

SB 181 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/19, 2/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Includes county programs that provide care or services to children in custody of Department of Human Services (DHS) or Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) to definition of child-caring agency for purpose of placing children in foster homes. Adds definition of "county program" to include any county operated program that provides care or services to children in the custody of DHS or OYA, excluding any local juvenile detention facility that receives state services provided and coordinated by the Department of Corrections. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Differences in licensing practices between DHS and OYA
- Definition of abuse and neglect among child caring agencies
- Licensing impact on safety of children among different programs

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Child-Caring Agencies (CCAs) are private agencies providing day treatment for children with emotional disturbances, adoption placement services, residential care (including foster care or residential treatment for children), outdoor youth programs, and other similar care or services for children. CCAs are licensed by the Department of Human Services (DHS). There are eight types of CCAs: residential care; foster care agencies; outdoor youth programs; homeless and runaway shelters or transitional living programs; academic boarding schools; therapeutic boarding schools; day treatment; and adoption agencies. According to the DHS, there are 95 CCAs in Oregon with 174 programs. In 2018, CCAs served 3,070 children.

Day care programs, group homes for children with developmental disabilities, and county programs providing care or services to children are not CCAs. Senate Bill 181 includes county programs that provide care or services to children in custody of DHS or the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) to the definition of child-caring agencies for the purpose of placing children in foster homes. The measure defines "county program" as any county operated program that provides care or services to children in the custody of DHS or OYA, excluding any local juvenile detention facility that receives state services provided and coordinated by the Department of Corrections.