



May 2, 2023

TO: Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

FR: Katie Koenig, Oregon Business & Industry

RE: Oregon Business and Industry's Support of SB 599A

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chair Scharf and Members of the Committee,

Oregon Business & Industry (OBI) is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments in support of SB 599A. Earlier this session, OBI told the Senate Committee on Labor and Business about some of the workforce challenges Oregon employers face and cited lack of affordable child care options among one of the most significant. Addressing that problem is complicated and multi-faceted. It will take various approaches.

SB 599A is one such approach. SB 599A would help expand child care options throughout Oregon by making it easier to operate licensed home-based child care facilities in rental properties. This bill will ensure that licensed providers cannot be denied rental just because they are operating a home-based child care facility, while also ensuring that landlords are afforded important legal and liability safeguards. OBI appreciates the collaborative work between proponents of the bill and rental property owners to help address Oregon's child care capacity issues.

Oregon employers and employees need creative, safe and affordable child care options, and this legislation is a good step in that direction.

Contact: Katie Koenig, OBI, katiekoenig@oregonbusinessindustry.com