

HB 2897 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Student Success

Meeting Dates: 3/4, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Early Childhood Equity Fund (Equity Fund) in the State Treasury. Allows Early Learning Division (ELD) to make grants for culturally specific early learning, early childhood, and parent support programs. Establishes program requirements to receive grants. Requires ELD monitor capacity needs to provide technical assistance to grantees. Requires ELD conduct biennial evaluation of program and establishes evaluation of measurement outcomes. Requires ELD submit report by September 15 of every odd-numbered year to interim committees of Legislative Assembly on impact of grants and changes to capacity of culturally specific organizations. Appropriates \$20,000,000 out of General Fund for Equity Fund. Effective 91st day after sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Determining the number of students the equity fund would provide for
- Statewide impact of equity fund and work of joint committee on student success

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-4 Focusing on promoting capacity of culturally specific organizations to deliver these programs. Specifies serving communities within geographic boundaries of this state including communities within Indian country.

BACKGROUND:

The Early Learning Division is an agency whose mission is to support Oregon's children and families, and focus on child care, early learning programs, and cross systems integration. The early learning hubs represent 16 regions in Oregon and use cross-sector partners to produce local systems that are aligned and coordinated.

House Bill 2897 would create an Early Childhood Equity Fund in the State Treasury that make grants for culturally specific early learning, early childhood, and parent support programs. It requires the ELD evaluate and measure the program outcomes.