

HB 2599 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 4/24, 5/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Waives fees for enrollment in the Central Background Registry for employees or volunteers with a private agency or organization that facilitates the provision of respite services for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney.

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

REVENUE: No revenue impact

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 54; Excused, 5; Excused for Business of the House, 1

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Costs of programs that provide respite care
- Background checks costs and frequency
- Number of volunteers per chapter and fees chapters are responsible for
- Supports provided with respite care services

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

[Respite care](#) provides parents and other caregivers with short-term child care services. Respite can be planned or offered during emergencies or times of crisis. Respite may be available to foster, kinship, and adoptive families, as well as birth families in need of support. Parents need a properly executed power of attorney to temporarily delegate responsibility for caring for a child to a respite service provider. These providers offer uncompensated, volunteer child care services in order to relieve a parent in crisis from the demands and responsibility of caring for a child. Oregon law (ORS 329A.030) requires individuals who have direct unsupervised contact with children, including employees and volunteers affiliated with respite services providers, to enroll in the Central Background Registry operated by the Early Learning Council. The Council charges fees to individuals to cover the costs of performing the criminal records checks required for enrollment (ORS 329A.275).

House Bill 2599 A requires the Early Learning Council to waive the fees charged for enrollment in the Central Background Registry for employees or volunteers with a private agency or organization that facilitates the provision of respite services for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney.