



Reducing Barriers to Developing Child Care Facilities Across Oregon



Oregon State Legislature, House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services
February 18, 2025

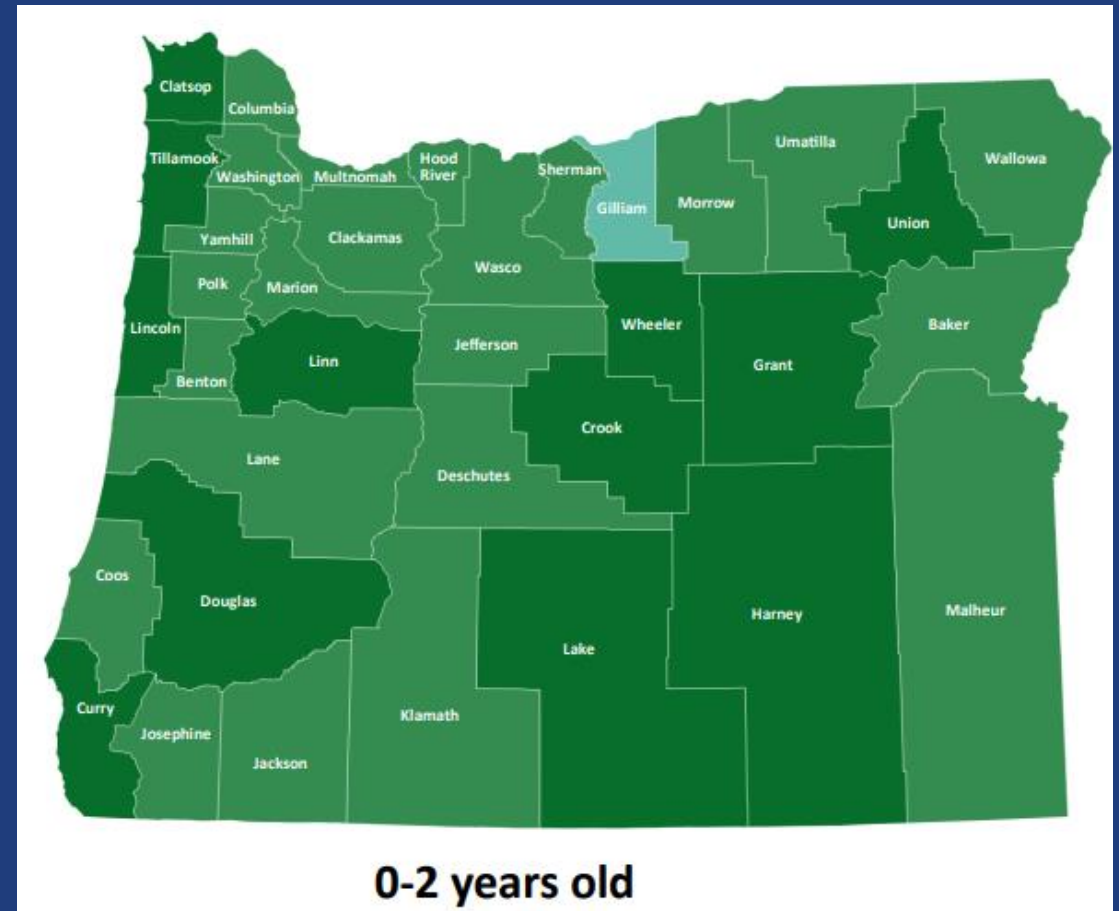
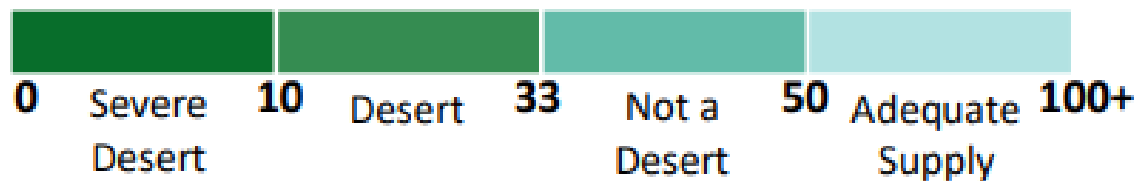
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Problem: Child Care Deserts

Today, 60% of Oregon residents live in a childcare desert

- Higher rates among Hispanic and Latino, rural, and low-income residents

Percent of Young Children with Access to a Regulated Slot





HB 2727 (2023)

DLCD's charge

- Convene work group
- Evaluate regulatory barriers
- Propose solutions
- Report to legislature

Licensed Child Care Providers

Child Care 101: Provider Types

Family Child Care Homes

- Registered Family: up to 10 children
- Certified Family: up to 16 children



Child Care Centers

- Certified Child Care Center: capacity determined by floor space and # of staff

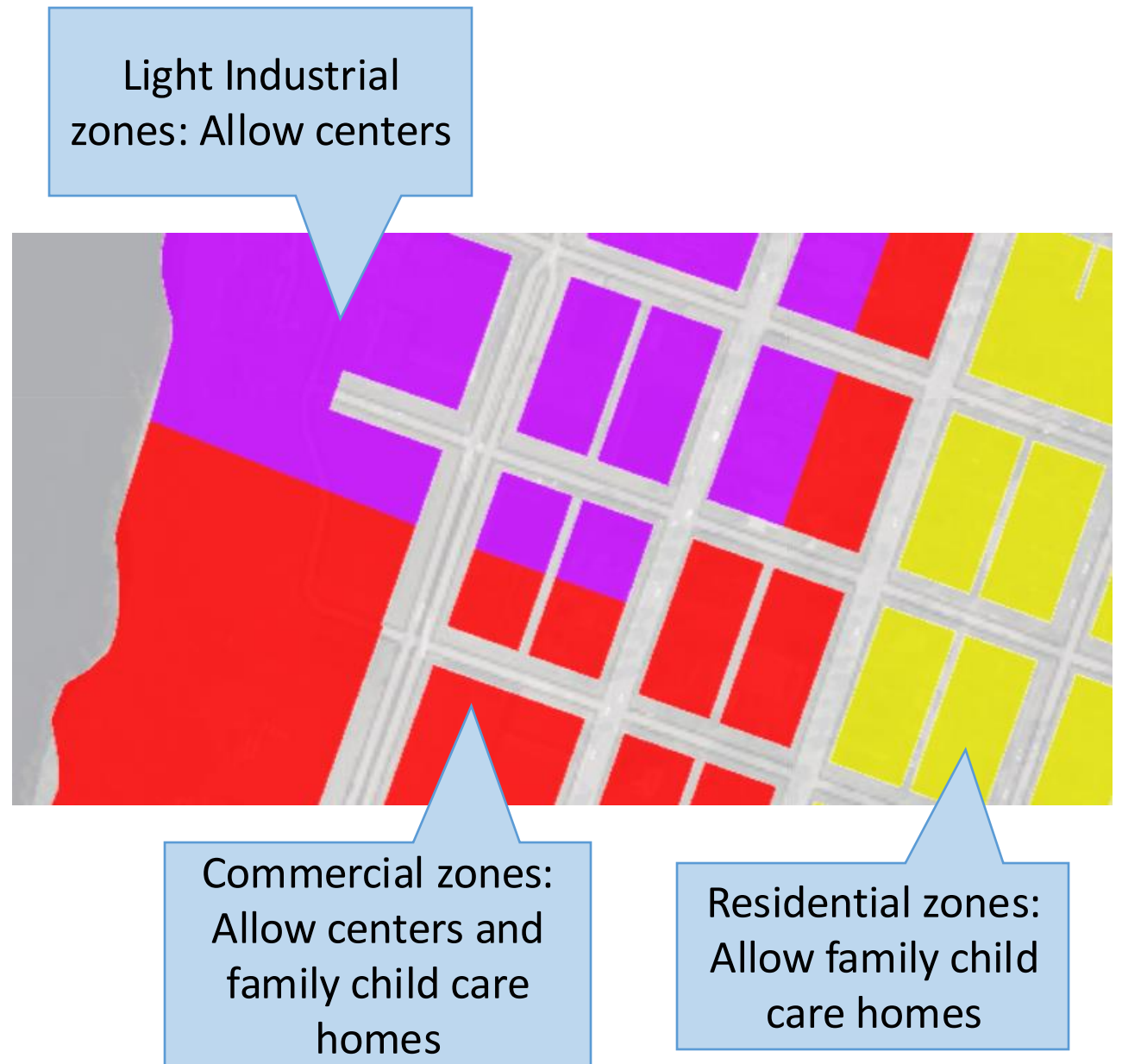


Existing Statute

ORS 329A.440

“Application of land use regulations to family child care homes”

Applies statewide regardless of local code



Light Industrial zones: Allow centers

Commercial zones: Allow centers and family child care homes

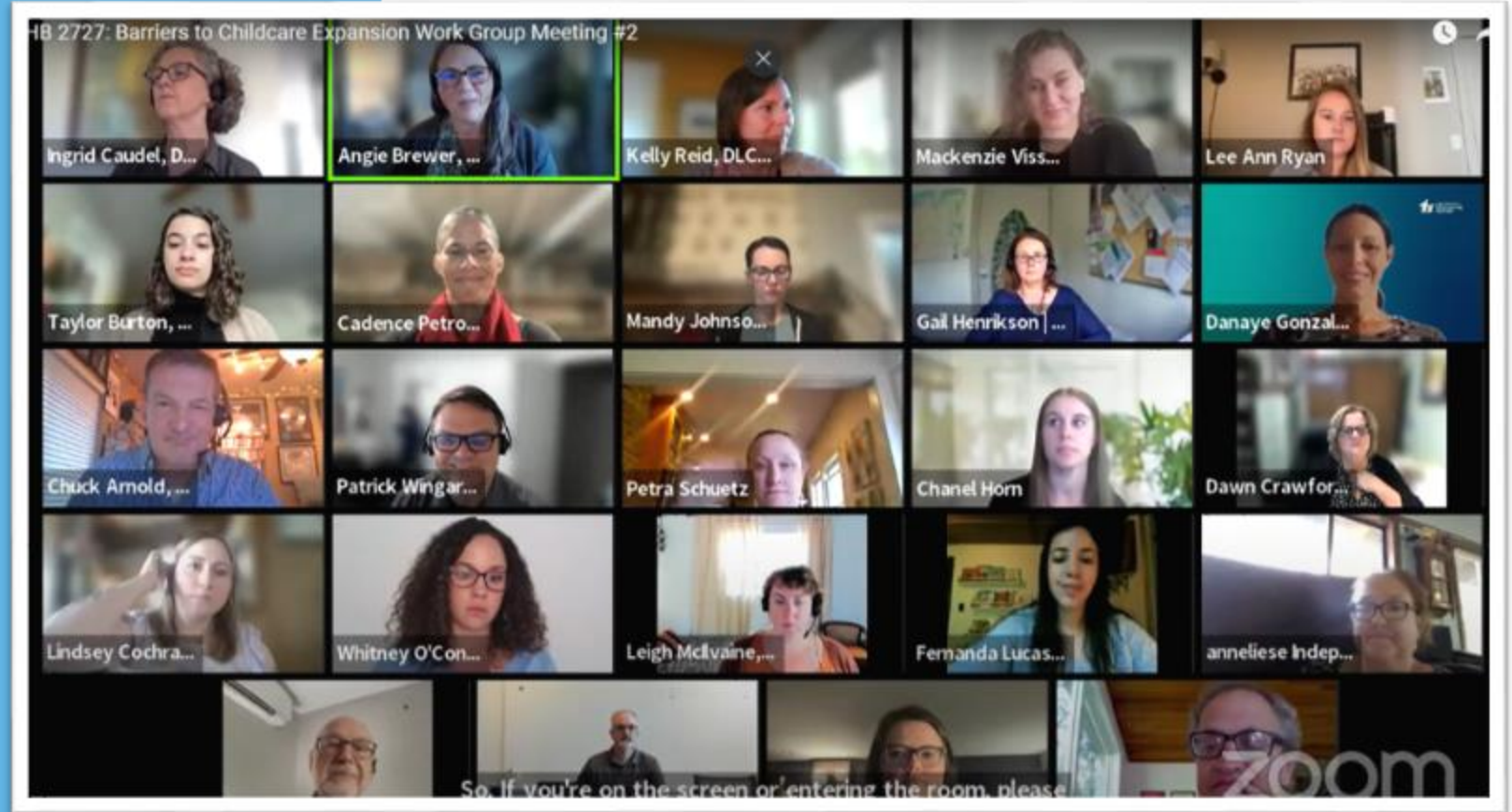
Residential zones: Allow family child care homes

Work Group

- Legislatively directed
- 22 members
- Ex-officio roles for added coordination



Engagement



Work Group meetings
Provider survey
Regulatory scenarios

Focus Groups
Interviews
Cross-department coordination

Identification of Barriers



- Land use and zoning
- Building codes
- Licensing requirements
- Co-location



Barrier: Outdated Codes

Family Child Care Homes

- For a **certified family childcare** (up to 16 kids) in a residential zone, **only 57% of respondents indicated their jurisdiction treats this use as a permitted use**
- Many jurisdictions indicated that their code **definitions are outdated**, allowing only up to 12 children in a family childcare home.



Barrier: Conditional Use Review

54% of jurisdictions surveyed require a **public hearing** for the addition of the child care center to an existing religious institution



37% of home-based and **40%** of center-based survey respondents said that conditional use permits made it difficult or impossible to locate or expand their business

Priority Work Group Recommendations

Recommendation	Action
1. Develop a comprehensive guide for local jurisdictions with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A model zoning code ◆ Permitting best practices for permitting process ◆ Incentive programs 	State agency
2. Develop guidance for ORS 329A.440 (Application of land use regulations to family child care homes)	Legislative
3. Expand grant funding programs for facilities	Legislative
4. Create local or regional “navigators” to assist providers in permitting	Legislative or local
5. Streamline building permit process for in-home child care	Legislative or local
6. Permit child care centers by right in residential zones	Legislative or local
7. Develop guide for child care providers	State agency
8. Reform Conditional Use Modification process for site changes	Legislative or local
9. Develop guidance for ORS 215.283(2)(dd) (child care centers in resource zones) and ORS 215.448 (home occupations)	State agency
10. Expedite permitting and offer fee reductions	Local
11. Funding for language translation and interpretation	Legislative

Work Group Recommendations

Other recommendations for legislative action



- Create a property tax abatement for retrofitting centers.
 - Split or waive prevailing wage requirements on co-located projects.
 - Create an interagency child care facility oversight board.
 - Establish a work group to oversee recommendation implementation.
- Override CC&Rs that do not allow in-home child care in certain neighborhoods.
 - Allow child care by right in existing residences in all zones.
 - Revise regulations or create a new license type that allows for larger capacity Certified Family care homes.

Complementary Efforts



Funding: Business Oregon Child Care Infrastructure Grant Program

Affordability: Employment Related Day Care subsidy; Multnomah County Preschool For All

Workforce: Training, pay, retention

Thank You

DLCD Project Website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/ChildCareFacilities/Pages/default.aspx>

