

Subject Homeless Youth Act

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Overview

The Homeless Youth Act was established by the legislature in 2006 and is a state-funded grant program administered by DHS to provide street and community outreach and drop-in programs, emergency shelter programs, and integrated supportive housing and transitional living programs to reduce the incidence of homelessness among youth.

This bill provides additional guidance and restrictions on the awarding of grants under the Homeless Youth Act and appropriates \$50,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 to the Homeless Youth Act.

This bill also requires the commissioner of human services to study the prevalence of parenting and pregnancy among homeless youth and youths at risk of homelessness. The bill appropriates \$300,000 to the commissioner to fund this study.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | Awarding of grants.
Requires the commissioner of human services to limit use of grants for the Homeless Youth Act to activities authorized by statute and requires the commissioner to use only statutory criteria for grantees. Prohibits reduction in grant awards unless the recipient underperforms or misuses grant money. Requires the commissioner to allow grant money to carry over from the first to the second year of any two-year grant contract. |
| 2 | Pregnant and parenting homeless youth study.
Requires the commissioner of human services to study the prevalence of pregnancy and parenting among homeless youths and youths at risk of homelessness. Requires |

Section	Description
	the commissioner to report the results of the study to the legislature by December 31, 2023.
3	Appropriation; pregnant and parenting homeless youth study. Makes a onetime appropriation of \$300,000 in fiscal 2023 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to fund a study on the prevalence of pregnancy and parenting among homeless youths and youths at risk of homelessness. This money is available until June 30, 2024.
4	Appropriation; homeless youth grants. Appropriates \$50,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the commissioner of human services to fund grants under the Homeless Youth Act.



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