

HB 2505 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/17, 3/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes the Child Welfare Equity Advisory Committee (the Committee) in the Governor’s Child Foster Care Advisory Commission (the Commission), staffed by the Department of Human Services (DHS), to increase diversity of representation on the Commission.

Permits the Commission to establish technical and advisory committees whose membership is representative of all populations in the foster care system impacted by their work, with the majority of members representing historically underserved communities. Provides guidelines for compensation.

Defines purposes, scope, and reporting requirements.

Requires report from the Commission to the legislature no later than September 1 of each even-numbered year, with the first report due by September 1, 2022

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Expands Commission membership to include family members of foster parents.

BACKGROUND:

In August 2020, at Oregon Foster Youth Connection’s virtual 2020 Policy Conference, current and former foster youth identified a need for an oversight entity with diverse membership to provide culturally responsive services and resources that meet the needs of foster youth of color.

House Bill 2505 establishes the Child Welfare Equity Advisory Committee in the Governor’s Child Foster Care Advisory Commission to improve equitable treatment of all populations that receive foster care.