

HB 2059 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies provisions relating to quality recognition and improvement system for child care facilities. Removes requirement that system provide tiered ratings. Removes requirement that subsidy recipients who choose programs that meet minimum standards may qualify for lower co-pays. Enacts provision that subsidy recipients who choose programs that participate in quality recognition system may qualify for incentives in accordance with criteria established by rule. Repeals provision that child care providers that meet minimum quality standards may receive enhanced reimbursements and enacts provision that providers that participate in quality recognition program may receive financial incentives in accordance with criteria established by rule.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Existing quality rating system

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon's quality rating and improvement system, SPARK, provides information to the public about the relative quality of child care programs. SPARK relies on a variety of metrics to make quality ratings. Child care programs are given a final rating on a five-star scale. The ratings are based on standards in the areas of children's learning and development, health and safety, personnel qualifications, family partnerships, and administration and business practices. House Bill 2059 would change SPARK from a quality ratings system to a quality recognition system and remove the statutory requirement that each program receive a tiered rating.