SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Directs Department of Human Services to develop pilot program contracting with Yamhill County for provision of community-based child welfare services. Directs department to report annually to interim committees of Legislative Assembly regarding progress of pilot program.

Sunsets January 2, 2025.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to community-based child welfare services; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) No later than January 1, 2020, the Department of Human Services shall develop and implement a pilot program for the delivery of community-based child welfare services by Yamhill County. The department shall adopt by rule the qualification criteria and requirements for the county to provide child welfare services to the county's residents and shall integrate the criteria and requirements into a contract with the county. The county may contract with public or private entities to provide child welfare services to the county's residents. The criteria adopted by the department under this section must include, but are not limited to, the county's child welfare service plan and capacity for:

(a) Managing financial risk and establishing financial reserves.
(b) Developing and implementing alternative payment methodologies that are based on the quality of child welfare services and improved child welfare outcomes.
(c) Coordinating the delivery of child welfare services.
(d) Engaging community members and child welfare service providers in improving the welfare of children in the community and addressing regional, cultural, socioeconomic and racial disparities in child welfare services that exist in the community.
(e) Reducing child abuse and neglect rates in the county.
(f) Early identification of risk factors for child welfare intervention and plans for the provision of assistance to keep families intact and successful, to the extent practicable, to reduce placements of children in nonrelative foster homes and residential facilities.
(g) Reducing out-of-county placements of children.

(2) In addition to the criteria specified in subsection (1) of this section, the department must adopt by rule requirements for Yamhill County so that:

(a) The residents of the county receive integrated, person-centered services designed to provide choice, independence and dignity.
(b) Each resident of the county has a consistent and stable relationship with a care team that is responsible for comprehensive child welfare management and service delivery.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 4251
(c) Residents of the county receive assistance in navigating the child welfare system and in accessing community and social support services and statewide resources.

(d) The county provides child welfare services to its residents consistent with the statutes and rules of this state relating to child welfare services.

(e) Residents of the county receive support from programs that follow an intentional community-based framework, to reduce stress on children and families and improve overall health and education outcomes.

(f) The county has specific and measurable outcome targets that focus on services provided to children.

3 The department, in consultation with Yamhill County, shall develop a collective impact strategy that will leverage health, education, child welfare services and justice-related public resources to enhance overall individual, family and community resilience.

4 The provisions of this section do not apply if:

(a) The department and Yamhill County are unable, after reasonable effort to negotiate terms, to reach an agreement regarding the contract for child welfare services under this section; or

(b) The department determines the county is unable to meet the criteria and requirements for the provision of child welfare services under this section.

5 The department shall evaluate the county's implementation of the program not less than once every 12 months for the purpose of determining the success and outcome of the program.

6 The department shall report on the progress of the community-based child welfare pilot program established under this section, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to child welfare no later than September 15 of each year.

SECTION 2. The report described in section 1 (6) of this 2019 Act is first due no later than September 15, 2020.

SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2019 Act are repealed on January 2, 2025.

SECTION 4. (1) Sections 1 to 3 of this 2019 Act become operative on January 1, 2020.

(2) The Department of Human Services may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary for the department to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the department by section 1 of this 2019 Act.

SECTION 5. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect on its passage.