

HB 2815 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/18, 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Department of Early Learning and Care to study options to support tribal early learning and care, and to submit a report to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Mechanism for determining the distribution of grant funding.
- Technical assistance provided by the Department of Early Learning and Care.
- Importance of early childhood education and literacy.
- Membership of the Oregon Tribal Early Learning Alliance.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment replaces the measure. The amendment repeals the current tribal advisory committee. The amendment directs the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) to develop and implement a statewide early learning and care plan for Native American and Alaska Native children eight years old or younger and establishes the Oregon Tribal Early Learning Alliance to advise DELIC on the development of the plan.

Detailed Summary:

- Replaces the measure.
- Repeals the Tribal Advisory Committee.
- Directs DELIC to develop and implement a statewide early learning and care plan for children enrolled in early childhood care or education who are eight years old or younger, Native American or Alaska Native, and have experienced disproportionate results in early childhood care or education due to historical practices.
- Requires DELIC to engage in consultation with the nine federally recognized Tribes and to consult with the advisory committee in the development of the plan.
- Sets minimum requirements for the plan, including that plan must support developmental needs for plan children, increase access for plan children to system resources, support culturally responsive curricula, and improve early childhood development and literacy.
- Directs DELIC to establish and administer a grant program to award funds to each of the nine federally recognized Tribes to implement the plan.
- Creates the Tribal Early Learning Fund to carry out the statewide plan and grant program
- Allows the council to engage in rulemaking to administer the plan and grant program.
- Establishes the Oregon Tribal Early Learning Alliance advisory committee to advise DELIC in the development and implementation of the plan.
- Describes the membership and structure of the advisory committee.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Legislative Assembly passed [House Bill 2055](#) which established the Tribal Early Learning Hub and the [Tribal Advisory Committee \(TAC\)](#). The bill directed the Early Learning Council to implement a system to coordinate the delivery of early learning services to Tribal Communities through the directed of the Tribal Early Learning Hub.

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The TAC was established to advise the Early Learning Council on the Tribal Early Learning Hub.

[House Bill 4033](#), passed by the Legislative Assembly in 2022, modified membership of the TAC, including making the member from the Commission on Indian Affairs non-voting and eliminating the parent members, and required that the Early Learning Division appoint members in consultation with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon.