

Legislative Fiscal Office

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means

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Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Capital Construction Subcommittee

From: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Date: June 18, 2019

Subject: HB 2346 – Relating to child care
Work Session Recommendations

HB 2346 establishes the 23-member Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care charged with evaluating the current state of child care in Oregon and developing recommendations to expand access to, and affordability of, quality child care.

The measure previously had a hearing in the House Committee on Human Services and Housing on 2/20/2019 and 4/1/2019, and was reported out with a do pass recommendation.

The -A8 amendment replaces the bill, establishing the 17-member Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care charged with: (1) studying why eligible families are not using child care subsidies and making recommendations for how to increase eligible families' use of child care subsidies; and (2) studying and making recommendations to expand access to high-quality, subsidized child care for families that currently are not eligible for subsidized child care and cannot otherwise afford or access child care. The task force must report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by December 31, 2020. The task force sunsets on January 2, 2021.

The bill directs the Early Learning Division within the Department of Education (ODE) to study and prepare a comprehensive report on existing child care subsidy programs in Oregon and submit the findings to the task force by December 31, 2019. In addition, the Early Learning Division must submit the following two studies to the task force by June 30, 2020:

- A report on the supply of and demand for child care by geography and household demographic information, including age, race, ethnicity, and language spoken in the home.
- A report on the barriers to accessing existing child care subsidies, including findings from interviews or surveys of families that have accessed child care subsidies in the past, families that access child care subsidies presently, and child care caseworkers or providers who have assisted families with accessing child care subsidies.

The -A8 amendment appropriates \$235,857 of General Fund to the Early Learning Division within the Department of Education to conduct studies and prepare reports support the task force.

Recommended Changes

LFO recommends adoption of the -A8 amendment.

MOTION: I move adoption of the -A8 amendment to HB 2346. (VOTE)

Final Subcommittee Action

MOTION: I move HB 2346, as amended, to the Full Committee with a do pass recommendation. (VOTE)

Carriers

Full Committee: _____

House Floor: _____

Senate Floor: _____