

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Beyer, Kruse, Prozanski, Burdick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Walker
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	5/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) and a law enforcement agency to jointly determine their respective roles in conducting an investigation of child abuse after either one has received an oral report of child abuse at child care facility. Requires both to report the outcomes of their investigations to the Child Care Division. Allows either DHS or law enforcement agency to start an investigation of child abuse and to notify the Child Care Division if the alleged abuse occurred in a child care facility. Clarifies that written reports of child abuse can be investigated.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reports of child abuse should be investigated whether they are made orally or in writing

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows either DHS or law enforcement agency to start an investigation of child abuse and to notify the Child Care Division if the alleged abuse occurred in a child care facility. Clarifies that written reports of child abuse can be investigated.

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 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 age 18 years 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.

6/8/2007 9:09:00 AM

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