

# Senate Bill 131

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## 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**.

Requires Director of Oregon Health Authority to appoint Children's Health Advocate to investigate complaints and take steps to ensure access to and reimbursement of timely health care for children placed by Department of Human Services in private child-caring agencies.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to health care for children in private child-caring agencies.

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

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 413.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) The Director of the Oregon Health Authority shall appoint a Children's**  
6 **Health Advocate who shall be responsible for ensuring that children in private child-caring**  
7 **agencies, as defined in ORS 418.205, receive timely access to health care.**

8 **(2) The Children's Health Advocate shall, with respect to a child placed by the Depart-**  
9 **ment of Human Services in a private child-caring agency:**

10 **(a) Investigate complaints made by or on behalf of the child regarding access to medical**  
11 **care, dental care or mental health care through the medical assistance program;**

12 **(b) Take all necessary steps to resolve complaints and ensure the child has timely access**  
13 **to health services through the medical assistance program in the geographic area where the**  
14 **child resides; and**

15 **(c) Resolve disputes regarding reimbursement of the cost of the child's care.**

16 **(3) The Oregon Health Authority, in collaboration with the department, shall inform**  
17 **private child-caring agencies about the services available from the Children's Health Advo-**  
18 **cate.**

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**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.