

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Monnes Anderson, Telfer, Verger, Winters, Morrisette
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/4, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Exempts providers of certain parental respite services from regulation by Department of Human Services. Establishes that providers of certain parental respite services are mandatory child abuse reporters. Makes the mandatory reporting to include staff of the organization, not the volunteers. Requires organization involved with placement of child to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Child Care Division (CCD) of the Employment Department. Requires parental respite services to be enrolled in Central Background Registry, which is located in the CCD. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Public/private partnerships
- Initial funding being generated by private partners
- Benefits of Safe Families Program
- Voluntary program for parents
- Effectiveness of safety-net programs for parents and families
- Proposed amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Changes the mandatory reporting to include staff of the organization, not the volunteers. Requires organization involved with placement of child to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the CCD. Requires parental respite services to be enrolled in Central Background Registry, which is located in the CCD.

BACKGROUND: Safe Families for Children (SFFC) is a network of host families and mentors that extend the community safety net, by assisting parents who are experiencing a short-term emergency, or a longer-term crisis. Host Families are screened, trained and serve without compensation. The SFFC network is a voluntary, non-coercive alternative for at-risk families, allowing the parents to work out their problems without having to worry about losing custody of their children.

Senate Bill 991A eliminates provisions in current statute, to allow the private/non-profit creation of a Safe Families program in Oregon.