

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2348

Ordered by the House April 3
Including House Amendments dated April 3

Sponsored by Representative POWER; Representatives SALINAS, WILLIAMS (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Directs Early Learning Division to develop pilot program in rural area of state that reimburses child care providers for cost of providing high-quality child care rather than percentage of market rate. Appropriates moneys from General Fund for pilot program.]

[Directs Department of Human Services to set reimbursements for child care providers providing services to recipients of Employment Related Day Care program at 75 percent of market rate. Directs department to reduce subsidy recipient copayments to no more than 10 percent of household income. Directs department to contract with child care providers to provide off-hour child care in counties where no more than 10 percent of children zero to three years of age have access to child care.] **Directs Department of Human Services to reduce employment-related child care subsidy recipient copayments to no more than seven percent of household income.** Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department.

[Declares emergency, effective on July 1, 2019.]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to employment-related child care; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 329A.500.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 329A.500 is amended to read:

329A.500. (1) The Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Early Learning Division and the Office of Child Care, shall adopt rules for the operation of subsidy programs for employment-related child care administered by the department. At a minimum, and taking into account the availability of funds, the rules must provide the following:

(a) Subsidy recipients may be entitled to receive the subsidy for at least one year, regardless of changes in employment. Rules adopted by the department may provide for termination of subsidy eligibility for reasons other than changes in employment during the one-year period. Exit eligibility and copays must be structured to mitigate the financial impact of reduced subsidy support due to increased income.

(b) Subsidy recipients who are enrolled in coursework, as defined by the department by rule, may be entitled to receive the subsidy to enable the subsidy recipient to attend and participate in the coursework provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

(c) Persons who are self-employed may qualify for subsidy programs provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

(d) Subsidy recipients who voluntarily choose child care providers that meet minimum standards established under the tiered quality rating and improvement system implemented under ORS 329A.261 may qualify for lower copayments. A fair representation of the subsidy recipients who qualify for lower copayments must be persons with children who are from underserved racial, ethnic

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 or minority populations. In addition, child care providers that meet specified minimum standards
2 established under the tiered quality rating and improvement system may receive an enhanced re-
3 imbursement under the subsidy programs.

4 (e) Subsidy recipients must report a change of child care provider to the department during the
5 period a subsidy is being received.

6 (2) The department shall:

7 (a) Work to meet federal recommendations for income eligibility and market access in regard
8 to employment-related child care administered by the department[.]; **and**

9 (b) **Reduce subsidy recipient copayments to no more than seven percent of household**
10 **income.**

11 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the
12 biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the
13 purpose of carrying out the provisions of ORS 329A.500.
14 _____