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.

Prescribes requirements for reports produced by Early Learning Division related to publicly funded early childhood care and education programs and availability and accessibility of those programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to reports by the Early Learning Division; amending ORS 329.200.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 329.200 is amended to read:

329.200. [(1) The Early Learning Division shall report to the Legislative Assembly on the merits of continuing and expanding the Oregon prekindergarten program or instituting other means of providing early childhood development assistance.]

(1) As used in this section:

(a) “Disaggregated” means identified and separated into a group based on race, income or disability status.

(b) “Publicly funded early childhood care and education programs” means:

(A) The Oregon prekindergarten program;

(B) The Preschool Promise Program; and

(C) The Employment Related Day Care program.

(2) The Early Learning Division shall produce an annual report on publicly funded early childhood care and education programs. The report must comply with the provisions of this section.

(3) The division’s report shall include the following information for this state:

(a) The total number of slots available in publicly funded early childhood care and education programs.

(b) The total number of children eligible for slots in publicly funded early childhood care and education programs.

(c) The unmet needs of children eligible for slots in publicly funded early childhood care and education programs.

(d) The total number of slots at publicly funded early childhood care and education programs that are delivered by culturally specific organizations.

(e) For each publicly funded early childhood care and education program:

(A) The total number of children eligible for slots in the program;

(B) The percentage of children in this state eligible for slots in the program;

(C) The percentage of children eligible for slots in the program that are enrolled in the
(D) The disaggregated total number of children eligible for slots in the program;
(E) The disaggregated percentage of children in this state eligible for slots in the program; and
(F) The disaggregated percentage of children eligible for slots in the program that are enrolled in the program.
(f) When possible, the information described in paragraph (e) of this subsection must be provided based on age groups.
(g) The demographics of the teachers and administrators for each publicly funded early childhood care and education program, disaggregated based on race only.
(h) Recommendations to improve equitable access to publicly funded early childhood care and education programs.

(2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (3) of this section, each odd-numbered year the division's report shall include an examination and assessment of the merits of continuing or expanding publicly funded early childhood care and education programs or instituting other means of providing early childhood development assistance. The biennial report must include specific recommendations on at least the following issues:
(a) The relationship of the [state-funded Oregon prekindergarten program] publicly funded early childhood care and education programs with the common school system;
(b) The types of children and their needs that the [program] publicly funded early childhood care and education programs should serve;
(c) The appropriate level of state support for implementing the [program for all eligible children] publicly funded early childhood care and education programs for children who are eligible for the programs, including [related] state support for projects to prepare instructors and provide facilities, equipment and transportation;
(d) The state administrative structure necessary to implement the [program] publicly funded early childhood care and education programs; and
(e) Licensing or endorsement of early childhood teachers.

(3) The division shall examine, monitor and assess the effectiveness of the Oregon prekindergarten program and make biennial reports to the Legislative Assembly on the effectiveness of the program.
(5) The division's report must be:
(a) Provided annually to the interim legislative committees relating to education; and
(b) Made available to the public on the division's website.