

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Gallegos, Gelser, Gilliam, Gomberg, Keny-Guyer, Olson, Whisnant, Whitsett, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Regina Wilson, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Oregonians to build communities that ensure healthy environments for raising children.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- 75,000 reports of child neglect in Oregon annually
- Commemoration of April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Keeping Kids Safe license plate

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Annually, the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Territories report child welfare data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) of the Children’s Bureau, the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF). Each state is responsible for setting its own definition of child abuse based on federal standards. The existing federal definition of child abuse and neglect, according to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, reauthorized in 2010, states: “Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act, which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.” Advocacy groups, like the Child Welfare League of America, reported that in 2010, Oregon had 71,886 referrals for child abuse and neglect. Within this grouping, 29,021 reports were referred for investigation. In 2010, 11,734 children were victims of abuse or neglect in Oregon and 22 children reportedly died as a result. National trends lean toward a differential approach to addressing child welfare issues. Most system changes implement a family centered approach with appropriate supports and services. House Concurrent Resolution 26 encourages Oregonians to integrate efforts to support programs that ensure healthy environments for raising children.