

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	6 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Cowan, Gilliam, Kotek, Maurer, Olson, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Gelser
Prepared By:	Andy Smith, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/02, 4/11, 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies duties of Department of Human Services and law enforcement agencies in investigating an oral report of alleged child abuse at child care facilities. Directs department and law enforcement agencies to jointly determine their roles and responsibilities in the investigation of alleged child abuse at child care facilities. Requires department and law enforcement agency to each make reports to the Child Care Division of the Oregon Employment Department.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- State certification process for child care facilities
- Differences between administrative and criminal liability
- Who has authority and responsibility to commence investigations

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces original measure.

BACKGROUND: Child care facilities in Oregon are registered and licensed by the Child Care Division (CCD) of the Employment Department. The Child Protective Services (CPS) Division of the Department of Human Services (DHS) is mandated to investigate child abuse reports and to protect children from abuse and neglect within their own families or foster care homes. CPS is sometimes referred to as Child Welfare.

CCD certifies approximately 1,000 child care centers and 250 certified family homes through a process that includes a criminal history check of all staff, annual announced and unannounced inspections by division staff, and compliance with local sanitary and fire regulations. Centers care for more than 13 children, usually in a facility designed for that purpose, while certified family homes care for up to 12 children, including the provider's own children, in a single family dwelling. CCD also registers approximately 5,000 family child care businesses. These providers are registered for two years at a time and can care for up to 10 children, including the family's children, in their own home. Providers must meet basic training requirements and undergo an on-site health and safety review before beginning care for children and renewing their license. All providers and anyone over 18 who resides in or frequents the home must pass a background check. Some child care is exempt from regulation, including providers caring for three or fewer children, providers caring for children from only one family, school district programs, care provided in the child's home or by a relative of the child, and limited-duration programs such as summer camps.

In 2000, there were 604,231 children age 0-12 years in Oregon (224,027 children age 0-4 years; 235,548 children age 5-9 years; 45,920 children age 10-12 years). Of these, 27 percent were in some form of paid child care.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.