

Senate Bill 339

Sponsored by Senator WINTERS (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 Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council in Governor's office.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council is established in the office of the Governor.

(2) The Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council shall serve as the designated Oregon State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for children from birth to school entry, as required by section 11 (b) of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 9801 et seq.).

(3) The Early Childhood Matters Advisory Council consists of community leaders that represent Oregon's diverse populations and that have expertise in advocacy, early childhood research, business and industry, early childhood systems development and design and the provision of early childhood services. Members of the council shall be appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the Senate.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among members of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Governor shall appoint at least 25 representatives as follows:

(A) One representative from the Child Care Division of the Employment Department;

(B) One representative from the division of the Department of Education responsible for administering preschool grants and early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1419, 20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.);

(C) One representative from the Oregon community college system;

(D) One representative from the Oregon University System;

(E) One representative of local providers of early childhood education and development services;

(F) One representative of local educational agencies;

(G) One representative from a Head Start program, which may include migrant, seasonal or Indian Head Start programs;

(H) The director of the Oregon Head Start Collaboration;

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 **(I) One representative from the Oregon Health Authority;**
2 **(J) One representative from the State Commission on Children and Families;**
3 **(K) One representative from the research community working on early childhood data;**
4 **(L) Two representatives from the early childhood consumer community;**
5 **(M) One representative from the business community;**
6 **(N) One representative from the private foundation community who has a demonstrated**
7 **interest in children from birth to school entry;**
8 **(O) One representative of child advocacy agencies with a focus on children from birth to**
9 **school entry;**
10 **(P) One representative of migrant and seasonal farmworker families with a focus on**
11 **children from birth to school entry;**
12 **(Q) One representative of the dental community with a focus on children from birth to**
13 **school entry;**
14 **(R) One representative of the medical community with a focus on children from birth to**
15 **school entry;**
16 **(S) One representative from a federally recognized Oregon Indian tribe with a focus on**
17 **children from birth to school entry;**
18 **(T) One representative from the mental health community with a focus on children from**
19 **birth to school entry;**
20 **(U) One representative from the Department of Human Services;**
21 **(V) One representative from the office of the Governor; and**
22 **(W) Any other representatives the Governor deems appropriate.**
23 **(4) Members serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. The term of appoint-**
24 **ment for each member is three years. Initial terms shall be proportionately staggered in**
25 **periods of one, two and three years. Members may be reappointed.**
26 **(5) A majority of the voting members of the council constitutes a quorum for the trans-**
27 **action of business.**
28 **(6) Official action by the council requires the approval of a majority of the voting mem-**
29 **bers of the council.**
30 **(7) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson and vice chairperson from the membership**
31 **of the council. The chairperson is responsible for determining the council's agenda and co-**
32 **ordinating the council's activities. The council shall meet at the call of the chairperson.**
33 **(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**
34 **ment to become immediately effective.**
35 **(9) The council shall:**
36 **(a) Provide state leadership on issues related to early childhood development and educa-**
37 **tion for children from birth through school entry and their families through investment**
38 **planning, advocacy and advice to decision makers based on the most recent research on ef-**
39 **fective best practices and strategies.**
40 **(b) Provide advice to the Governor on early childhood priorities and strategies.**
41 **(c) Review research, expert opinion and public input to develop a statewide strategic plan**
42 **for achieving the vision articulated in the Early Childhood Matters Framework created as a**
43 **result of the Governor's Early Childhood Matters Initiative in 2008.**
44 **(d) Conduct periodic statewide needs assessments on the quality and availability of early**
45 **childhood education and development programs and services, including an assessment of the**

1 availability of quality prekindergarten services for low income children.

2 (e) Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration among federally and state
3 funded child development, child care and early childhood education programs and services
4 including collaboration among administering agencies.

5 (f) Recommend ways to increase the participation of children, especially underrepre-
6 sented and special populations of children, in existing federal, state and local child care and
7 early childhood education programs.

8 (g) Recommend ways to establish a unified data collection system for public early child-
9 hood education and development programs and services.

10 (h) Recommend ways to create statewide professional development and career advance-
11 ment plans for early childhood educators.

12 (i) Assess the capacity and effectiveness of two-year and four-year public and private
13 institutions of higher education in the state to support the professional and career develop-
14 ment of early childhood educators including the opportunity to spend time in a Head Start
15 or prekindergarten program.

16 (j) Recommend ways to improve state early learning standards and develop high quality
17 comprehensive early learning standards.

18 (10) The council shall hold public hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment
19 as determined appropriate and necessary by the chairperson and vice chairperson of the
20 council.

21 (11) The council shall assist, as requested by the Governor, with preparation of Oregon's
22 three-year plan and application for a United States Department of Education grant under
23 section 11 (b) of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007. In addition to
24 information that may be required by the United States Secretary of Education, the applica-
25 tion must include:

26 (a) The report described in subsection (12) of this section;

27 (b) A description of the council's responsibilities under subsection (9) of this section;

28 (c) A description for each fiscal year of how the state will make effective use of federal
29 funds to create an early childhood education and care system, consistent with the report
30 described in subsection (12) of this section;

31 (d) A description of Oregon's early learning standards and goals for increasing the num-
32 ber of children entering kindergarten ready to learn;

33 (e) Information identifying the agency, joint interagency office or individual designated
34 to carry out the activities under this section; and

35 (f) A description of how the state plans to sustain activities under this section beyond
36 the federal grant period.

37 (12) The council shall submit an annual statewide strategic report addressing the as-
38 sessments and recommendations described in this section to the director of the Oregon Head
39 Start Collaboration and the Governor. The council shall regularly review implementation of
40 the recommendations in the report and any changes in state and local needs.

41 (13) The council may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the council.

42 (14) The office of the Governor shall provide staff support to the council.

43 (15) With the exception of the two members of the early childhood consumer community,
44 council members are not entitled to compensation, reimbursement of expenses or per diem.
45 The two early childhood consumer community members may be reimbursed for actual and

1 necessary travel and other expenses incurred by them in the performance of their council
2 duties pursuant to ORS 292.495 (2), subject to the availability of funds.

3 (16) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
4 the council in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to
5 confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the council con-
6 sider necessary to perform their duties.

7 SECTION 2. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
8 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect
9 on its passage.

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