
SENATE BILL 6338

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senators Dammeier, Darneille, Angel, Keiser, and Honeyford

1 AN ACT Relating to giving preferences to housing trust fund
2 projects that involve collaboration between local school districts and
3 housing authorities to help children of low-income families succeed in
4 school; and amending RCW 43.185.070.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.185.070 and 2013 c 145 s 3 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) During each calendar year in which funds from the housing trust
9 fund or other legislative appropriations are available for use by the
10 department for the housing assistance program, the department must
11 announce to all known interested parties, and through major media
12 throughout the state, a grant and loan application period of at least
13 ninety days' duration. This announcement must be made as often as the
14 director deems appropriate for proper utilization of resources. The
15 department must then promptly grant as many applications as will
16 utilize available funds less appropriate administrative costs of the
17 department as provided in RCW 43.185.050.

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

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

1 (b) Until June 30, 2013, consider the total cost and per-unit cost
2 of each project for which an application is submitted for funding under
3 RCW 43.185.050(2) (a) and (j), as compared to similar housing projects
4 constructed or renovated within the same geographic area.

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

12 (4) The department must give first priority to applications for
13 projects and activities which utilize existing privately owned housing
14 stock including privately owned housing stock purchased by nonprofit
15 public development authorities and public housing authorities as
16 created in chapter 35.82 RCW. As used in this subsection, privately
17 owned housing stock includes housing that is acquired by a federal
18 agency through a default on the mortgage by the private owner. Such
19 projects and activities must be evaluated under subsection (5) of this
20 section. Second priority must be given to activities and projects
21 which utilize existing publicly owned housing stock. All projects and
22 activities must be evaluated by some or all of the criteria under
23 subsection (5) of this section, and similar projects and activities
24 shall be evaluated under the same criteria.

25 (5) The department must give preference for applications based on
26 some or all of the criteria under this subsection, and similar projects
27 and activities must be evaluated under the same criteria:

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

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

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

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

37 (e) Projects that encourage ownership, management, and other
38 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 twenty-
- 3 five years;
- 4 (g) The applicant has the demonstrated ability, stability and
- 5 resources to implement the project;
- 6 (h) Projects which demonstrate serving the greatest need;
- 7 (i) Projects that provide housing for persons and families with the
- 8 lowest incomes;
- 9 (j) Projects serving special needs populations which are under
- 10 statutory mandate to develop community housing;
- 11 (k) Project location and access to employment centers in the region
- 12 or area;
- 13 (l) Projects that provide employment and training opportunities for
- 14 disadvantaged youth under a youthbuild or youthbuild-type program as
- 15 defined in RCW 50.72.020; (~~and~~)
- 16 (m) Project location and access to available public transportation
- 17 services; and
- 18 (n) Projects involving collaborative partnerships between local
- 19 school districts and public housing authorities that help children of
- 20 low-income families succeed in school.
- 21 (6) The department may only approve applications for projects for
- 22 persons with mental illness that are consistent with a regional support
- 23 network six-year capital and operating plan.

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