

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2346

Relating to child care

HB 2346 establishes the 17-member Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care charged with studying why eligible families are not using child care subsidies and making recommendations on how to encourage eligible families to use the subsidies. The task force is also charged with expanding access to high-quality, subsidized child care for families that currently are not eligible for subsidized child care yet and cannot otherwise afford or access it. 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 appropriates \$235,857 General Fund to the Early Learning Division within the Department of Education to conduct studies and prepare reports to support the task force. The bill authorizes the Department to contract with a third-party research organization to assist or complete any of the research requirements of the bill; the Department of Education anticipates using \$200,000 to contract with the Oregon Child Care Research Partnership at Oregon State University to conduct the research required by the bill.

The Capital Construction Subcommittee recommends HB 2346 be amended by the -A8 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.