SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair 2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 57 (McKinnor) - California Dream for All Program: descendants of formerly enslaved people

Version: June 24, 2025 **Policy Vote:** HOUSING 7 - 2, JUD. 11 - 1

Urgency: No Mandate: No

Hearing Date: August 29, 2025 **Consultant:** Mark McKenzie

Bill Summary: AB 57 would require that at least 10% of funds available under the California Dream for All Program are reserved for eligible applicants who have been certified as descendants of formerly enslaved people by the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery (Bureau). The bill is contingent upon the enactment of SB 518 (Weber Pierson) of the current legislative session, which would establish the Bureau.

****** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM - SUSPENSE FILE ********

The following information is revised to reflect amendments adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025

Fiscal Impact:

- The California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) estimates annual costs in the range of \$100,000 to \$150,000, beginning in a future fiscal year, to implement changes to the program and make necessary IT system updates in the first year, as well as for ongoing staffing workload annually thereafter to conduct ongoing monitoring and oversight related to the 10% set-aside. These costs would only be incurred to the extent SB 518 is enacted, the Bureau establishes a certification process, and future funding is available for allocation under the California Dream for All Program. (General Fund)
- Ongoing General Fund cost pressures in the tens of millions annually to augment future appropriations into the California Dream for All Fund and/or loan repayments that are deposited into the Fund for future funding rounds. Staff notes that previous funding rounds have been heavily oversubscribed, and ongoing program funding is unpredictable. Reserving 10% of funds for a specific population within an oversubscribed program would create cost pressures to provide additional funding to avoid displacing funding for other eligible applicants.

Author Amendments: Revise the contingent enactment language to specify the bill would only become operative if SB 518 (Weber Pierson) is enacted and takes effect on or before January 1, 2027, rather than on or before January 1, 2026.