

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Without Recommendation as to Passage, Be Referred to the President's Office for Referral to Another Committee

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Bonamici, Boquist, Dingfelder, Whitsett, Prozanski

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Keely West, Administrator, House Committee on Human Services

Meeting Dates: 5/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires the Child Care Division (CCD) establish rules and registration procedures for "school age recorded programs" and defines those programs. Requires defined programs to register with CCD and perform criminal background checks for all staff and volunteers. Eliminates requirement that operators and employees be enrolled in the Criminal History Registry. Requires CCD to establish a database of recorded programs. Requires notification of parents and posting information regarding program status.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Work session only for purpose of referral to another committee.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Brought by the Oregon Commission on Childcare, the purpose of HB 2987A is to promote registration of school age recorded childcare programs for three purposes:

- To record and track the numbers and types of programs providing caretaking services to Oregon youth;
- To insure that such programs provide background checks to employees without the more stringent requirements of registered or certified childcare programs; and
- To ensure that parents have information and understand the limitations on the programs they are using for childcare.

Members of the commission took part in town hall meetings in various communities around the state, conducted an on line survey and met with representatives of numerous programs like Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA. HB 2987A is intended to ensure that community programs that provide a free or low-cost alternative to after-school care are meeting the minimum safety standard of background checks without forcing these programs to meet the more stringent requirements of certified or registered childcare programs that might result in program closure. The bill specifically exempts group athletic or social activities sponsored by or under the supervision of an organized club or hobby group.