

Submitter: Regina Ayars

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2726

February 23, 2023

Chair Reynolds and Vice Chair Nguyen and Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services,

I am writing in support of HB2726 that establishes a pilot program, Southern Oregon Early Childhood Support Network, in Jackson and Josephine counties that will coordinate services to low income pregnant women and women with children under age five. The goal of the program is to ensure that every child has the tools they need to enter the K1-2 system ready to learn.

I have a degree in Early Childhood Education. I understand how crucial early intervention is in determining whether a child thrives and succeeds when they enter kindergarten. These early years provide the foundation for later success in higher grade levels and life as an adult. Not all families, parents, single parents have the resources needed to provide this foundation for success. The Southern Oregon Early Childhood Support Network provides this foundation; childcare, home visiting, parenting education, support for extended family members along with everyday needs such as diapers, clothes, shoes, and food.

We owe our Oregon children the very best opportunity to succeed early in their education and in life.

I strongly ask for your support in passing HB2726.

Thank you for your public service

Regards,

Regina Ayars  
Ashland