

**HB 2500 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

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**Prepared By:** Matt Doumit, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/8

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS) to consult with Department of Justice (DOJ) to implement training for DHS caseworkers on juvenile dependency proceedings and requires caseworker renew training every four years. Requires training to include DOJ instruction on unauthorized practice of law.

*FISCAL: Fiscal Impact Issued*

*REVENUE: No Revenue Impact*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Child welfare staff across Oregon counties may perform multiple legal functions with dependency proceedings. Caseworkers in juvenile court proceedings have prepared petitions, affidavits, drafted court orders, and presented the Department of Human Services' (DHS') position in court.

House Bill 2500-A directs DHS to consult with the Department of Justice (DOJ) to develop and implement training and continuing education for DHS caseworkers on their roles in juvenile dependency proceedings. It requires training to include DOJ-led instruction on a caseworker's proper role in courtroom proceedings and unauthorized practice of law. The measure requires continuing education for juvenile dependency caseworkers every four years.