



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1854/1
MPG&EKL:ah

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 124

March 25, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives PLUMER, STEINEKE, RODRIGUEZ, SNYDER, PRONSCHINSKE, KURTZ, JAMES, DITTRICH, FELZKOWSKI, ROHRKASTE, TITTL, MURSAU, SPIROS, STEFFEN, ALLEN, DUCHOW, KULP, PETRYK, PETERSEN, THIESFELDT, KITCHENS, EDMING, SCHRAA, KRUG, MURPHY, SUBECK and SINICKI, cosponsored by Senators OLSEN and CARPENTER. Referred to Committee on Public Benefit Reform.

1 **AN ACT to renumber** 16.303 (1); **to amend** 16.303 (2) (intro.), 16.303 (3) (a),
2 16.303 (3) (b) and 16.304 (1) (a); and **to create** 16.303 (1g) and 16.303 (1r) (am)
3 of the statutes; **relating to:** grants to defray housing costs and for diversion
4 programming 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 or loans to persons or families of low or moderate income to defray housing costs.

The bill also provides \$300,000 for grants or loans to eligible organizations to assist persons or families of low or moderate income to obtain and participate in diversion programming. The bill defines "diversion programming" as short-term intervention that supports persons or families of low or moderate income in identifying immediate, safe housing arrangements, other than temporary shelters, including by utilizing conflict resolution and mediation skills to reconnect the individuals or families to their support systems.

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:

ASSEMBLY BILL 124**SECTION 1**

1 **SECTION 1.** 16.303 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 16.303 (1r).

2 **SECTION 2.** 16.303 (1g) of the statutes is created to read:

3 16.303 (**1g**) In this section, “diversion programming” means short-term
4 intervention that supports persons or families of low or moderate income in
5 identifying immediate, safe housing arrangements, other than a temporary shelter,
6 including by utilizing conflict resolution and mediation skills to reconnect the
7 individuals or families to their support systems.

8 **SECTION 3.** 16.303 (1r) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

9 16.303 (**1r**) (am) From the appropriation under s. 20.505 (7) (b), subject to sub.
10 (2), make grants or loans to agents designated under s. 16.304 to assist persons or
11 families of low or moderate income in obtaining and participating in diversion
12 programming. The department shall ensure that the funds for the grants or loans
13 are reasonably balanced among geographic areas of the state that correspond to the
14 geographic areas served by each continuum of care organization designated by the
15 federal department of housing and urban development, consistent with the quality
16 of applications submitted.

17 **SECTION 4.** 16.303 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 16.303 (**2**) (intro.) In connection with grants and loans under sub. ~~(1)~~ (1r), the
19 department shall do all of the following:

20 **SECTION 5.** 16.303 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 16.303 (**3**) (a) The department may make grants or loans under sub. ~~(1)~~ (1r) (a)
22 directly or through agents designated under s. 16.304.

23 **SECTION 6.** 16.303 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 16.303 (**3**) (b) The department may administer and disburse funds from a grant
25 or loan under sub. ~~(1)~~ (1r) (a) or (am) on behalf of the recipient of the grant or loan.

