

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	7 - 1 - 0
Yeas:	Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Gilliam, Tomei
Nays:	Weidner
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Beth Herzog, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/8, 2/10, 2/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Removes sunset on Early Learning Council (ELC). Changes membership of ELC. Expands oversight of ELC to include overseeing unified system of early learning services for purposes of ensuring children enter school ready to learn. Stipulates ELC shall ensure children are ready to enter school by serving as state advisory council for federal Head Start program; implementing and overseeing system to coordinate delivery of services; and overseeing Oregon Early Learning System. Requires ELC to perform specific functions as state advisory council for federal Head Start program which include: conducting periodic statewide needs assessment; identifying opportunities and boundaries for collaboration; developing recommendations on professional development for providers of early childhood services; and making recommendations for improvements in state early learning standards and undertaking efforts to develop comprehensive standards. Establishes reporting requirements for ELC. Requires ELC and Department of Education (Department) to develop process for assessment of children to determine readiness for kindergarten that will be available as voluntary pilot program by November 1, 2012 and to all school districts by November 1, 2013. Changes definition of young children to include children who are zero to six years old, rather than zero to eight years old. Abolishes State Commission on Children and Family Services (Commission). Transfers Commission's authority related to children zero through six years of age to ELC; and authority for school age children through 20 years of age to Youth Development Council (YDC). Requires ELC to implement and oversee system that coordinates delivery of early learning services to communities through use of community-based coordinators (Coordinator). Abolishes Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee (Committee). Transfers functions of Committee to YDC. Abolishes Commission for Child Care and transfers functions to ELC effective July 1, 2012. Requires Child Care Division (Division), within Employment Department, to report to ELC twice a year on development and administration of child care resources, policies and practices. Requires Division to implement tiered quality rating and improvement system for child care facilities. Establishes Keep Kids Safe Account and process for distributing funds to counties. Requires Department of Transportation consult with Children's Trust Fund of Oregon Foundation and regional entity that provides services to children and families in Deschutes County on design of Keep Kids Safe registration plate. Declares emergency, effective on passage

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance of coordinating program services
- Impact of services on young children Opportunity to develop better partnerships
- Desire to maintain programs that are working well
- Importance of services provided to high school age students

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 909 (2011) created the ELC, and charged the ELC with formulating recommendations for the Oregon Education Investment Board to merge, redesign or improve the coordination of early childhood services and align early childhood services with child-centered outcomes. The ELC was also charged with establishing a plan that could be implemented by June 30, 2012. The ELC has put forth proposals to consolidate entities that serve young children to better coordinate services and prioritize measurable outcomes.

2/15/2012 10:39:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.