2019 SENATE BILL 122

March 20, 2019 - Introduced by Senators DARLING, CARPENTER and L. TAYLOR, cosponsored by Representatives STEINEKE, RODRIGUEZ, SNYDER, PRONSCINSKIE, KURTZ, PLUMER, DITTRICH, JAMES, TITTL, MURSAU, FELZKOWSKI, SPIROS, STEFFEN, ALLEN, DUCHOW, ROHRKASTE, KULP, PETRYK, PETERSEN, THIESFELDT, KITCHENS, EDMING, SCHRAA, KRUG, MURPHY and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Local Government, Small Business, Tourism and Workforce Development.

AN ACT to renumber and amend 16.308 (3m); and to create 16.308 (3m) (b) to (i) and 16.308 (3s) of the statutes; relating to: grants to homeless shelters, modifying administrative rules promulgated by the Department of Administration, and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides an additional $500,000 in each fiscal year of the 2019-21 fiscal biennium for grants to supplement the operating budgets of homeless shelters. The bill also includes additional criteria the Department of Administration must consider in awarding that additional grant money and amends administrative rules of DOA concerning the grants so that DOA’s rules are consistent with certain statutory requirements.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 16.308 (3m) of the statutes is renumbered 16.308 (3m) (intro.) and amended to read:
16.308 (3m) **Grant Eligibility.** (intro.) In awarding grants under this section, the department shall consider whether all of the following:

(a) Whether the community in which an eligible applicant provides services has a coordinated system of services for homeless individuals and families.

**SECTION 2.** 16.308 (3m) (b) to (i) of the statutes are created to read:

16.308 (3m) (b) The number of shelter days the eligible applicant intends to provide during the year for which the grant application is submitted.

(c) The eligible applicant’s history of successfully transitioning homeless individuals or families to permanent housing.

(d) Whether the eligible applicant provides intensive case management services.

(e) Whether the eligible applicant provides trauma-informed care.

(f) Whether the eligible applicant provides opportunities for shelter residents to obtain employment, increase their income, or increase their hours worked.

(g) The utilization rate of each unit at each shelter facility operated by the eligible applicant.

(h) The average length of stay of shelter residents at each shelter facility operated by the eligible applicant.

(i) The percentage of shelter residents served by the eligible applicant that is chronically homeless.

**SECTION 3.** 16.308 (3s) of the statutes is created to read:

16.308 (3s) **Implementation of Eligibility Criteria.** (a) 1. The additional grant funding provided under 2019 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), section 7 (1), may be expended only for grants awarded after the department considers the eligibility criteria specified in sub. (3m) (b) to (i).
2. The department shall phase in over fiscal years 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23 the award of grants based on consideration of the eligibility criteria specified in sub. (3m) (b) to (i). Beginning in fiscal year 2023-24, 100 percent of the grants awarded under this section shall be awarded after the department considers all of the eligibility criteria specified in sub. (3m) (a) to (i).

(b) Before the department awards a grant based on consideration of the eligibility criteria specified in sub. (3m) (b) to (i), the department shall consider whether an eligible applicant’s rules, policies, or procedures for providing services to homeless individuals and families have an impact on how one or more of those criteria apply with respect to the eligible applicant and may adjust any grant award accordingly.

SECTION 4. Adm 86.03 (1) of the administrative code is amended to read:

Adm 86.03 (1) The department shall solicit applications for grants under s. 16.308, Stats., and this chapter at least once every 2 years.

SECTION 5. Adm 86.05 (2) (a) (intro.) of the administrative code is amended to read:

Adm 86.05 (2) (a) (intro.) A lead agency located in Dane county or Milwaukee county may receive, before July 1, 1987, a grant of not more than 35% and after June 30, 1987, a grant of not more than 25% 50% of the total current or proposed operating budgets of:

SECTION 6. Adm 86.05 (2) (b) of the administrative code is amended to read:

Adm 86.05 (2) (b) An eligible applicant which is not located in Dane county or Milwaukee county may receive a grant of not more than 25% 50% of:

1. The current or proposed operating budget of one or more shelter facilities operated by the applicant; or
2. The portion of the applicant’s current or proposed operating budget allocated for providing homeless persons with vouchers that may be exchanged for temporary shelter.

SECTION 7. Fiscal changes.

(1) Grants to supplement the operating budgets of agencies and shelter facilities. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department of administration under s. 20.505 (7) (fm), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2019–20 is increased by $500,000 for grants awarded under s. 16.308 (2) (a), subject to s. 16.308 (3s) (a) 1. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department of administration under s. 20.505 (7) (fm), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2020–21 is increased by $500,000 for grants awarded under s. 16.308 (2) (a), subject to s. 16.308 (3s) (a) 1.

(END)