

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2346

By COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

April 5

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, after line 2, insert:

2 “Whereas high-quality child care should be affordable and accessible for all families; and

3 “Whereas a robust, flexible child care system will allow Oregon’s families and economy to
4 prosper; and

5 “Whereas access to child care should be equitable across all ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, ge-
6 ographic and ability statuses; and

7 “Whereas child care is not truly accessible for communities if the child care is not culturally
8 competent, in-language or otherwise does not serve a child well; and

9 “Whereas all parents want child care that allows their child to thrive; and

10 “Whereas child safety, health and development should be fostered in all child care settings; and

11 “Whereas child care providers should be well trained, supported and fairly compensated; and

12 “Whereas customized training and support should be offered for different types of child care
13 providers; and

14 “Whereas the state has a role in the recruitment and retainment of a diverse, competent and
15 stable child care provider workforce; and

16 “Whereas training should be based on best practices and the science of child development and
17 early learning; and

18 “Whereas funding for child care should be adequate, equitable and sustainable, with incentives
19 for quality; and

20 “Whereas a child care system should offer a variety of options for children from birth to age
21 13; and

22 “Whereas a child care system should be efficient, easy to navigate and transparent for parents
23 and providers; and

24 “Whereas a child care system should be accountable and safe; now, therefore,”.

25 Delete lines 4 through 28 and delete pages 2 and 3 and insert:

26 “**SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, ‘child care’ means the compensated care,**
27 **supervision and guidance, on a regular basis, of a child, unaccompanied by a parent, guardian**
28 **or custodian in a place other than the child’s home.**

29 “**(2) The Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care is established.**

30 “**(3) The task force consists of 23 members appointed as follows:**

31 “**(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the**
32 **Senate.**

33 “**(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among**
34 **members of the House of Representatives.**

35 “**(c) The Governor shall appoint 21 members as follows:**

1 “(A) One member who represents the Early Learning Division and who has expertise in
2 the registration and certification of child care providers;

3 “(B) One member who represents the Department of Human Services and who has ex-
4 pertise in the implementation of employment-related child care and other child care pro-
5 grams;

6 “(C) One member who is an advocate for parents;

7 “(D) One member who is an advocate for the rights of children;

8 “(E) One member who is an advocate for child care assistance and who has policymaking
9 expertise in the area of subsidized child care;

10 “(F) Two members who are advocates for racial justice;

11 “(G) One member who represents child care facilities certified under ORS 329A.280;

12 “(H) One member who represents family child care providers who operate family child
13 care homes certified under ORS 329A.280;

14 “(I) One member who represents family child care providers who operate family child
15 care homes registered under ORS 329A.330;

16 “(J) One member who represents child care providers who receive subsidies for child
17 care;

18 “(K) One member who represents a Head Start program;

19 “(L) Five members who are representatives of parent engagement networks that engage
20 parents of color, immigrant parents or parents from diverse geographic areas in Oregon;

21 “(M) Three members from different geographic areas in Oregon who represent Early
22 Learning Hubs, as defined in ORS 417.827, or child care resource and referral services; and

23 “(N) One member of the business community.

24 “(4) The task force shall:

25 “(a) Contract with parent engagement organizations to create parent advisory networks
26 that solicit input from parents of color, immigrant parents or parents from diverse ge-
27 ographic areas in Oregon.

28 “(b) Research past and current use and recipients of child care subsidies to better un-
29 derstand program assets and barriers.

30 “(c) Study all state and federally funded child care and early learning programs in
31 Oregon. The study must include:

32 “(A) An accounting of federal and state funds allocated to or spent on child care subsi-
33 dies, training, quality and administration, including the moneys from Child Care Fund es-
34 tablished under ORS 329A.010 and the General Fund, during the 2017-2019 and 2019-2021
35 biennia.

36 “(B) An accounting of the demand for and availability of child care based on by ge-
37 ography, age, race, language spoken in the home and provider type.

38 “(C) A list of all state programs that pay for child care, including each program’s eligi-
39 bility criteria, copayment requirements, total number of children and families served, pro-
40 vider rates compared to reimbursement rates, administration practices, benefits and hours
41 available to families.

42 “(D) An accounting of professional development, accreditation, licensing and recruitment
43 of child care providers by local, state and federal governments or contractors.

44 “(E) An accounting of families that lose state child care assistance and the reasons for
45 the loss.

1 “(F) An accounting of families who are found to be ineligible for existing child care as-
2 sistance and the reasons for the ineligibility.

3 “(G) An accounting of families who stop using current child care assistance and the
4 reasons for stopping.

5 “(d) The task force shall develop recommendations to expand access to and affordability
6 of quality child care using anticipated federal funds, General Fund moneys and new revenue.
7 The recommendations must include:

8 “(A) Provider rates that reflect the true cost of care, including salary and tuition rates
9 to support a quality and stable child care provider workforce, and the cost of robust child
10 development in various child care settings;

11 “(B) Eligibility levels and copayments for subsidy recipients;

12 “(C) Target numbers of practitioners working in care settings and policies to address
13 provider recruitment, training and retention;

14 “(D) Public outreach methods to ensure families are informed of the child care options
15 in their area, provider quality ratings, provider safety issues and subsidies or other financial
16 assistance for which they may qualify;

17 “(E) Simplified administrative processes, including making child care assistance easier
18 to access and use for parents and providers, expediting eligibility verification, improving
19 processes for paying providers and reducing barriers to 12-month eligibility;

20 “(F) Program enhancements to meet the needs of families, including expanded child care
21 access to families who are not currently eligible for existing programs due to income or
22 purpose for needed child care;

23 “(G) Services for professional child care providers of various types including appropriate
24 training, technical assistance, peer learning, continuing education and professional develop-
25 ment;

26 “(H) Services to support friend, family and neighbor child care providers who are enrolled
27 in a state child care assistance or subsidy program; and

28 “(I) Policies and actions to recruit additional child care providers and to develop related
29 workforce, career and technical education programs.

30 “(5) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
31 transaction of business.

32 “(6) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
33 members of the task force.

34 “(7) The task force shall elect two of its voting members to serve as cochairs.

35 “(8) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
36 ment to become immediately effective.

37 “(9) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochairs
38 or of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

39 “(10) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

40 “(11) The Early Learning Division and the Department of Human Services shall coordi-
41 nate to provide staff support to the task force.

42 “(12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
43 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

44 “(13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are
45 not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the

1 task force.

2 “(14) Parents who provide input as described in subsection (4)(a) of this section may re-
3 ceive reimbursement for expenses incurred.

4 “(15) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
5 the task force in the performance of the task force’s duties and, to the extent permitted by
6 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
7 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

8 “(16) The task force shall report its findings from the study under subsection (4)(c) of
9 this section to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education no
10 later than December 31, 2019, and its recommendations under subsection (4)(d) of this section
11 to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to education no later than
12 September 15, 2020.

13 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on December 31, 2020.

14 “SECTION 3. There is appropriated to the Early Learning Division, for the biennium be-
15 ginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the purpose of as-
16 sisting the Task Force on Access to Quality Affordable Child Care in carrying out its duties
17 under section 1 of this 2019 Act.

18 “SECTION 4. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
19 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect
20 on its passage.”.

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