



## Policy Memorandum

**To:** Senate Republicans on Human Services  
**From:** Monica Davis Senior Advisor/Policy Analyst  
**Date:** Thursday, February 26, 2024  
**RE:** Early Childhood Committee Initial Hearing

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### SB: 1579 Children's Health & Safety Equity Act

#### Summary:

- The Act creates a new fund for a current grant program that provides moneys for child abuse response programs.
- The Act directs DOJ to create a one-time grant program to expand access to services and supports from CACs.
- The Act creates a task force to audit how this state has complied with Karly's Law and to study other matters related to services provided to victims of child abuse.
- Establishes the Children's Advocacy Center Fund.
- Provides that the Legislative Assembly shall appropriate sufficient moneys to the fund that are necessary to fully fund the existing grant program to establish, maintain and support children's advocacy centers and regional children's advocacy centers, and to support county child abuse multidisciplinary teams.
- Appropriates moneys to the Department of Justice out of the General Fund for the existing grant program.
- Directs the Department of Justice to develop and administer a one-time grant program to expand access to services and supports provided by children's advocacy centers and regional children's advocacy centers.
- Appropriates moneys to the Department of Justice out of the General Fund for the grant program.
- Establishes the Task Force on County Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Teams to audit Oregon's compliance with Karly's Law, to study and provide proposals for optimal funding rates for children's advocacy centers and to identify barriers to access to child abuse multidisciplinary teams and children's advocacy centers.
- Requires the task force to report findings and recommendations to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to human services on or before September 15, 2024.
- Sunsets the task force January 2, 2026. Appropriates moneys to the department out of the General Fund for purposes of the task force.
- Declares an emergency, effective on passage.
- Relating to child abuse: declaring an emergency.

#### Chief Sponsors

Senator Knopp, Smith DB, Representative Helfrich, Senator Manning Jr, Representative Levy E, Neron

#### Regular Sponsors

Senator Anderson, Bonham, Findley, Hansell, Linthicum, Weber,

SB 1579

*For questions or additional information please contact  
Monica.Davis@oregonlegislature.gov*

Representative Boice, Boshart Davis, Bowman, Breese-  
Iverson, Cramer, Diehl, Elmer, Evans, Gomberg, Goodwin, Grayber, Hieb, Levy  
B, Lewis, Lively, Mannix, McIntire, Pham H, Scharf, Wallan, Wright, Yunker

**Staff Measure Summary:**

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Revenue Impact:**

**Government Impact Statement**

**Supporters:**

Peter Courtney

Rep. Levy

Kids Care Home Health

National Childrens Alliance

**Opponents: NONE**

SB 1579

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