HB 3027-3 (LC 1707) 3/21/23 (VSR/ps)

Requested by HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD AND HUMAN SERVICES (at the request of Representative Neron)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 3027

1 On <u>page 1</u> of the printed bill, line 2, before the period insert "; and de-2 claring an emergency".

3 Delete lines 4 through 31 and delete page 2 and insert:

"SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, 'child care navigator' means an entity that assists families with accessing and enrolling in child care and early learning programs, including, but not limited to, the Employment Related Day Care subsidy program, the Preschool Promise Program, the infant and toddler care program administered under ORS 417.784, Early Head Start programs and the Oregon Prekindergarten program.

11 "(2) The Department of Early Learning and Care, in consultation 12 with the Department of Human Services, including the director of the 13 Oregon Eligibility Partnership or the director's designee, shall convene 14 a work group of stakeholders with relevant background, experience 15 or knowledge to study the optimal use of child care navigators to 16 support access to and enrollment in child care and early learning 17 programs in this state.

18 **"(3) In conducting the study, the work group shall:**

"(a) Examine the feasibility of the Department of Early Learning
 and Care hiring or contracting with community-based child care
 navigators to assist families in accessing and enrolling in child care

1 and early learning programs.

"(b) Research options to assist families in identifying and enrolling
in child care and early learning programs, including options such as
assisting families in analyzing eligibility criteria and completing application processes.

"(c) Compile a list of best practices to conduct outreach and public
education for populations that may be eligible to participate in child
care and early learning programs.

9 "(d) Study options for assisting families in overcoming barriers to 10 accessing and enrolling in child care or early learning programs, in-11 cluding barriers related to affordability, transportation, culture or 12 language.

"(e) Identify entities that may be qualified to operate as child care navigators, including, but not limited to, culturally specific community-based organizations, the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon, school districts, education service districts, organizations that provide child care resource or referral services, Early Learning Hubs and joint labor-management committees that administer child care benefits to employees.

"(f) Identify and analyze the changes required to make viable the position of child care navigator, including changes to existing information technology systems, agency processes, application processes, outreach practices, existing or new contracts, state or local laws or administrative rules.

"(g) Analyze how child care navigators may assist the following
 groups with accessing and enrolling in child care or early learning
 programs:

"(A) Parents or guardians of an infant, toddler or child with a di agnosed disability.

30 "(B) Historically marginalized populations.

1 "(C) Communities seeking culturally or linguistically specific ser-2 vices.

3 "(D) Populations seeking evening, overnight or weekend care.

4 "(E) Rural communities.

5 "(F) Other communities with an extreme insufficiency of child care
6 providers.

"(4) The Early Learning Council may adopt any rules necessary for
the implementation of the provisions of this section.

9 "SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Early Learning and Care shall 10 prepare and submit, in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, two re-11 ports on the findings of the study described in section 1 of this 2023 12 Act, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim 13 committees of the Legislative Assembly related to early childhood.

14 "(2)(a) The first report is due no later than November 30, 2023.

15 "(b) The second report is due no later than July 30, 2024.

"SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2023 Act are repealed on January 2, 2025.

"SECTION 4. This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate
 preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is
 declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect on its passage.".

21