

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bates, Kruse, Morse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Brian Nieuburt, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/4, 4/20, 4/21

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires persons conducting child abuse investigations or making protective custody determinations to have a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from an accredited institution of higher learning. Exempts current Department of Human Services (DHS) employees and law enforcement officials.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current number of caseworkers without a college education
- Current educational requirements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: The Child Protective Services division of DHS shares responsibility with law enforcement agencies to take and respond to reports of child abuse. In federal fiscal year 2007, there were 13,306 incidents of abuse/neglect in Oregon.

Senate Bill 748-A requires DHS employees conducting child abuse investigations or making protective custody determinations to have an advanced degree. The bill exempts current DHS employees and law enforcement officials from the degree requirement.