

Monday, February 5, 2024

RE: Nurse Family Partnership (HB 4105)

Chair Reynolds, Vice Chairs Nguyen & Scharf,

Immediate crises in housing and addiction are urgent. Yet the stories of Oregonians and decades of research tell us that these crises are often rooted in trauma experienced in early childhood. **Investing in proven services for children, prenatal through age 5 and their families, creates equitable opportunities now and helps prevent future challenges. Oregon must continue its progress and keep promises from previous sessions to invest in a brighter future for every child.**

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) is proven service that empowers first time parents experiencing economic and social barriers by pairing them with a nurse home visitor who works alongside them and their children, from prenatal to age two. HB 4105, combined with the requested \$3.2 million in funding needed to implement, are a critical step toward stabilizing NFP services for families.

NFP services for families are primarily funded by Federal Medicaid dollars. The required matching funds have been provided by counties. Requiring counties to pay the match is out of the norm for how nearly every other Medicaid service is supported in the state. This has created unnecessary instability for NFP programs, staff, and families.

The Early Childhood Coalition urges your support of HB 4105 and a \$3.2 million investment.

Sincerely,

Adelante Mujeres
Children's Institute
Clackamas Workforce Partnership

Early Learning Multnomah
Early Learning Washington County
FACT Oregon
Family Forward
Happy Go Lucky Childcare
Healthy Families Oregon Coalition
IRCO
Kairos PDX
Metropolitan Family Service
Nurse-Family Partnership
NW Early Learning Hub
Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries
Oregon Child Care Alliance
Oregon Early Learning Hub Association
Oregon Head Start Association
Oregon Food Bank
Oregon Pediatric Society
Our Children Oregon
ReImagine Oregon
United Way of Columbia County