

A-Engrossed
House Bill 2374

Ordered by the House April 4
Including House Amendments dated April 4

Sponsored by Representative LEVY B; Representatives BOICE, EDWARDS, RESCHKE (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates a program to support families and improve school attendance. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.7).

Establishes the [*Parenting Effectiveness*] **CARE** Program within the [*Department of Human Services*] **Youth Development Division to support families and reduce barriers that contribute to absence from school and a lack of basic needs**. Directs the [*department*] **division** to award grants to counties or other local entities to [*provide services to families of chronically absent students*] **implement local CARE programs**. [*Directs attendance supervisors to refer chronically absent students to the nearest local parenting effectiveness program.*]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to services to improve school attendance.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The CARE Program is established within the Youth Development Divi-**
5 **sion. The purposes of the program are to:**

6 (a) **Support families in this state in fostering a positive school-to-home connection that**
7 **promotes school attendance and academic success;**

8 (b) **Provide a coordinated and integrated social service delivery system that promotes the**
9 **education, re-engagement, health, safety and general well-being of children and families; and**

10 (c) **Reduce barriers that contribute to absence from school and a lack of basic needs,**
11 **including food, access to transportation, clothing, legal documents, health care, housing**
12 **supports and child care.**

13 (2) **In administering the program, the division shall award competitive grants to counties**
14 **or other local entities, as determined by the division, to implement local CARE programs.**

15 (3) **The grants awarded under this section may be used to:**

16 (a) **Advocate for participating families at school meetings and appointments with health**
17 **care providers to ensure that the families receive culturally and linguistically appropriate**
18 **services;**

19 (b) **Provide education and support to participating families, including information about:**

20 (A) **Individual and family safety planning;**

21 (B) **Bullying prevention;**

22 (C) **Suicide awareness;**

23 (D) **De-escalation skills;**

24 (E) **Inclusion and diversity;**

25 (F) **Basic needs and housing support;**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

- 1 **(G) Coping skills;**
- 2 **(H) Self-advocacy; and**
- 3 **(I) Mental health awareness; and**
- 4 **(c) Assist participating families in applying for and accessing resources, including:**
- 5 **(A) Supplemental nutrition assistance;**
- 6 **(B) Temporary assistance for needy families;**
- 7 **(C) Women, Infants and Children Program benefits;**
- 8 **(D) Substance use disorder treatment;**
- 9 **(E) Mental health services;**
- 10 **(F) Vision care; and**
- 11 **(G) Dental care.**

12 **(4) If a student is identified by a participating school district as needing attendance sup-**
13 **port, the school district shall refer the student and the student's family to the nearest local**
14 **CARE program for a needs assessment and services, as described in subsection (3) of this**
15 **section, for the purpose of helping the student maintain regular attendance in school.**

16 **(5) The division shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section, including**
17 **rules governing eligibility for grants and the form and process for grant applications.**

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