

HB 3380

Relating to preschool programs

HB 3380 directs the Early Learning Division of the Oregon Department of Education to administer a program that expands preschool options available in the state. This “mixed delivery” preschool program is to be coordinated by the early learning hubs in their region. The preschool programs eligible for financing through the program must meet a set of criteria including serving children ages 3 to 5 whose families are at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. The programs must also meet specific quality measures including minimum education requirements for some of the staff, as well as following minimum compensation levels for the lead teachers established by the Early Learning Council. One anticipated outcome of the program is to expand the types of preschools to include programs at child care centers, public schools, relief nurseries, and community based organizations.

Funding for this program is available for the second year of the biennium in a special purpose appropriation to the Emergency Board.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 3380 be reported out do pass.