HB 2682 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to establish an advisory committee to study and develop recommendations to modernize the adequate service levels for early intervention and early childhood special education (EI/ECSE). It establishes the advisory committee's membership and requires consideration of research and family experiences. The measure requires the advisory committee to submit a report with recommendations to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes 55, Nays 2

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding formula for adequate service levels for EI/ECSE
- Historical development of the EI/ECSE funding formula
- EI/ECSE impacts on child development and learning
- Costs for Oregon Department of Education to create the EI/ECSE advisory committee

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Early Intervention (EI) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) programs are a partnership between the Oregon Department of Education and nine local service areas to provide services for learning and development for all infants, toddlers, and young children with disabilities. According to the April 2024 <u>State Interagency</u> <u>Coordinating Council Governor Report</u> (SICC report), 14,544 Oregon children received services from EI programs or ECSE programs.

Adequate service levels for EI and ECSE depend on the age and needs of the child. Services range from early intervention services or early childhood services at least once a week to 15 hours of service per week.

According to the SICC report,

- 66 percent of children with needs for EI services,
- 20 percent of children with high needs for ECSE services,
- 54 percent of children with moderate needs for ECSE services, and
- 78 percent of children with low needs for ECSE services

received adequate levels of service in 2024.