

**HB 3068 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services**

---

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

**Meeting Dates:** 5/15

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Replaces child care resource and referral agencies with statewide resource and referral system implemented by Office of Child Care (OCC). Defines “resource and referral system” and describes duties of resource and referral entities. Requires resource and referral entity to match funds in amount at least 10 percent of public funds received. Directs OCC to implement federal requirements and establish criteria for processing proposals and award grants for establishing resource and referral entities.

*FISCAL: Minimal Expenditure Impact*

*REVENUE: No Revenue Impact*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Current Oregon law specifies that resource and referral agencies, under the Office of Child Care (OCC) and the Early Learning Division (ELD), are responsible for providing information on child care providers to parents, technical assistance to existing and potential child care providers, and coordinating community resources. They help parents locate child care during nontraditional work hours and helping new providers work through the licensing process.

The early learning workforce has high turnover and low retention rates, which creates instability for children. However, it has been demonstrated that additional professional development and training is associated with better retention and positive teacher-child outcomes. Resources and referral agencies are increasingly focusing on professional development for the early learning workforce by partnering with community colleges, hiring early education trainers, and quality improvement specialists. Because of this focus on professional development, ELD has contracted with 211info to provide child care referrals. This helps people connect with local referral resources.

House Bill 3068-A replaces existing resource and referral agencies with a statewide resources and referral system implemented and managed by OCC. The “resource and referral system” is a statewide, state-funded network to provide information to parents, train and provide technical assistance to child care providers, or recruit qualified child care professionals in a community. The measure requires resource and referral entities to provide specified services and requires entities to match funds in an amount at least 10 percent of the public funds they receive. Finally, House Bill 3068-A requires OCC to implement federal requirements for resource and referral systems and establish criteria for processing proposals and awarding grants for the establishing new resource and referral entities.