

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Emergency Services Grants and Transitional Housing

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Overview

This bill appropriates money for emergency services grants and transitional housing. Emergency services grants provide homeless persons essential services and emergency shelter in safe, sanitary, and decent facilities. The grant program is to help eligible organizations improve the quality of existing shelters, make available other emergency housing, meet the operating and maintenance costs of shelters, and provide essential services to homeless persons.

The transitional housing program makes grants to eligible recipients to initiate, maintain, or expand programs to provide transitional housing and support services for persons in need of transitional housing, which may include up to six months of follow-up support services for persons who complete transitional housing as they stabilize in permanent housing. The commissioner must ensure that money appropriated to implement this section is distributed as soon as practicable. The commissioner may make grants directly to eligible recipients. The commissioner may use up to 10 percent of the appropriation available for this program for persons needing assistance longer than 24 months.

- 1** **Emergency services grants; transitional housing.** Paragraph (a) appropriates unspecified amounts from the general fund to the commissioner of human services for the 2012-2013 biennium for transitional housing programs and emergency services grants.

Paragraph (b) specifies that no more than 5 percent of this appropriation is available for administrative expenses. Specifies that this appropriation is in addition to any base funding and becomes part of the agency's base.