

Firstly, I'd like to thank Rep. Elmer, Rep. Scharf, and Rep. Cramer for bringing their concerns to me and providing policy recommendations.

My office along with Family Forward has worked tirelessly to ensure that this policy remains equitable and true to the intentions that Rep. Reynolds brought with HB 3005 (2023).

I have e-mailed my responses to their questions to all members of the committee. I feel that the most important part of policy making is the implementation, which is why I think it will be important to state these recommendations for the record for the rulemaking process to consider, which is starting this month.

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In **BOLD**, are the concerns/recs brought by Rep. Elmer, Rep. Scharf, and Rep. Cramer.

**Administering the grant through Business Oregon rather than DELC to lower the administrative costs. (Sounds like this one may already be covered in the amendment posted today.)**

This recommendation was taken in the -1 amendment. The only portion of the program administered by DELC is technical assistance for childcare provider grant recipients, which matches HB 3005 (2023).

**Prioritizing funding for existing facilities that want to expand. Supporting use of vacant buildings over new construction.**

I would be interested in potentially working on a bill together in the long session. These changes would be better addressed in a bill that would amend HB 3005 (2023) (specifically [Section 4 \(6\)](#)), which this bill does not aim to do.

**Making sure areas of highest need are prioritized. Determining the areas of greatest need could be accomplished in a variety of ways. Possibly a ratio of childcare availability to population ratio (i.e. data on how much of a childcare desert the community is). Concerns that some of these areas may be left out under current criteria.**

HB 3005 (2023) already encourages this in [Section 4 \(6\)](#) of the enrolled bill. HB 4158-1 will simply require, at a minimum, the \$4.5M in general fund allocated to the Child Care Infrastructure Fund in this bill must be granted to register or certified family care providers, or certified centers licensed to care for 75 or fewer children. The \$50M in lottery bond funding that was already allocated by HB 3005 (2023) will be available to all other eligible applicants listed in [Section 2 \(4\) of the enrolled bill](#).

**Businesses must stay in operation for X number of years (5-10 years) after receiving grant funds so that there is stability for families, childcare workers, etc.**

It is important to note though these types of accountability measures will be taken up in rulemaking for the Child Care Infrastructure Fund starting this month. that requiring a grantee to stay open for a certain number of years in statute would likely be very difficult for Business Oregon to enforce. Working to include a requirement that that grantee "attest" to their intent to operate as a childcare facility for a certain length of time in the rulemaking process is certainly something we could advocate for.