OREGON ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN

An affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children 5427 Glen Echo Ave Ste A, Gladstone, OR 97027



February 6, 2015

Representative Keny-Guyer, Chair and Members of the Committee House Human Services and Housing Committee

Regarding: HB 2091, HB 2113, HB 2114, and HB 2115

Chair Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (OAEYC) is a statewide organization with over 900 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 extension and expansion of the various child care tax credits as represented in the four bills before you. Each bill has an important part to play in supporting working families.

HB 2091 would increase the amount of the working family tax credit so that it covers more of the out-of-pocket costs for low and middle income families.

HB 2115 would extend the current sunset on that same tax credit.

HB 2113 would extend the sunset on the contributions made to the Office of Child care. These contributions provide needed funds for quality improvements such as the QRIS – Quality Rating and Improvement System.

HB2114 would extend the sunset on the tax credit for the employer-provided dependent care assistance. This program encourage employers both small and large to provide help to their employees in securing child care.

We encourage you to continue these wise investments and to consider expending the Working Family Tax Credit.

I thank you for your consideration of these bills.

Sincerely,

Merrily Haas Executive Director

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