Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of Governor Kate Brown for Department of Education)

CHAPTER .................................................

AN ACT


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

SECTION 1. ORS 336.101 is amended to read:
336.101. (1) The Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program is established for the purpose of improving the readiness of children for kindergarten. The program shall be administered by the Early Learning Council Division as provided by this section.

(2) The Early Learning Council shall provide grants under this section based on criteria established by the council by rule. Criteria may include requirements that an applicant must meet one or more of the following criteria:

(a) Form a partnership with at least one provider of early learning services, child care provider or elementary school;

(b) Form partnerships with community-based providers of early childhood services to provide preschool and other early-learning strategies;

(c) Establish ambitious but meaningful targets for kindergarten readiness;

(d) Invest resources in students who meet criteria established by the council by rule;

(e) Align with, and supplement, federal programs to provide moneys for educational purposes; and

(f) Agree to report to, and partner with, any Early Learning Hubs serving the region.

(3) Priority for grants provided under this section may be for programs that:

(a) Assist children in becoming ready for kindergarten or being successful in kindergarten; or

(b) Share professional development strategies and resources with providers of early learning services, child care providers and kindergarten teachers.

(2) Under the program, the Early Learning Division shall provide grants to Early Learning Hubs based on criteria established by the Early Learning Council by rule. Grants may be used for:

(a) Supporting children to successfully transition into kindergarten;

(b) Engaging families of children who are zero through five years of age in being partners in the learning and development of their children; or

(c) Investing in resources for priority populations and priority geographic areas, as identified in plans developed by Early Learning Hubs to address early care and education.

SECTION 2. ORS 336.104 is amended to read:

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336.104. (1) The Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Account is established within the Early Learning Division Fund. Separate records shall be maintained for moneys in the account. Interest earned by the account shall be credited to the account.

(2) Moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the [Early Learning Council] Department of Education for the Early Learning Division to use for the Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program described in ORS 336.101.