
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2234 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY MURT, KINSEY, HOHENSTEIN AND YOUNGBLOOD,
JANUARY 17, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON AGING AND OLDER ADULT SERVICES,
JANUARY 17, 2020

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Shared Housing and Resource Exchange Program;
2 imposing powers and duties on the Department of Aging; and
3 making an appropriation.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Shared
8 Housing and Resource Exchange Program Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Department." The Department of Aging of the Commonwealth.

14 "Participant." An individual who is at least 60 years of
15 age, is a resident of this Commonwealth and is in need of
16 housing.

17 "Program." The Shared Housing and Resource Exchange Program
18 established in this act.

1 "Program host." An individual who offers to provide housing
2 to a participant and has been approved by the department for
3 participation in the program.

4 Section 3. Establishment of program.

5 The Shared Housing and Resource Exchange Program is
6 established in the Department of Aging. The program shall assist
7 participants with finding alternative housing offered by program
8 hosts based on common interests, geographic preference and
9 lifestyle choices.

10 Section 4. Program hosts.

11 (a) Duty of department.--The department shall establish a
12 procedure by which an individual may submit an application to
13 the department for approval as a program host.

14 (b) Criteria.--In order to be approved as a program host for
15 a participant, the applicant must satisfy the following
16 criteria:

17 (1) Be at least 18 years of age.

18 (2) Occupy a residence with at least two bedrooms, one
19 of which is to be occupied solely by the participant.

20 (3) Not charge the participant more than 30% of the
21 participant's gross monthly income as rent.

22 (4) Enter into a home-sharing agreement with the
23 participant.

24 (5) Comply with any other condition established by the
25 department for the health, safety and welfare of the
26 participant and the program host.

27 (c) Revocation of approval.--The department may revoke the
28 approval of an individual to be a program host if the program
29 host breaches the home-sharing agreement with the participant or
30 otherwise fails to comply with the conditions established by the

1 department for the program host.

2 Section 5. Matching procedure.

3 The department shall establish a procedure by which an
4 individual may apply to become a participant in the program.

5 After the application is approved for participation in the
6 program, the department shall attempt to locate a match between
7 the participant and a program host and shall inform the
8 participant of whether or not a program host has been located.

9 If a program host has been located, the department shall
10 facilitate the execution of a home-sharing agreement between the
11 participant and program host.

12 Section 6. Regulations.

13 The department may promulgate rules and regulations as deemed
14 necessary to administer this act.

15 Section 7. Appropriation.

16 The sum of \$2,400,000 is hereby appropriated from the General
17 Fund to the Department of Aging for the Shared Housing and
18 Resource Exchange Program for the fiscal year beginning July 1,
19 2020.

20 Section 8. Effective date.

21 This act shall take effect in 60 days.