

**B-Engrossed**  
**House Bill 2346**

Ordered by the House June 21  
Including House Amendments dated April 5 and June 21

Sponsored by Representative POWER; Representatives HAYDEN, KENY-GUYER, WILLIAMS, WITT (Pre-session filed.)

**SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

*[Establishes Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care to solicit input from underserved populations, to research past and current use of child care subsidies, to study state and federally funded child care and early learning programs, to develop recommendations to improve access to and affordability of child care and to report recommendations to Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2020.]*

*[Sunsets December 31, 2020.]*

**Establishes Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care to study ways to increase use of and access to child care subsidies and to report recommendations to Legislative Assembly no later than December 31, 2020.**

**Directs Early Learning Division to study existing child care subsidy programs in Oregon and submit report of its findings to task force no later than December 31, 2019.**

**Directs division to study supply and demand for child care by geography and household demographic information and submit report of its findings to task force no later than June 30, 2020.**

**Directs division to study barriers to accessing existing child care subsidies and submit report of its findings to task force no later than June 30, 2020.**

**Authorizes division to contract with third-party research organization to assist with or complete study or report obligations.**

**Sunsets January 2, 2021.**

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

Relating to child care; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "child care" means the compensated care, supervision and guidance, on a regular basis, of a child, unaccompanied by a parent, guardian or custodian.**

**(2) The Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care is established.**

**(3) The task force consists of 17 members appointed as follows:**

**(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the Senate.**

**(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among members of the House of Representatives.**

**(c) The Governor shall appoint 13 members as follows:**

**(A) One member who has expertise in family economic security;**

**(B) One member who is an advocate for early childhood supports;**

**(C) Two members who are advocates for culturally specific early childhood programs for underserved families;**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 (D) One member who represents child care facilities certified under ORS 329A.280;
- 2 (E) One member who represents family child care providers who operate family child  
3 care homes certified under ORS 329A.280 or registered under ORS 329A.330;
- 4 (F) One member who represents child care providers that receive subsidies for child care;
- 5 (G) Two members who are parents of children from a demographic that was historically  
6 or is presently underserved;
- 7 (H) One member who represents Early Learning Hubs as defined in ORS 417.827;
- 8 (I) One member of the business community;
- 9 (J) One member who is a representative of the Early Learning Division established under  
10 ORS 326.430; and
- 11 (K) One member who is a representative of the Department of Human Services.
- 12 (4)(a) The task force shall:
- 13 (A) Study why eligible families are not using child care subsidies and make recommen-  
14 dations for how to increase eligible families' use of child care subsidies; and
- 15 (B) Study and make recommendations to expand access to high-quality, subsidized child  
16 care for families that currently are not eligible for subsidized child care and cannot other-  
17 wise afford or access child care.
- 18 (b) In making recommendations under this subsection, the task force shall consider:
- 19 (A) The availability of high-quality child care providers that meet the needs of families,  
20 including culturally specific care and workable hours of operation;
- 21 (B) Copayments;
- 22 (C) Burdensome administrative practices and requirements;
- 23 (D) Reimbursement rates;
- 24 (E) The economic stability of families receiving child care subsidies;
- 25 (F) Access to professional development and quality supports; and
- 26 (G) That access to child care allows parents to work and provides positive development  
27 opportunities for children.
- 28 (5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the  
29 transaction of business.
- 30 (6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting  
31 members of the task force.
- 32 (7) The task force shall elect one of its voting members to serve as chairperson.
- 33 (8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-  
34 ment to become immediately effective.
- 35 (9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson  
36 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.
- 37 (10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.
- 38 (11) The Legislative Policy and Research Director shall provide staff support to the task  
39 force with the assistance of the Early Learning Division and the Department of Human  
40 Services.
- 41 (12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting  
42 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.
- 43 (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist  
44 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by  
45 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task

1 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

2 (14) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations, in the manner pro-  
3 vided by ORS 192.245, to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to edu-  
4 cation no later than December 31, 2020.

5 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Early Learning Division established under ORS 326.430 shall:

6 (a) Study and prepare a report on the existing child care subsidy programs in Oregon,  
7 including the following:

8 (A) The total amount of federal and state funds allocated to or spent on child care sub-  
9 sidies, training, quality or administration during the 2017-2019 biennium and, to the greatest  
10 extent practicable, the 2019-2021 biennium;

11 (B) The total population served by child care subsidy programs;

12 (C) The eligibility requirements for obtaining child care subsidies and the percentage of  
13 the eligible population that is obtaining child care subsidies;

14 (D) The copayments and provider rates for child care subsidies;

15 (E) The administration and governance structure of child care subsidies;

16 (F) The benefits and hours of operation of subsidized child care; and

17 (G) The professional development opportunities, accreditation and licensing standards  
18 and recruitment efforts for child care providers.

19 (b) Study and prepare a report on the supply of and demand for child care by geography  
20 and household demographic information, including age, race and ethnicity and language  
21 spoken in the home.

22 (c) Study and prepare a report on the barriers to accessing existing child care subsidies,  
23 including conducting voluntary interviews or surveys of families that have accessed child  
24 care subsidies in the past, families that access child care subsidies presently and child care  
25 caseworkers or providers who have assisted families with accessing child care subsidies.

26 (2)(a) No later than December 31, 2019, the Early Learning Division shall submit to the  
27 Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care established under section 1 of this  
28 2019 Act the report described in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

29 (b) No later than June 30, 2020, the Early Learning Division shall submit to the Task  
30 Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care established under section 1 of this 2019 Act  
31 the reports described in subsection (1)(b) and (c) of this section.

32 (3) The Early Learning Division may contract with a third-party research organization  
33 to assist with or complete any of the studying or reporting requirements under subsection  
34 (1) of this section.

35 **SECTION 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act are repealed on January 2, 2021.

36 **SECTION 4.** There is appropriated to the Early Learning Division, for the biennium be-  
37 ginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$235,857 for the purpose of as-  
38 sisting the Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care in carrying out its duties  
39 under section 1 of this 2019 Act.

40 **SECTION 5.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
41 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect  
42 on its passage.