
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5394

AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE ACT.

SUMMARY

Under the state's Uniform Relocation Assistance Act, municipalities and state agencies must pay to relocate people who are displaced due to, among other things, their code enforcement actions (like for health or building code violations). For displaced tenants, the bill adds that rental assistance payments may cover hotel stays. Existing law allows payments for renting or making a downpayment on a home. Under the bill and existing law, these payments may not exceed \$4,000.

By law, the landlord is responsible for costs paid to relocate tenants that were displaced due to code violation enforcement and the municipality may put a lien on the landlord's real property (buildings and land) to secure repayment. Additionally, the state may enter into a contract with a municipality under which it provides a grant for a portion of the municipality's tenant relocation costs in exchange for the municipality's related claims against the landlord. The bill allows the municipality to receive a grant if it (1) agrees to lien the landlord's property, even if it has not done so yet, and (2) assigns its claims to the state within one year after the last payment has been made for the relocated tenant.

The bill also makes various minor, technical, and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/13/2026)