
BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: I-2350.1/11

ATTY/TYPIST: AL:lel

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

1 AN ACT Relating to ending hunger in Washington state by empowering
2 local organizations and community groups and supporting emergency meal
3 programs for the infirm and the needy; amending RCW 43.23.290; adding
4 a new section to chapter 43.23 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this act is to provide
7 emergency supplemental food assistance and extend access to vital
8 services to poor and disadvantaged persons.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.23 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The department shall coordinate services to communities that
12 are directed to the poor and disadvantaged through private and public
13 nonprofit organizations and units of general purpose local governments.
14 The department shall coordinate these programs using, to the extent
15 possible, integrated case management methods, with other community and
16 economic development efforts that promote self-sufficiency.

17 (2) The department realizes the need for separate and continued
18 funding of emergency food assistance programs, because of the

1 distinctly different needs of the populations served, therefore the
2 department shall provide local communities and undernourished
3 populations with these programs. The programs must include, but not be
4 limited to, funding and support of both food banks and food
5 distribution centers, as well as ready-to-eat food programs and hot
6 meal programs.

7 (3) The services described in subsections (2) and (3) of this
8 section may include, but not be limited to, nutrition or health
9 education services to low-income families, providing for human service
10 needs and advocacy, promoting volunteerism and citizen service as a
11 means for accomplishing local community and economic development goals,
12 and providing for human service needs through community-based
13 organizations.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.23.290 and 2010 c 68 s 1 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 The director of the department may exercise powers and duties with
17 respect to the administration of food assistance programs in the
18 department. It is the intent of the legislature in administering the
19 food assistance programs transferred to the department by chapter 68,
20 Laws of 2010, that programs continue to be provided through community-
21 based organizations. It is the intent of the legislature that in
22 accepting the administration of food assistance programs, the
23 department's core programs administered by the department by July 1,
24 2010, not be impacted.

25 The people of the state of Washington find that there is a need for
26 separate funding and administration of the two major types of food
27 assistance programs, meal providers and food banks, due to the
28 distinctly different needs of the populations served. It is the intent
29 of the people of the state of Washington that the funding of both meal
30 programs and food distribution be a priority. It is the intent of the
31 people of Washington that the department coordinate with nonprofit
32 organizations on the regional level to identify and support community
33 efforts to feed the hungry.

34 The director of the department may adopt rules necessary to
35 implement the food assistance programs.

36 The director may enter into contracts and agreements to implement

1 food assistance programs, including contracts and agreements with the
2 United States department of agriculture, to implement federal food
3 assistance programs.

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