



House Bill 4009: Providence Child Center

Service Continuity & Funding for Education Services at Child Center.

The primary focus of HB 4009 is to provide for a continuation of services to some of Oregon's most vulnerable students, specifically the special needs students housed at the Providence Child Center in northeast Portland.

Currently Portland Public Schools provides education services to students at the Child Center. Some of these students are served on location and most are transported to a neighborhood school to receive their educational services. However, many of the students housed in the facility and their families are not residents of PPS and in some cases not resident of the State of Oregon. During the 2013 Legislative Session, a stopgap measure was approved that provided for continuation of services for the 2013-14 school year while a permanent solution was crafted. HB 4009 is that permanent solution.

What HB 4009 does:

- Clarifies that regardless of where the student's families live, any student housed at a pediatric skilled nursing facility (Providence Child Center) is a resident of the state and thus FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education) responsibility lies with the state and not any individual school district.
- As a result, no district, PPS included, would be allowed to claim students as ADMw for purposes of State School Fund distribution, neither would they be allowed to claim expenses for reimbursement under the High Cost Disabilities Account.
- In order to ensure that kids continue to receive services in the least restrictive environment, the Oregon Department of Education and the school district in which the facility is located (PPS) shall be required to enter into a contract for services.
- The ODE would then draw funds directly from the State School Fund to pay for the services for these students.