

## HB 2348 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Human Services and Housing

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**Action Date:** 03/27/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments  
and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 8-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 8 - Helt, Meek, Mitchell, Noble, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams, Zika

**Exc:** 1 - Keny-Guyer

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Amie FenderSosa, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20, 3/27

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Department of Human Services (DHS), in consultation with the Early Learning Division and Office of Child Care to adopt rules for the operation of subsidy programs for employment-related child care administered by DHS. Stipulates areas the rules must address. Requires DHS to work to meet federal recommendation for income eligibility and market access in regard to employment-related child care and reduce subsidy recipient copayments to no more than seven percent of household income. Appropriates General Funds to DHS for the program beginning July 1, 2019.

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost of having children in child care programs
- Copays for Employment-Related Day Care (ERDC) Programs
- Pay for child care providers
- Oregon has some of the highest copayments in country and families that dropped program when copayment became too high
- Desire by bill proponents to have a task force to address issues
- Licensed providers concerns about high copays and union support of amendment

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

#### BACKGROUND:

Oregon's Department of Human Services (DHS) operates the Employment-Related Day Care (ERDC) program, which helps eligible low-income families pay for child care. ERDC is a subsidy program, where eligible families pay part of the cost for child care services. The subsidy depends on the family's income, size, and amount the child care provider charges. According to DHS, the ERDC works with "providers and other child care partners across the state to help families find and keep good child care, improve the availability of quality child care in Oregon, and to develop resources for parents and child care providers."

House Bill 2348-A creates a pilot program in a rural area to improve access to and affordability of child care.