



Oregon Department of Education

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Early Learning Division

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Voice: 503-373-0066

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January 24, 2014

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request:

The Oregon Department of Education's Early Learning Division respectfully requests the Joint Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on the progress of the Early Learning Hub Demonstration Projects due on February 3, 2014 as established in House Bill 2013 and Chapter 728 of the 2013 Oregon Laws. Governor Kitzhaber and the Oregon Legislature have set out to redesign the state's approach to early learning – moving from a collection of isolated programs to a coordinated system, integrated across sectors, dedicated to the needs of children and their families, and focused on results. Early Learning Hubs are central to this new approach.

Agency Action:

House Bill 2013 required the Early Learning Council (ELC) to establish Early Learning Hub Demonstration Projects (Hubs) and provide a report on the Hubs' progress during the February 2014 session. Per House Bill 2013, the ELC was to establish no more than seven Hubs during the 2013-2014 fiscal year and no more than sixteen Hubs providing statewide coverage during the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

The above-referenced progress report will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly on February 3rd. The report provides the history and background of what the Early Learning System currently looks like and what changes are being made to redesign the System with the new Early Learning Hubs at the forefront. The report summarizes the events that have taken place since House Bill 2013 was enacted, including the ELC's award of one contract to Early Learning Hub Inc. (covering Marion County) and contract negotiations with five additional applicants. The ELC will make awards to the Hubs in contract negotiation at the February 2014 ELC meeting based on applicants satisfactorily demonstrating readiness via additional supplemental information. The report provides details on each of the six Hub community's strategic plans and goals. Lastly, the report provides the phases and timeline of the Early Learning System redesign and specific details from the applications of the first six selected Hubs.

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Page 2

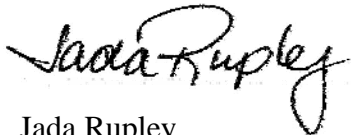
Action Requested:

The Oregon Department of Education's Early Learning Division respectfully requests the Joint Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on the progress of the Early Learning Hub Demonstration Projects.

Legislation Affected:

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jada Rupley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jada" and last name "Rupley" clearly distinguishable.

Jada Rupley
Early Learning System Director
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CC:

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