House Bill 2483

Sponsored by Representative POWER (Presession filed.)

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 Oregon Business Development Department to require certain recipients of economic development assistance from state funds to consider and plan for access to child care.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to child care planning for economic development projects; amending ORS 285A.020 and 285A.075.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 285A.020 is amended to read:

285A.020. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds that:

(a) Oregon possesses unique and sustaining virtues that will guide and assist in maintaining the state's economic health, including but not limited to Oregon's:

(A) Special heritage;

(B) Respect for and cultivation of the environment; and

(C) Attention to quality of life issues that are important to the state's economic development, including but not limited to access to quality, affordable child care for all children in Oregon.

(b) Oregon is strategically placed to compete and succeed in the global marketplace.

(c) All regions of the state should share in Oregon’s economic recovery.

(d) Creating and retaining quality jobs are vital to the state’s economic health.

(e) Oregon’s agriculture and natural resource industries provide opportunities for beneficial economic enterprise, including sustainable business development activities.

(f) A well educated and trained workforce is necessary to support business and industry needs throughout the state.

(g) The ability of existing businesses to grow is critical to Oregon's prosperity.

(h) The state must utilize its competitive advantages to retain existing businesses and attract new companies and investment into the state.

(i) Continued development in Oregon depends on strengthening traded sector industries.

(j) International trade and development of international trade are essential for future business development opportunities.

(k) Small businesses remain a critical element of the state's economy.

(L) Capacity building to support business development in rural and distressed areas is a key component of economic development and revitalization efforts.

(m) Oregon's ports are important partners in the state's economic development efforts and are key components of local and state economic development strategies.

(n) Improving and enhancing infrastructure is necessary to the state’s future economic develop-
(o) Federal, state and local agencies working together will continue to enhance industrial site
development and other economic development activities.

(2) It is the purpose of ORS 284.101 to 284.148 and ORS chapters 285A, 285B and 285C to enable
the creation, retention, expansion and attraction of businesses that provide sustainable, living wage
jobs for Oregonians through public-private partnerships and leveraged funding and to support eco-
nomic opportunities for Oregon companies and entrepreneurs.

(3) The Legislative Assembly declares that it is the immediate economic strategy of the state to:
(a) Promote a favorable investment climate to strengthen businesses, create jobs and raise real
wages;
(b) Improve the national and global competitiveness of Oregon companies; [and]
(c) Assist and further efforts to retain, expand and attract businesses[;]; and
(d) Assist in the development of quality, affordable child care for Oregonians by requiring
recipients of economic development assistance from state funds for workforce, housing and
public transit development projects to consider and plan for access to child care.

(4) To promote the advancement of the Oregon economy and implement the immediate economic
strategy of the state, the Oregon Business Development Department shall invest resources in ac-
cordance with the following principles:
(a) Processes for making public investments and working with local and regional issues must
be designed for flexibility so that actions can adapt to the constantly changing conditions and de-
mands under which communities and businesses operate.
(b) Partnerships among local, state and federal governments and public and private organiza-
tions and entities should be strengthened to further the economic strategy of the state.
(c) The expected impact of public investment and assistance shall be identified, in terms of
measurable outcomes, whenever possible.
(d) State, federal and community goals, constraints and obligations should be identified at the
beginning of the planning process, and the state should work actively with community partners, re-
gions and state and local agencies to address and accomplish their mutual objectives.
(e) Economic growth and workforce stability are enhanced by the creation and mainte-
nance of quality, affordable child care, and the state should require recipients of economic
development assistance for workforce, housing and public transit development projects to
consider and plan for access to child care.

(5) When the department provides funds or assistance for projects, programs, technical support
or other authorized activities pursuant to ORS 284.101 to 284.148 and ORS chapters 285A, 285B and
285C, the department shall give priority to projects, programs and activities that:
(a) Retain and create jobs and raise real wages;
(b) Promote capacity building, emphasizing rural and distressed areas to further economic de-
velopment initiatives;
(c) Assist small business creation and expansion;
(d) Invest and engage in training a skilled workforce;
(e) Retain and expand existing companies and recruit new investment to Oregon;
(f) Capitalize on Oregon’s competitive advantages and strategically invest resources to offset
competitive disadvantages;
(g) Support innovation and research;
(h) Assist industry clusters to succeed;
(i) Market Oregon’s advantages;
(j) Promote international trade and attract foreign direct investment;
(k) Support the development of industrial and commercial lands;
(L) Advance the efforts of ports to promote economic development activities; and
(m) Build capacity in Oregon’s arts and cultural organizations, creative businesses and individual artists.

SECTION 2. ORS 285A.075 is amended to read:

285A.075. (1) The Oregon Business Development Department shall:

(a) Implement programs and adopt rules in accordance with applicable provisions of ORS chapter 183 that are consistent and necessary to carry out the policies established by the Oregon Business Development Commission and the duties, functions and powers vested by law in the department.

(b) Act as the official state liaison agency for persons interested in locating industrial or business firms in the state and for state and local groups seeking new industry or business, and maintain the confidentiality of negotiations conducted pursuant to this paragraph, if requested.

(c) Coordinate state and federal economic and community development programs.

(d) Actively recruit domestic and international business firms to those communities desiring business recruitment.

(e) Work with existing Oregon companies to assist in their expansion or help them retain jobs in the state.

(f) Consult with local governments to establish regions for the purpose of job development to facilitate economic activities in the region. Regions established for this purpose need not be of the same size in geographic area or population.

(g) Establish and operate foreign trade offices in foreign countries in which the department considers a foreign trade office necessary. The department shall use department employees, contracts with public or private persons or a combination of employees and contractors to establish and operate foreign trade offices. Department employees, including managers, who are assigned to work in a foreign trade office shall be in the unclassified service, and the director shall set the salaries of such employees. ORS 276.428, 279A.120, 279A.140, 279A.155, 279A.275, 279B.025, 279B.235, 279B.270, 279B.280, 279C.370, 279C.500 to 279C.530, 279C.540, 279C.545, 279C.800 to 279C.870, 282.020, 282.050, 282.210, 282.220, 282.230, 283.140, 459A.475, 459A.490, 653.268 and 653.269 do not apply to the department’s operation of foreign trade offices outside the state.

(h) Consult with other state agencies and with local agencies and officials prior to defining or designating distressed areas for purposes of ORS 285A.020.

(i) Budget moneys for travel and various other expenses of industrial or commercial site location agents, film or video production location agents, business journal writers, elected state officials or other state personnel to accomplish the purposes of ORS 284.101 to 284.148 and ORS chapters 285A, 285B and 285C. The department may expend moneys duly budgeted to pay the travel and other expenses of such persons if the director determines the expense may promote the purposes of this subsection.

(j) Promulgate rules to govern contracts.

(k) Develop strategies to address issues that are necessary and appropriate to Oregon’s future and adopt goals that include measurable indicators of success (Oregon benchmarks) that show the extent to which each goal is being achieved.

(L) Use practices and procedures that the department determines are the best practices for carrying out the duties of the department.
(m) Require recipients of economic development assistance from state funds under pro-
grams administered by the department for workforce, housing and public transportation de-
velopment projects to consider and plan for access to quality, affordable child care.

(2) The department shall have no regulatory power over the activities of private persons. Its
functions shall be solely advisory, coordinative and promotional.

(3) Notwithstanding ORS 279A.140, the department may award grants or enter into contracts
as necessary or appropriate to carry out the duties, functions and powers vested in the department
by law.