



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

February 10, 2025

Dear Representative Hudson and members of the House Higher Education Workforce Development Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 3011 which would allocate essential funding to support the development of the early learning childhood education workforce.

I commend you on the investments that Oregon has already made to support young children and their families in our state.

For example, the UO Moss Street Children's Center was awarded, through a competitive process, Preschool Promise slots, helping us actualize our mission to eliminate the barrier of childcare, allowing student families meet their academic goals. With this PSP support we provide high-quality early childhood programming to student families, at no cost, who are below 200% of the federal poverty level. PSP has been life changing to the participating families who are able to achieve their academic goals while knowing their children are flourishing. Research shows that this investment in on site early childhood education and care at institutions of higher education, creates positive outcomes for children, their parents and our state for generations.

Unfortunately, this is not enough. The success of our families and the outcomes secured through your past prioritization of funding for early education and care in our state are at risk. Your return on investment is contingent on the existence of an adequate, skilled early education and care workforce that does not exist.

Higher education centers and ECE degree and certificate programs are a solution to this crisis.

Each year our university center provides work experience through employment, internships, practicums and volunteer opportunities to many UO students. Through these experiences the students gain, training and certification that qualifies them to be early childhood teachers. This large contribution by Oregon's institutions of higher education, to the workforce creation for early childhood education and care needs your support. Institutions of higher education need your support to continue this vital role. HB3011 would provide this support and protects the wise investments you have already made.

With gratitude and hope,


Becky Lamoureux

Director, UO Moss Street Children's Center