

**SB 236 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

Carrier: Rep. Power

**House Committee On Rules****Action Date:** 06/16/21**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)**Vote:** 4-3-0-0**Yeas:** 4 - Fahey, Holvey, Salinas, Smith Warner**Nays:** 3 - Bonham, Drazan, Zika**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Lisa Gezelter**Meeting Dates:** 6/8, 6/16**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires Early Learning Division to report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024 on efforts to reduce suspension and expulsion in early learning and care settings. Enacts ban on suspension or expulsion of any child in any program that either receives state public funding from Early Learning Division, is certified under ORS 329A.280, or is registered under ORS 329A.330. Requires Early Learning Division to submit a report on the proposed implementation of the ban by July 1, 2022. Requires report to include description of investigatory and enforcement processes as well as recommendations for legislation. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Experiences of parents and children excluded from child care and preschool settings
- Suspension and expulsion prevention program proposed in House Bill 2166 (2021)
- Suspension and expulsion regulations in other states
- Religiously based programs and providers

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces Section 3 of the measure and inserts a new Section 5. Enacts ban on suspension or expulsion of any child in any program that either receives state public funding from Early Learning Division, is certified under ORS 329A.280, or is registered under ORS 329A.330. Requires Early Learning Division to submit a report on the proposed implementation of the ban by July 1, 2022. Requires report to include description of investigatory and enforcement processes as well as recommendations for legislation.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2016, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Children and Families issued a policy statement on expulsion and suspension policies in early childhood settings. That statement recommended that states establish policies applicable in both publicly and privately funded settings to promote mental and behavioral health and eliminate or limit the use of exclusionary discipline in early childhood settings. The National Association for the Education of Young Children estimates that over 8,000 children are suspended or expelled from early learning settings annually in the United States. Senate Bill 236 B requires the Early Learning Division to study the use of suspension and expulsion in early learning settings and prohibits providers that accept state funding as well as providers who are certified or registered from suspending or expelling any child. The measure also requires the Early Learning Division to report back to the legislature on prospective investigation and enforcement processes by July 1, 2022.