

JUN 21 2021



Omolaso Preschool and Childcare



Eastern Oregon University Head Start



Black Child Development PDX & partners call for YES vote on SB 236

Children as young as two are suspended or expelled from early childhood programs.

Preschool has the highest suspension and expulsion rates of any age; young children that experience suspension and expulsion in the early years, and their families, may carry stigma throughout their education.

Black children, Native children, children of color, and children who experience disabilities are asked to leave preschool and child care at disproportionate rates. It doesn't have to be this way.

A recent [survey](#) of Oregon households found that 9 percent of Native children, 9.5 percent of Latino Children, 14.7 percent of children with disabilities, and 5.4 percent of white children were asked to leave their care setting. Black children are 3x more likely to be expelled nationally.

Early care and education providers play a critical role in preventing this stigma. It's time to lift up Oregon's early childhood educators and support them in the classroom.

Without adequate professional support, providers may see suspension and expulsion as a last resort. Oregon must do better. We can support providers to include every child. Young children who are included in their classrooms can thrive in preschool and beyond.

SB 236 works with HB 2166 to marshal robust coaching and support for early childhood educators so they have the tools to support children and families. Together, these bills move us toward more inclusive programs and an end to suspension and expulsion in Oregon by 2026.

From the Office Of:
VOTE YES on SB 236 Representative Karin Power