



## Snohomish County Council

**Committee:** LJHS  
**ECAF:** 22-0429  
**Proposal:** Mot. 22-177

**Analyst:** Heidi Beazizo  
**Date:** April 22, 2022

### **Consideration**

The Executive's Office requests Council consider approving proposed Motion 22-177 which would approve and authorize an agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce.

### **Background**

Snohomish County began welcoming refugees from the 2021 Afghanistan conflict in 2021, partnering with Volunteers of America Western Washington and Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest. The Welcoming Center opened on October 1, 2021 and has already served approximately 600 Afghans.

The County requested \$5.558 million during the 2022 Legislative Session and was granted \$5,470,000 in the 2021-2023 Washington State Operating Budget ESSB 5693, Laws of 2022, Sec. 128 (303).<sup>1</sup>

This amount is anticipated to cover services, program and rental assistance for twelve (12) months of operation.

### **Current Proposal**

**Scope:** Motion 22-177 approves a grant agreement with Commerce for stabilizing newly arriving refugees from the 2021 Afghanistan conflict. Assistance can include, but is not limited to, paying for rent and housing needs, transportation including the purchase of vehicles for the subcontractors to transport eligible households, orca cards, healthcare needs, food, clothing and other essential items.

**Duration:** July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

**Fiscal Implications:** \$5,470,000 grant award for 2022 and 2023 Fiscal years

**2022 Budget:** These funds were not anticipated in the 2022 budget. Up to 10% of the total budget can be used for administrative costs; \$104,250 in admin is anticipated in 2022 and \$54,250 in 2023.

There is sufficient appropriation authority in Fund 124 to support this request. *Note: \$3,300,000 is provided for state fiscal year 2022 which ends June 30, 2022.*

**Future Budget Impacts:** YES. \$2,170,000 is for the state fiscal year 2023 which ends June 30, 2023.

**Handling:** NORMAL. Although the ECAF was marked normal, there is urgency per the department given the amount of funds that need to be expended by the end of the state 2022 fiscal year.

**Approved-as-to-form:** N/A State form agreement

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<sup>1</sup> [5693-S.SL.pdf \(wa.gov\)](#)

**Risk Management:** YES

**Executive Recommendation:** YES

**Attachments:** N/A

**Amendments:** N/A

**Analysis:** Council consideration is needed as this grant was not included in the 2022 Grant Work Plan.

**Request:** Move this motion to GLS on April 27<sup>th</sup> for Council to consider taking action.