

House Bill 2727

Sponsored by Representative MARSH; Representatives LIVELY, REYNOLDS, Senators ANDERSON, STEINER
(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**.

Directs Department of Land and Conservation and Development to convene work group to examine strategies for expanding early learning and care facilities in this state.

Sunsets work group on January 2, 2025.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to work group to examine expansion of child care facilities; and prescribing an effective
3 date.

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

5 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Land Conservation and Development shall convene a**
6 **work group to examine strategies for expanding early learning and care facilities in this**
7 **state.**

8 **(2) The work group shall consist of:**

9 **(a) Four members appointed as follows:**

10 **(A) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among the members**
11 **of the Senate.**

12 **(B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**
13 **members of the House of Representatives.**

14 **(b) Members selected by the Department of Land Conservation and Development, in**
15 **consultation with the Department of Early Learning and Care.**

16 **(3) When making selections for the work group under subsection (2)(b) of this section,**
17 **the Department of Land Conservation and Development shall, to the extent practicable, se-**
18 **lect the following as members:**

19 **(a) Representatives from five cities and counties, one of which is a city or county that**
20 **finances and operates a regional early learning and care program, who have collective**
21 **knowledge, experience and expertise in zoning regulations, applicable state and local building**
22 **codes and building permitting requirements and processes.**

23 **(b) At least five providers of early learning services and care with collective experience**
24 **in zoning regulations, building codes and permitting processes with respect to expansion of**
25 **early learning and care facilities, and who are one or more of the following:**

26 **(A) A provider who is a certified or registered family child care provider;**

27 **(B) A provider with experience operating a child care facility, as defined in ORS 329A.250;**

28 **(C) A provider that is a federal Head Start program; or**

29 **(D) A provider that is a culturally specific organization.**

30 **(c) Representatives from two advocacy or policy-making organizations that have experi-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **ence working with early learning and care providers.**

2 **(d) Representatives from the Department of Land Conservation and Development with**
 3 **expertise in land use regulations.**

4 **(e) Representatives from the Department of Consumer and Business Services with ex-**
 5 **pertise in state and local building codes.**

6 **(f) Representatives from the Department of Early Learning and Care with expertise in**
 7 **licensing requirements for providers of early learning services and care.**

8 **(4) The department may select up to five additional members provided that such mem-**
 9 **bers have experience:**

10 **(a) Working with providers of early learning services and care to expand early learning**
 11 **and care facilities; or**

12 **(b) With zoning regulations, applicable state and local building codes and permitting re-**
 13 **quirements and processes with respect to affordable housing expansion.**

14 **(5) Members of the work group must be individuals who reflect the geographic, racial,**
 15 **ethnic and gender diversity of this state.**

16 **(6)(a) The work group shall conduct a study that examines how zoning regulations, state**
 17 **and local building codes and permitting practices inhibit or support expansion of early**
 18 **learning and care facilities. At a minimum, the study must:**

19 **(A) Identify specific barriers and challenges to colocating early learning and care facili-**
 20 **ties with affordable housing;**

21 **(B) Take into account the lived experiences of early learning and care providers in ex-**
 22 **panding early learning and care facilities;**

23 **(C) Examine data and metrics regarding the barriers faced by early learning and care**
 24 **providers, separated by provider type, including but not limited to home-based providers,**
 25 **school-based providers and community-based providers;**

26 **(D) Identify and describe any potential and actual disparate impacts that zoning regu-**
 27 **lations, building codes and permitting practices have on providers, in consideration of diver-**
 28 **sity factors including but not limited to race, ethnicity, language and geographic location of**
 29 **such providers; and**

30 **(E) Present promising state and national standards and best practices for promoting the**
 31 **expansion of early learning and care facilities with particular attention to addressing zoning**
 32 **regulations, building codes and permitting processes related to such expansion.**

33 **(b) In conducting the study, the work group shall review existing research regarding ex-**
 34 **pansion of early learning and care facilities, including reports that:**

35 **(A) Examine the benefits of colocating early care and education facilities with affordable**
 36 **housing;**

37 **(B) Create recommendations for expanding preschool access across Multnomah County;**
 38 **and**

39 **(C) Examine barriers to accessing child care subsidies in Oregon and identify the avail-**
 40 **ability and affordability of child care as a regional priority.**

41 **(7) The work group shall prepare a report that summarizes the findings of the study re-**
 42 **quired under subsection (6) of this section. The report must include recommendations to:**

43 **(a) Reduce barriers to expanding early learning and care facilities.**

44 **(b) Support the expansion of early learning and care facilities in this state, including**
 45 **recommendations developed specifically for:**

1 (A) Expansion in the five cities or counties from which work group members are selected
2 under subsection (3)(a) of this section;

3 (B) Statewide expansion in cities and counties throughout this state;

4 (C) The Legislative Assembly to consider legislative changes the work group deems nec-
5 essary or advisable in support of expansion efforts; and

6 (D) The Office of the Governor and relevant state agencies.

7 (e) Reduce disproportionate racial and regional disparities in access to early learning and
8 care facilities.

9 (8) Not later than December 31, 2024, the work group shall submit the report required
10 by this section, in the manner provided under ORS 192.245, to the interim committees of the
11 Legislative Assembly related to early child care. The work group may include in the report
12 submitted under this subsection recommendations for legislation.

13 **SECTION 2.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
14 ated to the Department of Land Conservation and Development, for the biennium beginning
15 July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which shall be expended for
16 the purpose of implementing section 1 of this 2023 Act.

17 **SECTION 3.** Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

18 **SECTION 4.** This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023
19 regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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