

House Bill 2858

Sponsored by Representative NATHANSON; Representatives BARKER, BEYER, DEMBROW, GELSER, HOYLE, J SMITH, Senators EDWARDS, PROZANSKI (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes relief nursery pilot program in Lane County. Requires Department of Human Services to refer children and parents to program following conclusion of child abuse investigation when abuse is not or cannot be substantiated. Provides for collaboration between department and State Commission on Children and Families to adopt rules and report to legislature.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to relief nursery pilot program in Lane County.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services and the State Commission on Chil-**
5 **dren and Families shall establish the Relief Nursery Inc. in Lane County pilot program for**
6 **children, and the parents or guardians of children, who have been the subject of a child abuse**
7 **investigation by the department under ORS 419B.020. The purpose of the program is to re-**
8 **duce prospective child abuse, provide information and support to parents or guardians when**
9 **a finding of abuse is not or cannot be substantiated, avoid repeated contacts with department**
10 **staff by parents or guardians who seek support and respite services, and focus on the pro-**
11 **vision of services and interventions by local resources.**

12 **(2) The program shall apply to investigations for which:**

13 **(a) The child involved is zero through five years of age;**

14 **(b) The child involved is a resident of Lane County; and**

15 **(c) The investigation concludes in a determination that the report of alleged child abuse**
16 **is not or cannot be substantiated.**

17 **(3) Upon conclusion of the investigation under subsection (2) of this section, the depart-**
18 **ment shall refer the child and the child's parents or guardians to the program for the fol-**
19 **lowing:**

20 **(a) A determination, to be made within 24 hours of the referral, that the program has**
21 **available and appropriate services for the child, or the child's parents or guardians;**

22 **(b) An assessment of the needs and resources available to the child's parents or guardi-**
23 **ans; and**

24 **(c) Recommendations for appropriate interventions that may include, but are not limited**
25 **to:**

26 **(A) Respite services for parents or guardians, including short-term care and control for**
27 **the purpose of providing parents or guardians in crisis with relief from the demands of on-**
28 **going care of the child;**

29 **(B) Parental education and support;**

30 **(C) Alcohol and drug recovery interventions; and**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 **(D) Mental health services.**
2 **(4) The department and the commission shall work collaboratively to:**
3 **(a) Adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section; and**
4 **(b) Report to an appropriate legislative committee or interim committee of the Legisla-**
5 **tive Assembly by January 1 of each year, beginning in 2013. The report must evaluate the**
6 **effectiveness of providing services to children and parents or guardians through the program**
7 **as opposed to the absence of services to children and parents or guardians following a child**
8 **abuse investigation that concludes in a determination that the report of alleged child abuse**
9 **is not or cannot be substantiated. The report must also evaluate the actual and estimated**
10 **costs of the program.**

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