

House Bill 2346

Sponsored by Representative POWER; Representative WITT (Presession 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 **as introduced**.

Establishes Task Force on Employment-Related Child Care to conduct study on improving access to and availability of subsidies for employment-related child care, to make recommendations for improving communications between Early Learning Division and child care providers, to make recommendations for improving policy coordination between Early Learning Division and Department of Human Services self-sufficiency programs and to develop plan to expand access to employment-related child care opportunities.

Sunsets December 31, 2021.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to child care; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Employment-Related Child Care is established.**

5 **(2) The task force consists of 20 members appointed as follows:**

6 **(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the**
7 **Senate.**

8 **(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**
9 **members of the House of Representatives.**

10 **(c) The Governor shall appoint 18 members as follows:**

11 **(A) One member who represents the Early Learning Division and who has expertise in**
12 **the registration and certification of child care providers;**

13 **(B) One member who represents the Department of Human Services and who has ex-**
14 **pertise regarding the implementation of employment-related child care;**

15 **(C) One member who is an advocate for family support and connections;**

16 **(D) One member who is an advocate for the rights of children;**

17 **(E) One member who is an advocate for child care assistance and who has policymaking**
18 **expertise in the area of subsidized child care;**

19 **(F) Two members who are advocates for cultural competency and racial justice;**

20 **(G) One member who represents child care facilities that have been certified under ORS**
21 **329A.280 by the Office of Child Care;**

22 **(H) One member who represents family child care providers who operate a family child**
23 **care home that is certified under ORS 329A.280;**

24 **(I) One member who represents family child care providers who operate a family child**
25 **care home that is registered under ORS 329A.330;**

26 **(J) One member who represents providers who receive subsidy payments for child care;**

27 **(K) One member who represents a federally funded Head Start program;**

28 **(L) Three members who are parents and who receive subsidies for employment-related**

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 **child care; and**

2 **(M) Three members who represent Early Learning Hubs from three different regions.**

3 **(3) The task force shall:**

4 **(a) Conduct a study on improving access to, and the availability of, subsidies for**
5 **employment-related child care;**

6 **(b) Make recommendations for improving communications between the Early Learning**
7 **Division and child care providers regarding applicable regulations, proposed rule changes and**
8 **provider feedback on proposed improvements to the child care system;**

9 **(c) Make recommendations for improving policy coordination between the Early Learning**
10 **Division and the Department of Human Services self-sufficiency programs; and**

11 **(d) Develop a plan to expand access to employment-related child care opportunities for**
12 **eligible families by:**

13 **(A) Supporting child care providers and providing assistance in understanding health and**
14 **safety regulations;**

15 **(B) Providing information regarding opportunities for the professional development of**
16 **child care providers;**

17 **(C) Supporting child care providers who are paid by, and families who are enrolled in, an**
18 **employment-related child care program;**

19 **(D) Recruiting additional child care providers to meet the need for access to child care;**

20 **(E) Implementing program enhancements to better meet the needs of families, including**
21 **expanding child care access to individuals who are seeking work and to students; and**

22 **(F) Improving outreach to families who may be eligible for employment-related child**
23 **care.**

24 **(4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the**
25 **transaction of business.**

26 **(5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting**
27 **members of the task force.**

28 **(6) The task force shall elect two of its voting members to serve as cochairs.**

29 **(7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
30 **ment to become immediately effective.**

31 **(8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochairs or**
32 **of a majority of the voting members of the task force.**

33 **(9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

34 **(10) The task force shall:**

35 **(a) Prepare and submit, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, an initial report, in-**
36 **cluding recommendations for legislation, to the Legislative Assembly no later than Septem-**
37 **ber 15, 2019. The report must include, but need not be limited to:**

38 **(A) The results of the study conducted under subsection (3)(a) of this section;**

39 **(B) The recommendations under subsections (3)(b) and (c) of this section; and**

40 **(C) The plan developed under subsection (3)(d) of this section; and**

41 **(b) Prepare and submit, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, a second report, includ-**
42 **ing recommendations for legislation, to the Legislative Assembly no later than September**
43 **15, 2020. The report must include, but need not be limited to, the costs associated with:**

44 **(A) Expanding access to the employment-related child care program for families whose**
45 **household incomes, at the time of eligibility, do not exceed:**

1 (i) 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

2 (ii) 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

3 (iii) 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and

4 (iv) 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and

5 (B) Increasing the number of providers who are registered or certified to provide child
6 care.

7 (11) The Department of Education and the Department of Human Services shall provide
8 staff support to the task force.

9 (12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
10 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

11 (13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
12 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
13 force.

14 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
15 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by
16 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
17 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

18 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2021.

19 **SECTION 3.** This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
20 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
21 on its passage.

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