

# House Bill 3402

Sponsored by Representative MORGAN

## 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 Human Services to establish pilot program in certain counties for continued placement of children or wards in specified child-caring agencies providing short-term assessment and stabilization services. Permits continued placement if specified criteria are met. Requires department, in consultation with child-caring agency, to reassess appropriateness of placement at least once every 60 days.

Sunset January 2, 2029.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to a child placement pilot program in certain counties.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **"Child" has the meaning given that term in ORS 418.205.**

6 (b) **"Short-term placement" means a child-caring agency described in ORS 418.322 (3)(g),**  
7 **(h) or (i) that provides short-term assessment and stabilization services.**

8 (c) **"Ward" has the meaning given that term in ORS 419A.004.**

9 **(2) The Department of Human Services shall establish a pilot program for the placement**  
10 **of children or wards in short-term placements consistent with this section.**

11 **(3) Notwithstanding ORS 418.322 (4)(a) and (5), a child or ward who has been placed by**  
12 **the department in a short-term placement may continue in the short-term placement for**  
13 **more than 60 consecutive or 90 cumulative days in a 12-month period if:**

14 (a) **The short-term placement is located in a county along the southern Oregon border**  
15 **having a population of more than 80,000 and less than 200,000;**

16 (b) **Despite diligent efforts, the department has failed to identify an appropriate long-term**  
17 **placement for the child or ward;**

18 (c) **The child or ward would be placed in another short-term placement if relocated;**

19 (d) **At least once every 60 days, the department, in consultation with the short-term**  
20 **placement, conducts an assessment of the child or ward as provided in subsection (4) of this**  
21 **section; and**

22 (e) **The assessment indicates that relocating the child or ward to another short-term**  
23 **placement is reasonably likely to jeopardize any educational and social improvements the**  
24 **child or ward has made since being placed with the short-term placement.**

25 **(4) The department shall by rule establish criteria for the assessment under subsection**  
26 **(3) of this section. At a minimum, the assessment must take into consideration:**

27 (a) **The strengths and needs of the child or ward when initially placed in the short-term**  
28 **placement;**

29 (b) **How the needs of the child or ward have been met while in the short-term placement;**

**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 (c) The overall well-being of the child or ward since placement in the short-term place-  
2 ment;

3 (d) The social and educational development of the child or ward since placement in the  
4 short-term placement;

5 (e) Whether another short-term placement would provide a more effective and appropri-  
6 ate level of care for the child or ward; and

7 (f) Whether relocation of the child or ward to another short-term placement would  
8 jeopardize any improvements the child or ward has made since placement in the short-term  
9 placement.

10 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2023 Act applies to children or wards placed by the De-  
11 partment of Human Services before, on or after the effective date of this 2023 Act.

12 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2029.  
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