

HB 3561 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Higher Education

Prepared By: Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines early childhood care and education for purposes of administering scholarship program and grant program for early childhood care and education professionals. Requires recipients of early childhood care and education scholarship to accept all other aid and scholarships made available to them. Requires award methodology to consider other aid and scholarships received by applicant, converting scholarship to last-dollar program. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 2025 (2019), in addition to establishing the Preschool Promise Program, created scholarship and grant programs to ensure an adequate supply of highly qualified early childhood care and education professionals in Oregon. ORS 329.181 delegates responsibility for administering the programs to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission and the Oregon Department of Education's Early Learning Division, which will become the Department of Early Learning and Care on July 1, 2023. However, the programs have not yet been funded and therefore have not been implemented.

House Bill 3561 converts the state's scholarship program for students pursuing degrees in early childhood care and education to a last dollar program, which calculates awards according to the amount of aid and scholarships received from other sources.