

HB 2842 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/6, 2/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure appropriates \$210,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to distribute to Marion County Lawyers Charitable Corporation to expand programs providing free childcare to people with courthouse or government business, and to collect data regarding the program. The measure declares an emergency and is effective on passage.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 The amendment appropriates \$210,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to distribute to Polk County for a program that provides free drop-in childcare for people with courthouse and government business, and to collect data regarding the program.

BACKGROUND:

Many jurisdictions provide childcare for children of people attending court proceedings, meeting with probation officers, or handling other legal matters. For example, [Multnomah CourtCare](#), established in 2001, is a project of the Multnomah Bar Foundation (MBF) that provides free, drop-in childcare for families who have business in court. In 2017, [House Bill 3067 A](#) authorized Marion and Polk Counties to establish a CourtCare pilot program to provide childcare to individuals with business at the courthouse or other governmental offices. The bill appropriated \$200,000 to DAS for distribution to Marion and Polk Counties to implement the CourtCare pilot programs. According to the [Salem Reporter](#), the program ran for two years.

[The Mid-Valley Court and Community Care](#), formerly CourtCare, relaunched in 2024. The program provides free, drop-in childcare to families in Marion and Polk Counties that require short-duration childcare to attend court related business.