

## HB 3106 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Early Childhood and Family Supports

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**Meeting Dates:** 3/30

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies family income requirements for participation in preschool program administered by Early Learning Division.

*FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, but no statement issued*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

##### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Amendment: Replaces measure. Requires Early Learning Hubs (Hubs) to convene Oregon prekindergarten program and preschool program to coordinate enrollment of eligible children and determine programs that best meet the needs of children. Requires Early Learning Council (ELC) to create plans for changes to the Head Start program. Directs ELC to adopt rules to provide half-day, full-day or combined Oregon prekindergarten program based on community-needs assessments.

*FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, but no statement issued*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

##### BACKGROUND:

In 1987, the Oregon Legislature enacted Senate Bill 524, which created the Oregon Prekindergarten Program (OPK), modeled after and designed to work in congruence with federally-funded Head Start programs. OPK follows federal Head Start performance standards, operating procedures and monitoring and provides health, education, parent involvement, mental health, and other services for children and families.

OPK is free to families up to 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Oregon law allows for 20 percent of children enrolled in OPK to come from families not in poverty and requires at least 10 percent of children to have identified disabilities. The Early Learning Division (ELD) funds 21 OPK programs that also receive federal Head Start funding and funds seven OPK programs that do not receive federal funding. For 2015-2016, the total OPK funded enrollment was 13,641 slots and an estimated 12,201 of the slots were filled by children living at or below 100 percent of the FPL. The remaining 1,440 slots were for children with other risk factors.

Research shows that longer preschool duration has a positive impact on early learning outcomes. As a result of these findings, the Department of Human Services modified the federal Head Start standards in 2016 to require 1,020 annual hours of planned class operations, which Head Start grantees will phase in over five years.

In 2015, House Bill 3380 created Preschool Promise, under the ELD, to provide free, high quality preschool in a mixed delivery model. This give families the option to choose a provider setting, which includes Head Start programs, elementary schools, licensed-center and home-based child care programs, and community-based organizations. Providers under Preschool Promise must meet standards such as class size, adult to child ratios and instructional time requirements.

The Early Learning Hubs (Hubs) are 16 regional, community-based organizations responsible for identifying and coordinating providers of Preschool Promise. The Hubs also provide funding to preschool programs in their

communities.

Preschool Promise serves children ages three to four, in families with incomes at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, providing a higher income threshold than OPK. For 2015-2016, Preschool Promise served roughly 1,300 children, of which 67 percent had incomes that range between 100-200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level and 33 percent have incomes below 100 percent of the FPL.

House Bill 3106 -3 would allow Hubs to convene OPK and Preschool Promise programs to coordinate enrollment of children in respective programs. It would also create alignment with federal Head Start standards to give OPK programs flexibility in duration of instructional time.