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February 17, 2021

To: House Committee on Early Childhood; others

Re: I OPPOSE [HB 2719]...as written.

The "**Text:** [Page 1 at 2-16]," states, "Relating to child care for foster parents. Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon: SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Human Services shall establish and administer a program that distributes moneys for child care of a child who resides in a foster home. (2) The department shall make distributions under this section directly to a child care provider who provides child care to a child who resides in a foster home. (3) A person maintaining a foster home may apply for moneys under this section by submitting an application to the department in the form established by the department by rule. (4) As used in this section: (a) "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. (b) "Child care" has the meaning given that term in ORS 329A.250. (c) "Foster home" has the meaning given that term in ORS 418.625."

What is the source of funding for this program?

How is the money to be used and accounted for?

Issue: How will the Department of Human Services prevent "double-dipping?"

Foster parents receive money for foster child's care at home. Foster parents aren't working but ship foster child off for "childcare" and claim additional funds.

Even if the foster parents are working do they still have an obligation to provide for childcare anyway?

Or, do they get recompensed for additional costs?

Will the Audits Division of the Secretary of State conduct financial and performance audits of this program?

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall

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