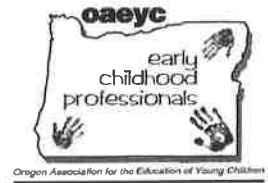


**OREGON ASSOCIATION FOR THE
EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN**

An affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children
PO Box 1455, Tualatin, OR 97062



MEASURE: HB 4165
EXHIBIT: 28
2012 SESSION H RULES
DATE: 2/8/12 PAGES: 1
SUBMITTED BY: Merrily Haas

February 8, 2012

Representative Vic Gilliam and Representative Carolyn Tomei
House Human Services Committee

Regarding: HB 4165

Co-Chairman Gilliam and Tomei and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (OAEYC) is a statewide organization with over 1000 members who work with children from birth through age 8 and their families in a variety of settings including child care centers, family child care, Head Start, part day preschools, kindergarten and primary classrooms as well as college and university early childhood programs. We are committed to both the well-being of young children and the on-going professional development of our members.

OAEYC supports the development of a Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System (TQRIS) as outlined in Section 109 of HB 4165. Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement Systems are a national trend with over 17 states having such a system in place statewide. Tiered systems are a way to measure quality of services to children and making that information available to parents and policy makers. TQRI Systems also provide technical assistance and training for individuals and programs to move up the levels in the system. It is essential that all of components of the TQRIS be included if the system is to have integrity and quality is to be improved. There is extensive national research available on TQRIS and the necessary components. For example: http://www.nccp.org/publications/pub_1047.html

I thank the Co-Chairs and Committee members for their consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Merrily Haas
Executive Director

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OregonAEYC advocates for high quality care and education for every young child and strives to meet the professional needs and interests of the diverse early childhood community. Our vision is to build and maintain a strong, diverse, and inclusive organization that enables OAEYC to achieve our mission on behalf of children, families, and professionals in early childhood education.