housing arrangements or other noninstitutional 18 living arrangements; and

(e) Provide housing assistance for a period of time not to exceedtwelve months for a participating offender.

(4) The department may also use up to twenty percent of the funding appropriated in the operating budget for this section to support the development of additional supportive housing resources for offenders who are reentering the community.

25

(5) The department shall:

(a) Collaborate with the department of corrections in developing
 criteria to determine who will qualify for housing assistance; and

(b) Gather data, and report to the legislature by November 1, 2008, on the number of offenders seeking housing, the number of 30 offenders eligible for housing, the number of offenders who receive 31 the housing, and the number of offenders who commit new crimes while 32 residing in the housing to the extent information is available.

33 (6) The department of corrections shall collaborate with 34 organizations receiving grant funds to:

35 (a) Help identify appropriate housing solutions in the community 36 for offenders;

37 (b) Where possible, facilitate an offender's application for 38 housing prior to discharge; 1 (c) Identify enhancements to training provided to offenders prior 2 to discharge that may assist an offender in effectively transitioning 3 to the community;

4 (d) Maintain communication between the organization receiving
5 grant funds, the housing provider, and corrections staff supervising
6 the offender; and

7 (e) Assist the offender in accessing resources and services
8 available through the department of corrections and a community
9 justice center.

10 (7) The state, department of ((community, trade, and economic 11 development)) commerce, department of corrections, local governments, 12 local housing authorities, eligible organizations as described in RCW 13 ((43.185.060)) 43.185A.040, and their employees are not liable for 14 civil damages arising from the criminal conduct of an offender solely 15 due to the placement of an offender in housing provided under this 16 section or the provision of housing assistance.

17 (8) Nothing in this section allows placement of an offender into 18 housing without an analysis of the risk the offender may pose to that 19 particular community or other residents.

20 Sec. 20. RCW 43.185C.210 and 2020 c 155 s 1 are each amended to 21 read as follows:

(1) The transitional housing operating and rent program is created in the department to assist individuals and families who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless to secure and retain safe, decent, and affordable housing. The department shall provide grants to eligible organizations, as described in RCW ((43.185.060)) 43.185A.040, to provide assistance to program participants. The eligible organizations must use grant moneys for:

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

32 (b) Case management services designed to assist program 33 participants to secure and retain immediate housing and to transition 34 into permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency;

35 (c) Operating expenses of transitional housing facilities that 36 serve homeless families with children; and

37 (d) Administrative costs of the eligible organization, which must38 not exceed limits prescribed by the department.

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

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

6 (b) Families with children who are homeless or who are at risk of 7 becoming homeless and who are receiving services under chapter 13.34 8 RCW;

9 (c) Individuals or families without children who are homeless or 10 at risk of becoming homeless and who have household incomes at or 11 below thirty percent of the median household income for their county;

12 (d) Individuals or families who are homeless or who are at risk 13 of becoming homeless and who have a household with an adult member 14 who has a mental health or chemical dependency disorder; and

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

19 (3) All program participants must be willing to create and 20 actively participate in a housing stability plan for achieving 21 permanent housing and greater levels of self-sufficiency.

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

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

31 (6) The department shall produce an annual transitional housing 32 operating and rent program report that must be included in the 33 department's homeless housing strategic plan as described in RCW 34 43.185C.040. The report must include performance measures to be 35 determined by the department that address, at a minimum, the 36 following issue areas:

(a) The success of the program in helping program participants
 transition into permanent affordable housing and achieve self sufficiency or increase their levels of self-sufficiency, which shall
 be defined by the department based upon the costs of living,

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including housing costs, needed to support: (i) One adult individual; and (ii) two adult individuals and one preschool-aged child and one school-aged child;

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

8 (c) The quality, completeness, and timeliness of the information 9 on program participants provided to the Washington homeless client 10 management information system database; and

11 (d) The satisfaction of program participants in the assistance 12 provided through the program.

13 Sec. 21. RCW 47.12.063 and 2022 c 186 s 710 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

15 (1) It is the intent of the legislature to continue the 16 department's policy giving priority consideration to abutting 17 property owners in agricultural areas when disposing of property 18 through its surplus property program under this section.

(2) Whenever the department determines that any real property 19 20 owned by the state of Washington and under the jurisdiction of the 21 department is no longer required for transportation purposes and that it is in the public interest to do so, the department may sell the 22 property or exchange it in full or part consideration for land or 23 24 building improvements or for construction of highway improvements at 25 fair market value to any person through the solicitation of written bids through public advertising in the manner prescribed under RCW 26 27 47.28.050 or in the manner prescribed under RCW 47.12.283.

(3) The department may forego the processes prescribed by RCW
 47.28.050 and 47.12.283 and sell the real property to any of the
 following entities or persons at fair market value:

31

(a) Any other state agency;

32 (b) The city or county in which the property is situated;

33 (c) Any other municipal corporation;

34 (d) Regional transit authorities created under chapter 81.112 35 RCW;

36 (e) The former owner of the property from whom the state acquired 37 title; 1 (f) In the case of residentially improved property, a tenant of 2 the department who has resided thereon for not less than six months 3 and who is not delinquent in paying rent to the state;

4 (g) Any abutting private owner but only after each other abutting 5 private owner (if any), as shown in the records of the county 6 assessor, is notified in writing of the proposed sale. If more than 7 one abutting private owner requests in writing the right to purchase 8 the property within 15 days after receiving notice of the proposed 9 sale, the property shall be sold at public auction in the manner 10 provided in RCW 47.12.283;

11 (h) To any other owner of real property required for 12 transportation purposes;

(i) In the case of property suitable for residential use, any nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing to very low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households as defined in RCW 43.63A.510 and is eligible to receive assistance through the Washington housing trust fund created in chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW;

(j) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, any nonprofit organization that identifies real property to be sold or conveyed as a substitute for real property owned by the nonprofit within the city of Seattle to be redeveloped for the purpose of affordable housing; or

(k) A federally recognized Indian tribe within whose reservationboundary the property is located.

(4) When selling real property pursuant to RCW 47.12.283, the 26 department may withhold or withdraw the property from an auction when 27 requested by one of the entities or persons listed in subsection (3) 28 of this section and only after the receipt of a nonrefundable deposit 29 equal to 10 percent of the fair market value of the real property or 30 31 \$5,000, whichever is less. This subsection does not prohibit the 32 department from exercising its discretion to withhold or withdraw the 33 real property from an auction if the department determines that the property is no longer surplus or chooses to sell the property through 34 one of the other means listed in subsection (2) of this section. If a 35 transaction under this subsection is not completed within 60 days, 36 the real property must be put back up for sale. 37

(5) Sales to purchasers may, at the department's option, be for cash, by real estate contract, or exchange of land or highway improvements. Transactions involving the construction of improvements 1 must be conducted pursuant to chapter 47.28 RCW and Title 39 RCW, as 2 applicable, and must comply with all other applicable laws and rules.

3 (6) Conveyances made pursuant to this section shall be by deed 4 executed by the secretary of transportation and shall be duly 5 acknowledged.

6 (7) Unless otherwise provided, all moneys received pursuant to 7 the provisions of this section less any real estate broker 8 commissions paid pursuant to RCW 47.12.320 shall be deposited in the 9 motor vehicle fund.

10 (8) The department may not enter into equal value exchanges or 11 property acquisitions for building improvements without first 12 consulting with the office of financial management and the joint 13 transportation committee.

14 Sec. 22. RCW 59.24.060 and 1995 c 399 s 159 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 The department of ((community, trade, and economic development)) 17 commerce may receive such gifts, grants, or endowments from public or private sources, as may be made from time to time, in trust or 18 otherwise, to be used by the department of ((community, trade, and 19 economic development)) commerce for its programs, including the 20 21 rental security deposit guarantee program. Funds from the housing 22 trust fund, chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW, up to one hundred 23 thousand dollars, may be used for the rental security deposit 24 guarantee program by the department of ((community, trade, and 25 economic development)) commerce, local governments, and nonprofit organizations, provided all the requirements of this chapter and 26 27 chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW are met.

28 Sec. 23. RCW 82.14.400 and 2020 c 139 s 24 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

30 (1) Upon the joint request of a metropolitan park district, a city with a population of more than one hundred fifty thousand, and a 31 county legislative authority in a county with a national park and a 32 population of more than five hundred thousand and less than one 33 million five hundred thousand, the county must submit an authorizing 34 proposition to the county voters, fixing and imposing a sales and use 35 tax in accordance with this chapter for the purposes designated in 36 37 subsection (4) of this section and identified in the joint request. Such proposition must be placed on a ballot for a special or general 38

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1 election to be held no later than one year after the date of the 2 joint request.

3 (2) The proposition is approved if it receives the votes of a 4 majority of those voting on the proposition.

5 (3) The tax authorized in this section is in addition to any 6 other taxes authorized by law and must be collected from those 7 persons who are taxable by the state under chapters 82.08 and 82.12 8 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within the county. The 9 rate of tax must equal no more than one-tenth of one percent of the 10 selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article 11 used, in the case of a use tax.

(4) Moneys received from any tax imposed under this section mustbe used solely for the purpose of providing funds for:

(a) Costs associated with financing, design, acquisition,
construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling,
repairing, reequipping, or improvement of zoo, aquarium, and wildlife
preservation and display facilities that are currently accredited by
the American zoo and aquarium association; or

(b) Those costs associated with (a) of this subsection and costs related to parks located within a county described in subsection (1) of this section.

22 (5) The department must perform the collection of such taxes on 23 behalf of the county at no cost to the county. In lieu of the charge for the administration and collection of local sales and use taxes 24 under RCW 82.14.050 from which the county is exempt under this 25 26 subsection (5), a percentage of the tax revenues authorized by this section equal to one-half of the maximum percentage provided in RCW 27 82.14.050 must be transferred annually to the department of commerce, 28 or its successor agency, from the funds allocated under subsection 29 (6) (b) of this section for a period of twelve years from the first 30 31 date of distribution of funds under subsection (6)(b) of this section. The department of commerce, or its successor agency, must 32 use funds transferred to it pursuant to this subsection (5) to 33 provide, operate, and maintain community-based housing under chapter 34 ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW for individuals with mental illness. 35

36 (6) If the joint request and the authorizing proposition include 37 provisions for funding those costs included within subsection (4)(b) 38 of this section, the tax revenues authorized by this section must be 39 allocated annually as follows:

40

(a) Fifty percent to the zoo and aquarium advisory authority; and

1 (b) Fifty percent to be distributed on a per capita basis as set out in the most recent population figures for unincorporated and 2 incorporated areas only within that county, as determined by the 3 office of financial management, solely for parks, as follows: To any 4 metropolitan park district, to cities and towns not contained within 5 6 a metropolitan park district, and the remainder to the county. Moneys received under this subsection (6) (b) by a county may not be used to 7 replace or supplant existing per capita funding. 8

9 (7) Funds must be distributed annually by the county treasurer to 10 the county, and cities and towns located within the county, in the 11 manner set out in subsection (6)(b) of this section.

12 (8) Prior to expenditure of any funds received by the county 13 under subsection (6)(b) of this section, the county must establish a 14 process which considers needs throughout the unincorporated areas of 15 the county in consultation with community advisory councils 16 established by ordinance.

(9) By December 31, 2005, and thereafter, the county or any city with a population greater than eighty thousand must provide at least one dollar match for every two dollars received under this section.

(10) Properties subject to a memorandum of agreement between the federal bureau of land management, the advisory council on historic preservation, and the Washington state historic preservation officer have priority for funding from money received under subsection (6)(b) of this section for implementation of the stipulations in the memorandum of agreement.

(a) At least one hundred thousand dollars of the first four years
of allocations under subsection (6) (b) of this section, to be matched
by the county or city with one dollar for every two dollars received,
must be used to implement the stipulations of the memorandum of
agreement and for other historical, archaeological, architectural,
and cultural preservation and improvements related to the properties.

32 (b) The amount in (a) of this subsection must come equally from 33 the allocations to the county and to the city in which the properties 34 are located, unless otherwise agreed to by the county and the city.

35 (c) The amount in (a) of this subsection may not be construed to 36 displace or be offered in lieu of any lease payment from a county or 37 city to the state for the properties in question.

38 Sec. 24. RCW 82.45.100 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 23 s 211 are each 39 amended to read as follows: 1 (1) Payment of the tax imposed under this chapter is due and 2 payable immediately at the time of sale, and if not paid within one 3 month thereafter will bear interest from the time of sale until the 4 date of payment.

5 (a) Interest imposed before January 1, 1999, is computed at the 6 rate of one percent per month.

7 (b) Interest imposed after December 31, 1998, is computed on a 8 monthly basis at the rate as computed under RCW 82.32.050(2). The 9 rate so computed must be adjusted on the first day of January of each 10 year for use in computing interest for that calendar year. The 11 department must provide written notification to the county treasurers 12 of the variable rate on or before December 1st of the year preceding 13 the calendar year in which the rate applies.

14 (2) In addition to the interest described in subsection (1) of this section, if the payment of any tax is not received by the county 15 16 treasurer or the department of revenue, as the case may be, within 17 one month of the date due, there is assessed a penalty of five percent of the amount of the tax; if the tax is not received within 18 two months of the date due, there will be assessed a total penalty of 19 ten percent of the amount of the tax; and if the tax is not received 20 21 within three months of the date due, there will be assessed a total penalty of twenty percent of the amount of the tax. The payment of 22 the penalty described in this subsection is collectible from the 23 seller only, and RCW 82.45.070 does not apply to the penalties 24 25 described in this subsection.

(3) If the tax imposed under this chapter is not received by the due date, the transferee is personally liable for the tax, along with any interest as provided in subsection (1) of this section, unless an instrument evidencing the sale is recorded in the official real property records of the county in which the property conveyed is located.

upon examination of any affidavits or 32 (4) If from other information obtained by the department or its agents it appears that 33 all or a portion of the tax is unpaid, the department must assess 34 against the taxpayer the additional amount found to be due plus 35 36 interest and penalties as provided in subsections (1) and (2) of this section. 37 The department must notify the taxpayer by mail, or electronically as provided in RCW 82.32.135, of the additional amount 38 and the same becomes due and must be paid within thirty days from the 39

1 date of the notice, or within such further time as the department may 2 provide.

3 (5) No assessment or refund may be made by the department more 4 than four years after the date of sale except upon a showing of:

5 (a) Fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact by the 6 taxpayer;

7 (b) A failure by the taxpayer to record documentation of a sale 8 or otherwise report the sale to the county treasurer; or

9 (c) A failure of the transferror or transferree to report the sale 10 under RCW 82.45.090(2).

(6) Penalties collected on taxes due under this chapter under subsection (2) of this section and RCW 82.32.090 (2) through (8) must be deposited in the housing trust fund as described in chapter ((43.185)) 43.185A RCW.

 NEW SECTION.
 Sec.
 25.
 (1)
 RCW
 43.185.010,
 43.185.030,

 16
 43.185.050,
 43.185.070,
 43.185.074,
 and
 43.185.080
 are
 each

 17
 recodified as sections in chapter
 43.185A RCW.

18 (2) RCW 43.185.110 is recodified as a section in chapter 43.185B19 RCW.

20 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 26. The following acts or parts of acts are 21 each repealed: (1) RCW 43.185.015 (Housing assistance program) and 1995 c 399 s 22 23 100 & 1991 c 356 s 2; 24 (2) RCW 43.185.020 (Definitions) and 2013 c 145 s 1, 2009 c 565 s 25 37, 1995 c 399 s 101, & 1986 c 298 s 3; 26 (3) RCW 43.185.060 (Eligible organizations) and 2019 c 325 s 5012, 2014 c 225 s 61, 1994 c 160 s 2, 1991 c 295 s 1, & 1986 c 298 s 27 28 7;

(4) RCW 43.185.076 (Low-income housing grants and loans—Approval
—License education programs) and 1988 c 286 s 3 & 1987 c 513 s 10;

31 (5) RCW 43.185.090 (Compliance monitoring) and 1986 c 298 s 10; 32 (6) RCW 43.185.100 (Rule-making authority) and 1987 c 513 s 2 & 33 1986 c 298 s 11;

34 (7) RCW 43.185.120 (Protection of state's interest) and 1991 c 35 356 s 7;

36 (8) RCW 43.185.130 (Application process—Distribution procedure) 37 and 2006 c 349 s 3;

(9) RCW 43.185.140 (Findings-Review of all housing properties-1 2 Energy audits) and 2009 c 379 s 301; 3 (10) RCW 43.185.910 (Conflict with federal requirements-1991 c 356) and 1991 c 356 s 8; 4 5 (11) RCW 43.185A.030 (Activities eligible for assistance) and 2013 c 145 s 5 & 2011 1st sp.s. c 50 s 954; 6 (12) RCW 43.185A.050 (Grant and loan application process—Report) 7 and 2013 c 145 s 6, 2012 c 235 s 2, & 1991 c 356 s 14; 8 9 (13) RCW 43.185A.080 (Rules) and 1991 c 356 s 17; 10 (14) RCW 43.185A.090 (Application process—Distribution procedure) 11 and 2006 c 349 s 4; 12 (15) RCW 43.185A.100 (Housing programs and services-Review of 13 reporting requirements-Report to the legislature) and 2006 c 349 s 14 11; 15 (16)RCW 43.185A.110 (Affordable housing land acquisition revolving loan fund program) and 2017 c 274 s 1, 2008 c 112 s 1, & 16 2007 c 428 s 2; 17 (17) RCW 43.185A.120 (Affordable housing and community facilities 18 19 rapid response loan program) and 2008 c 112 s 2; and 20 (18) RCW 43.185A.900 (Short title) and 1991 c 356 s 9.

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