

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1110

Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: February 23, 2012

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

In the event of a natural disaster, LB 1110 provides temporary and permanent housing assistance through creation of subaccounts of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund.

LB 1110 transfers \$500,000 of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund into the subaccount and then 10% of all money remitted to the fund until the subaccount reaches a balance of \$2 million, which is the amount to be maintained in the subaccount for providing funds for housing projects for individuals displaced by a natural disaster. The Department of Economic Development shall use the funds to provide grants to counties, cities, or villages for permanent housing assistance upon the Governor's request for a federal disaster declaration. An individual may apply to the local government for assistance. The department shall establish regulations for administering the funds expeditiously, including criteria for prioritizing eligibility and designated uses of the funds.

LB 1110 transfers \$300,000 of the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund into the subaccount and then 10% of the money remitted to the fund until the subaccount reaches a balance of \$500,000, which is the amount to be retained for providing funds for individuals displaced or homeless as a result of a natural disaster. Upon declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor, the Department of Health and Human Services shall provide grants to counties, cities, or villages for temporary housing assistance for individuals up to three months and shall provide a form for individual applicants who apply for assistance to the local government. The department shall adopt rules and regulations for an action plan and expedited application process for emergency housing assistance.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Lydia Brasch