Senate Bill 50

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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 operators, employees and volunteers of preschool recorded programs and school-age recorded programs to be enrolled in Central Background Registry.

Directs Early Learning Council to adopt rules to establish minimum health and safety standards for preschool recorded programs and school-age recorded programs.

Authorizes Office of Child Care to conduct certain investigations of preschool recorded programs and school-age recorded programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to recorded programs; amending ORS 329A.030, 329A.250, 329A.252, 329A.255, 329A.390 and 419B.005; and repealing ORS 329A.257.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 329A.030 is amended to read:

329A.030. (1) The Office of Child Care shall establish a Central Background Registry and may maintain information in the registry through electronic records systems.

(2)(a) A subject individual shall apply to and must be enrolled in the Central Background Registry as part of the individual's application to operate a program or serve in a position described in subsection (10) of this section.

(b) An individual who has been the subject of a founded or substantiated report of child abuse shall apply to and must be enrolled in the Central Background Registry prior to providing any of the types of care identified in ORS 329A.250 (4)(a), (g) or (h) if:

(A) The child abuse occurred on or after January 1, 2017, and involved a child who died or suffered serious physical injury, as defined in ORS 161.015; or

(B) The child abuse occurred on or after September 1, 2019, and involved any child for whom the individual was providing child care, as defined in ORS 329A.250 (4), or care identified in ORS 329A.250 (4)(a), (c), (f), (g), (h) or (i).

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, an individual described in paragraph (b)(B) of this subsection is not required to enroll in the Central Background Registry if more than seven years has elapsed since the date of the child abuse determination.

(3)(a) Upon receiving an application for enrollment in the Central Background Registry, the office shall complete:

(A) A criminal records check under ORS 181A.195;

(B) A criminal records check of other registries or databases in accordance with rules adopted by the Early Learning Council;

(C) A child abuse and neglect records check in accordance with rules adopted by the council; and
(D) A foster care certification check and an adult protective services check in accordance with rules adopted by the council.

(b) In addition to the information that the office is required to check under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the office may consider any other information obtained by the office that the office, by rule, determines is relevant to enrollment in the Central Background Registry.

(4)(a) The office shall enroll the individual in the Central Background Registry if the individual:

(A) Is determined to have no criminal, child abuse and neglect, negative adult protective services or negative foster home certification history, or to have dealt with the issues and provided adequate evidence of suitability for the registry;

(B) Has paid the applicable fee established pursuant to ORS 329A.275; and

(C) Has complied with the rules of the Early Learning Council adopted pursuant to this section.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section and paragraph (a) of this subsection, the office may enroll an individual in the registry if the Department of Human Services has completed a background check on the individual and the individual has received approval from the department for purposes of providing child care.

(5)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (3) and (4) of this section, the office may not enroll an individual in the Central Background Registry if:

(A) The individual has a disqualifying condition as defined in rules adopted by the council; or

(B) The individual is an exempt prohibited individual, as provided by ORS 329A.252.

(b) If an individual prohibited from enrolling in the registry as provided by this subsection is enrolled in the registry, the office shall remove the individual from the registry.

(6)(a) The office may conditionally enroll an individual in the Central Background Registry pending the results of a nationwide criminal records check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation if the individual has met other requirements of the office for enrollment in the registry.

(b) The office may enroll an individual in the registry subject to limitations identified in rules adopted by the council.

(7) An enrollment in the Central Background Registry may be renewed upon application to the office, payment of the fee established pursuant to ORS 329A.275 and compliance with rules adopted by the Early Learning Council pursuant to this section. However, an individual who is determined to be ineligible for enrollment in the registry after the date of initial enrollment shall be removed or suspended from the registry by the office.

(8)(a) A child care facility [shall], preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program may not hire or employ an individual if the individual is not enrolled in the Central Background Registry.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, a child care facility, preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program may employ on a probationary basis an individual who is conditionally enrolled in the Central Background Registry.

(9) The Early Learning Council may adopt any rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including but not limited to rules regarding expiration and renewal periods and limitations related to the subject individual’s enrollment in the Central Background Registry.

(10) [For purposes of] As used in this section, “subject individual” means a subject individual as defined by the Early Learning Council by rule, an individual subject to subsection (2)(b) of this section or a person who applies to be:

(a) The operator or an employee of a child care or treatment program;

(b) The operator or an employee of an Oregon prekindergarten program under ORS 329.170 to
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(c) The operator or an employee of a federal Head Start program regulated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services;

(d) An individual in a child care facility, preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program who may have unsupervised contact with children as identified by the office;

(e) A contractor or an employee of the contractor who provides early childhood special education or early intervention services pursuant to ORS 343.455 to 343.534;

(f) A child care provider who is required to be enrolled in the Central Background Registry by any state agency;

(g) A contractor, employee or volunteer of a metropolitan service district organized under ORS chapter 268 who may have unsupervised contact with children and who is required to be enrolled in the Central Background Registry by the metropolitan service district;

(h) A provider of respite services, as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS 109.056 who is providing respite services as a volunteer with a private agency or organization that facilitates the provision of such respite services; [or]

(i) The operator or an employee of an early learning program as defined in rules adopted by the council[,] or

(j) The operator or an employee of a preschool recorded program or a school-age recorded program.

(11)(a) Information provided to a metropolitan service district organized under ORS chapter 268 about the enrollment status of the persons described in subsection (10)(g) of this section shall be subject to a reciprocal agreement with the metropolitan service district. The agreement must provide for the recovery of administrative, including direct and indirect, costs incurred by the office from participation in the agreement. Any moneys collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Child Care Fund established under ORS 329A.010.

(b) Information provided to a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services, as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS 109.056 about the enrollment status of the persons described in subsection (10)(h) of this section shall be subject to an agreement with the private agency or organization. The agreement must provide for the recovery of administrative, including direct and indirect, costs incurred by the office from participation in the agreement. Any moneys collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Child Care Fund established under ORS 329A.010.

(c) Information provided to a private agency or organization about the enrollment status of the persons described in subsection (10)(i) of this section shall be subject to an agreement with the private agency or organization. The agreement must provide for the recovery of administrative, including direct and indirect, costs incurred by the office from participation in the agreement. Any moneys collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the Child Care Fund established under ORS 329A.010.

SECTION 2. ORS 329A.252 is amended to read:

329A.252. (1) As used in this section, “exempt prohibited individual” means:

(a) An individual whose record, certification or registration is suspended, has been denied for cause or has been revoked under ORS 329A.255 or 329A.350.

(b) An individual whose enrollment in the Central Background Registry established by ORS 329A.030 is suspended, has been denied for cause or has been removed under ORS 329A.030.

(c) An individual whose record, certification, registration or enrollment in the Central Back-
ground Registry is subject to an emergency order of suspension under ORS 183.430 (2).

(d) An individual who voluntarily surrendered the individual’s record, certification, registration or enrollment in the Central Background Registry while under investigation by the Office of Child Care or at any time after the Office of Child Care has given notice of an administrative proceeding against the individual, or the individual’s child care facility, the individual’s preschool recorded program or the individual’s school-age recorded program.

(e) An individual to whom the Office of Child Care has issued a final order to cease and desist:

(A) After a contested proceeding; or

(B) That has become effective because the individual did not request a hearing.

(2) For five years following the date on which an individual becomes an exempt prohibited individual, the exempt prohibited individual:

(a) Is ineligible for enrollment in the Central Background Registry; and

(b) May not provide care to a child who is not related to the exempt prohibited individual by blood or marriage within the fourth degree as determined by civil law.

(3) After the five-year period described in subsection (2) of this section, an individual ceases to be an exempt prohibited individual if the individual enrolls in the Central Background Registry.

(4) Notwithstanding the five-year period described in subsection (2) of this section, an individual shall be permanently considered an exempt prohibited individual and shall be permanently subject to the prohibitions described in subsection (2) of this section if the individual:

(a) Has been convicted of, in any state, a crime in which a child suffered serious physical injury, as defined in ORS 161.015, or death; or

(b) Is required to report as a sex offender under ORS 163A.010, 163A.015, 163A.020 or 163A.025 or the laws of another jurisdiction.

SECTION 3. ORS 329A.255 is amended to read:

329A.255. (1) A person operating a preschool recorded program or a school-age recorded program may not operate the program without performing criminal background checks for all staff and volunteers and becoming recorded with the Office of Child Care as provided in this section.

(2) To obtain recording, the person must apply to the office by submitting a completed record application form and a nonrefundable fee as established by the office. The office shall determine and apply the fee through rules adopted by the Early Learning Council under ORS 329A.275. The office shall deposit fees received under this subsection as provided in ORS 329A.310 (2).

(3) The office shall issue a record to a person operating a preschool recorded program or a school-age recorded program if the office determines that the applicant meets the requirements of ORS 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450 and the rules adopted pursuant to ORS 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450 and subsection (9) of this section.

(4) Unless the record is revoked as provided in subsection (8) of this section, the record is valid for a period of two years from the date of issuance.

(5) A record authorizes operation of the preschool recorded program or the school-age recorded program only on the premises described in the record and only by the person named in the record.

(6) The office shall create and maintain a database of preschool recorded programs and school-age recorded programs recorded under this section and shall update the database annually. The database shall include, but need not be limited to, the following information:

(a) Name and address of the program;

(b) Name of operator; and
(c) Significant program information, as determined by the Early Learning Council by rule.

(7) A preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program recorded under this section must post, and provide parents with, a notice that the preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program is not certified under ORS 329A.280 or registered under ORS 329A.330.

(8) An initial application or renewal application for recording of a preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program may be denied, revoked or suspended, if the office finds:
   
   (a) That the program or its operation does not comply with ORS 329A.030 or 329A.250 to 329A.450, with applicable rules and with any term or condition imposed under the record; or
   
   (b) That investigation of the program or its records authorized by ORS 329A.390 has not been permitted.

(9)(a) The Early Learning Council shall adopt rules to establish minimum health and safety standards for preschool recorded programs and school-age recorded programs.

   (b) The Early Learning Council shall adopt any other rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(10) A person who violates any provision of this section or any term or condition of a record is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $100.

SECTION 4. ORS 329A.390 is amended to read:

329A.390. (1) Whenever an authorized representative of the Office of Child Care is advised or has reason to believe that child care that is subject to regulation by the office is being provided without a certification, registration or record, the authorized representative may visit and conduct an investigation of the facility at any reasonable time to determine whether the facility is subject to the requirements of ORS 181A.200, 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450.

(2) At any reasonable time, an authorized representative of the Office of Child Care may conduct an investigation of any certified or registered child care facility, preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program to determine whether the child care facility, preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program is in conformity with ORS 181A.200, 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450.

(3) An authorized representative of the Office of Child Care shall conduct an investigation of any certified or registered child care facility, preschool recorded program or school-age recorded program or of any other child care facility that is subject to regulation by the office, if the office receives a serious complaint about the child care facility or program.

(4) Complaints, including but not limited to serious complaints, made by individuals or entities regarding certified or registered child care facilities, regulated subsidy facilities, preschool recorded programs or school-age recorded programs may be received and investigated by the Office of Child Care. The name, address and other identifying information about the individual or entity that made the complaint may not be disclosed.

(5) Any state agency that receives a complaint about a certified or registered child care facility, a regulated subsidy facility, a preschool recorded program or a school-age recorded program shall notify the Office of Child Care about the complaint and any subsequent action taken by the state agency based on that complaint.

(6) A director or operator of a child care facility, a regulated subsidy facility, a preschool recorded program or a school-age recorded program shall permit an authorized representative of the Office of Child Care to inspect records of the facility or program and shall furnish promptly reports and information required by the office.
(7) In conducting an investigation under this section, the office may:
   (a) Take evidence;
   (b) Take the depositions of witnesses, including the person under investigation, in the manner
       prescribed by law for depositions in civil actions;
   (c) Compel the appearance of witnesses, including the person under investigation, in the manner
       prescribed by law for appearances in civil actions;
   (d) Require answers to interrogatories;
   (e) Compel the production of books, papers, accounts, documents or testimony that pertains to
       the matter under investigation;
   (f) Issue subpoenas; and
   (g) Inspect the premises of the facility under investigation.

(8) The Office of Child Care may share information regarding investigations or inspections con-
    ducted under this section with other public entities when the office determines that sharing the in-
    formation would support the health or safety of children in child care.

(9) The Office of Child Care shall make a reasonable attempt to identify any child care facility
    or person or place providing child care about which the office receives a complaint, including but
    not limited to a serious complaint, if the complaint includes, but is not limited to, any of the fol-
    lowing information:
    (a) The name of a child in the care of the child care facility or person or place providing child
        care, or the child’s parent;
    (b) The name of a child care provider, a child care facility owner, operator or employee, or a
        person or place providing child care;
    (c) The name of the child care facility or person or place providing child care;
    (d) The phone number of the child care facility or person or place providing child care; or
    (e) The physical address of the child care facility or person or place providing child care.

(10) As used in this section:
    (A) “Serious complaint” has the meaning given that term by the Early Learning Council by
        rule.
    (B) “Serious complaint” includes notifications or reports of alleged child abuse received by the
        Office of Child Care.

    (b) “Regulated subsidy facility” has the meaning given that term by the Early Learning Council
        by rule.

SECTION 5. ORS 329A.250 is amended to read:
329A.250. As used in ORS 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450, unless the context requires oth-
   erwise:
   (1) “Babysitter” means a person who goes into the home of a child to give care during the
       temporary absence of the parent or legal guardian or custodian.
   (2) “Certification” means the certification that is issued under ORS 329A.280 by the Office of
       Child Care to a family child care home, child care center or other child care facility.
   (3) “Child” means a child under 13 years of age or a child under 18 years of age who has special
       needs or disabilities and requires a level of care that is above normal for the child’s age.
   (4) Subject to ORS 329A.440, “child care” means the care, supervision and guidance on a regular
       basis of a child, unaccompanied by a parent, guardian or custodian, provided to a child during a part
       of the 24 hours of the day, in a place other than the child’s home, with or without compensation.
       “Child care” does not include care provided:
(a) In the home of the child;
(b) By the child’s parent, guardian, or person acting in loco parentis;
(c) By a person related to the child by blood or marriage within the fourth degree as determined by civil law;
(d) On an occasional basis by a person not ordinarily engaged in providing child care;
(e) By providers of medical services;
(f) By a babysitter;
(g) By a person who cares for children from only one family other than the person’s own family;
(h) By a person who cares for no more than three children other than the person’s own children;
or
(i) By a person who is a member of the child’s extended family, as determined by the office on a case-by-case basis.

(5) “Child care facility” means any facility that provides child care to children, including a day nursery, nursery school, child care center, certified or registered family child care home or similar unit operating under any name, but not including any:
(a) Preschool recorded program.
(b) Facility providing care for school-age children that is primarily a single enrichment activity, for eight hours or less a week.
(c) Facility providing care that is primarily group athletic or social activities sponsored by or under the supervision of an organized club or hobby group.
(d) Facility operated by:
(A) A school district as defined in ORS 332.002;
(B) A political subdivision of this state; or
(C) A governmental agency.
(e) Residential facility licensed under ORS 443.400 to 443.455.
(f) Babysitters.
(g) Facility operated as a parent cooperative for no more than four hours a day.
(h) Facility providing care while the child’s parent remains on the premises and is engaged in an activity offered by the facility or in other nonwork activity.
(i) Facility operated as a school-age recorded program.

(6) “Family” has the meaning given that term in ORS 329.145.

(7) “Occasional” means that care is provided for no more than 70 days in any calendar year.

(8) “Parent cooperative” means a child care program in which:
(a) Care is provided by parents on a rotating basis;
(b) Membership in the cooperative includes parents;
(c) There are written policies and procedures; and
(d) A board of directors that includes parents of the children cared for by the cooperative controls the policies and procedures of the program.

(9) “Preschool recorded program” means a facility providing care for preschool children that is primarily educational for four hours or less per day and where no child is present at the facility for more than four hours per day.

(10) “Record” means the record that is issued under ORS 329A.255 to a preschool recorded program or [under ORS 329A.257 to] a school-age recorded program.

(11) “Registration” means the registration that is issued under ORS 329A.330 by the Office of Child Care to a family child care home where care is provided in the family living quarters of the
provider's home.

(12) “School age” means of an age eligible to be enrolled in kindergarten or above on or before the first day of the current school year.

(13) “School-age recorded program” means a program for school-age children:
(a) That is not operated by a school district as defined in ORS 332.002;
(b) That is not required to be certified under ORS 329A.280 or registered under ORS 329A.330; and
(c) In which youth development activities are provided to children during hours that school is not in session and does not take the place of a parent’s care.

(14) “Youth development activities” means care, supervision or guidance that is intended for enrichment, including but not limited to teaching skills or proficiency in physical, social or educational activities such as tutoring, music lessons, social activities, sports and recreational activities.

SECTION 6. ORS 419B.005 is amended to read:

ORS 419B.005. As used in ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1)(a) “Abuse” means:

(A) Any assault, as defined in ORS chapter 163, of a child and any physical injury to a child which has been caused by other than accidental means, including any injury which appears to be at variance with the explanation given of the injury.

(B) Any mental injury to a child, which shall include only observable and substantial impairment of the child’s mental or psychological ability to function caused by cruelty to the child, with due regard to the culture of the child.

(C) Rape of a child, which includes but is not limited to rape, sodomy, unlawful sexual penetration and incest, as those acts are described in ORS chapter 163.

(D) Sexual abuse, as described in ORS chapter 163.

(E) Sexual exploitation, including but not limited to:

(i) Contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor, as defined in ORS chapter 163, and any other conduct which allows, employs, authorizes, permits, induces or encourages a child to engage in the performing for people to observe or the photographing, filming, tape recording or other exhibition which, in whole or in part, depicts sexual conduct or contact, as defined in ORS 163.002 or described in ORS 163.665 and 163.670, sexual abuse involving a child or rape of a child, but not including any conduct which is part of any investigation conducted pursuant to ORS 419B.020 or which is designed to serve educational or other legitimate purposes; and

(ii) Allowing, permitting, encouraging or hiring a child to engage in prostitution as described in ORS 167.007 or a commercial sex act as defined in ORS 163.266, to purchase sex with a minor as described in ORS 163.413 or to engage in commercial sexual solicitation as described in ORS 167.008.

(F) Negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child, including but not limited to the failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter or medical care that is likely to endanger the health or welfare of the child.

(G) Threatened harm to a child, which means subjecting a child to a substantial risk of harm to the child's health or welfare.

(H) Buying or selling a person under 18 years of age as described in ORS 163.537.

(I) Permitting a person under 18 years of age to enter or remain in or upon premises where methamphetamines are being manufactured.

(J) Unlawful exposure to a controlled substance, as defined in ORS 475.005, or to the unlawful manufacturing of a cannabinoid extract, as defined in ORS 475B.015, that subjects a child to a sub-
stansl risk of harm to the child's health or safety.

(b) “Abuse” does not include reasonable discipline unless the discipline results in one of the conditions described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(2) “Child” means an unmarried person who:

(a) Is under 18 years of age; or

(b) Is under 21 years of age and residing in or receiving care or services at a child-caring agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205.

(3) “Higher education institution” means:

(a) A community college as defined in ORS 341.005;

(b) A public university listed in ORS 352.002;

(c) The Oregon Health and Science University; and

(d) A private institution of higher education located in Oregon.

(4)(a) “Investigation” means a detailed inquiry into or assessment of the safety of a child alleged to have experienced abuse.

(b) “Investigation” does not include screening activities conducted upon the receipt of a report.

(5) “Law enforcement agency” means:

(a) A city or municipal police department.

(b) A county sheriff’s office.

(c) The Oregon State Police.

(d) A police department established by a university under ORS 352.121 or 353.125.

(e) A county juvenile department.

(6) “Public or private official” means:

(a) Physician or physician assistant licensed under ORS chapter 677 or naturopathic physician, including any intern or resident.

(b) Dentist.

(c) School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution.

(d) Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse's aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service.

(e) Employee of the Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Early Learning Division, Department of Education, Youth Development Division, Office of Child Care, the Oregon Youth Authority, a local health department, a community mental health program, a community developmental disabilities program, a county juvenile department, a child-caring agency as that term is defined in ORS 418.205 or an alcohol and drug treatment program.

(f) Peace officer.

(g) Psychologist.

(h) Member of the clergy.

(i) Regulated social worker.

(j) Optometrist.

(k) Chiropractor.

(L) Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof.

(m) Attorney.

(n) Licensed professional counselor.

(o) Licensed marriage and family therapist.

(p) Firefighter or emergency medical services provider.

(q) A court appointed special advocate, as defined in ORS 419A.004.
(r) A child care provider registered or certified under ORS 329A.030 and 329A.250 to 329A.450.
(s) Member of the Legislative Assembly.
(t) Physical, speech or occupational therapist.
(u) Audiologist.
(v) Speech-language pathologist.
(w) Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission.
(x) Pharmacist.
(y) An operator of a preschool recorded program under ORS 329A.255.
(z) An operator of a school-age recorded program under ORS 329A.257.
(aa) Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services, as defined in ORS 418.205, for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney under ORS 109.056.
(bb) Employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activities:
(A) Including but not limited to youth groups or centers, scout groups or camps, summer or day camps, survival camps or groups, centers or camps that are operated under the guidance, supervision or auspices of religious, public or private educational systems or community service organizations; and
(B) Excluding community-based, nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to provide confidential, direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking.
(cc) A coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete, if compensated and if the athlete is a child.
(dd) Personal support worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
(ee) Home care worker, as defined in ORS 410.600.
(ff) Animal control officer, as defined in ORS 609.500.
(gg) Member of a school district board or public charter school governing body.
(hh) An individual who is paid by a public body, in accordance with ORS 430.215, to provide a service identified in an individualized written service plan of a child with a developmental disability.

SECTION 7. ORS 329A.257 is repealed.