

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3201

Ordered by the House April 8
Including House Amendments dated April 8

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD (at the request of Representative Karin Power)

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 conduct [*study on child care system of state*] **assessment of child care facilities that provide early childhood education** and to report results of [*study*] **assessment** to appropriate interim committee of Legislative Assembly.

Sunset December 31, [2021] **2023**.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to child care; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. (1) The Early Learning Division shall conduct an assessment of child care facilities that provide early childhood education. The assessment shall be used to:

(a) Identify gaps in current facilities capacity and expected facilities capacity needs over the next 10 years; and

(b) Identify funding options for expanding facilities capacity or acquiring new facilities.

(2) The division may enter into a contract with another entity for the purpose of conducting the assessment required under this section. If the division enters into a contract as allowed under this subsection, the entity conducting the assessment must consult with the division in the manner prescribed by the division.

(3) For the assessment required under this section, the Early Learning Division shall perform the following duties related to child care facilities that provide early childhood education:

(a) Provide an overview, by program and by Early Learning Hub region, of existing facilities in this state as follows:

(A) Current facilities capacity; and

(B) Expected facilities capacity needed to:

(i) Restore facilities capacity to levels available before the COVID-19 pandemic;

(ii) Meet enrollment goals of the statewide early learning system plan overseen by the Early Learning Council; and

(iii) Accommodate future capacity expansion needs over the next 10 years.

(b) Evaluate, by program and by Early Learning Hub region, whether existing facilities have sufficient capacity to meet the expected facilities capacity needs identified in paragraph

(a)(B) of this subsection.

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 (c) Identify the barriers and challenges for expanding facilities capacity or acquiring new
2 facilities.

3 (d) Determine if existing facilities are leased or owned by early childhood care and edu-
4 cation providers.

5 (e) Determine how existing facilities were acquired and are currently funded, and
6 whether existing methods of acquiring and funding will meet future facilities capacity needs.

7 (f) Analyze renovations and repairs needed at existing facilities, and funding sources for
8 those renovations and repairs.

9 (g) Calculate the anticipated cost of providing adequate facilities and meeting expected
10 facilities capacity needs identified in paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection, as identified by
11 program and by Early Learning Hub region.

12 (h) Determine if existing funding sources and methods for expanding or acquiring facili-
13 ties are sufficient to meet the anticipated cost calculated under paragraph (g) of this sub-
14 section and, if not, recommend new funding sources and methods that may be based on
15 examinations of:

16 (A) The use of state-backed bonding to provide facilities financing, including the issuance
17 of general obligation bonds or lottery bonds.

18 (B) The availability of federal funding to assist with facility expansion and acquisition.

19 (C) A review of the practices in other states and regions to provide funding for facility
20 expansion and acquisition.

21 (D) The use of state General Fund moneys, private loans and philanthropic funding for
22 facility expansion and acquisition.

23 (i) Review the Local Innovation and Fast Track Housing Program established by ORS
24 458.485 as a possible model for a facilities program to be administered by the Early Learning
25 Division.

26 (j) Recommend methods for promoting equitable access to facilities funding for culturally
27 specific early childhood care and education providers and for early childhood care and edu-
28 cation providers in remote rural regions.

29 (4) When conducting the assessment required under this section, the division may:

30 (a) Collaborate with Early Learning Hubs, county-based organizations that provide child
31 care resource and referral information, and early childhood care and education providers;
32 and

33 (b) Consult with the State Treasurer, the Legislative Fiscal Office, the Oregon Depart-
34 ment of Administrative Services, the Housing and Community Services Department and any
35 other relevant state agencies.

36 (5) The division shall report the results of the assessment, and may include recommen-
37 dations for legislation, to an appropriate interim committee of the Legislative Assembly no
38 later than September 1, 2023.

39 **SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2023.

40 **SECTION 3.** This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
41 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect
42 on its passage.