



## **HB 2814:**

**DELC Licensing Statute Alignment** 

Alicia Gardiner, Child Care Licensing Division Director

## **HB 2814 Anticipated Outcomes & Benefits**



Fewer child care disruptions due to administrative barriers.



Creates opportunity for DELC to test new options for Child Care providers



Greater efficiency in licensing processes and reduced paperwork for providers.



Improved support for providers in underserved and rural communities.



Improved support for families when child care options are extremely limited.



Creates Consistency across all license types and statutes for waivers and ratios.



# **Eliminating Inspection Timeline Barriers for Certified Providers**

#### **Current Challenge:**

- Strict statutory licensing timelines for renewals (30 days or less) often lead to forced closures if inspections aren't completed in time.
- No flexibility for temporary waivers, including Environmental Health inspections at the county level.
- Providers sometimes apply with only a day left, causing strain on providers, inspectors, and families.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

- **HB 2814** allows the Department of Early Learning & Care (DELC) to temporarily waive certain inspections, with safeguards in place, as they do for Registered providers.
- Providers and inspectors can complete inspections without risking closure.

#### Impact:

 Prevents unnecessary closures, offering flexibility and continued operations while resolving compliance issues.



## Allows DELC to explore new types of care models

#### **Current Challenge:**

Strict statutory licensing requirements limit flexibility for providers and owners, especially in cases of staffing changes or when managing multiple licensed home-based facilities.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

**HB 2814** allows DELC to waive certain licensing requirements with safeguards in place to provide flexibility for providers and owners, including the ability to exceed the 16-child limit (in rare cases) and support multiple homes under common operations.

#### Impact:

Increases flexibility for providers, reduces administrative challenges, and supports continued child care operations in underserved areas.



## **Providing Flexibility for Registered Providers**

#### **Current Challenge:**

Registered family child care providers are restricted by statutory child-to-staff ratios, limiting the number of infants and toddlers they can care for. Other license types already have their ratios in rule and not in statute.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

**HB 2814** shifts ratio requirements from statute to administrative rule, allowing the Early Learning Council to adjust ratios based on provider and community needs (e.g., for siblings).

#### Impact:

Expands access to infant and toddler care, particularly for families needing care for multiple young children.



### **Fiscal & Operational Considerations**



#### **Minimal Fiscal Impact**

DELC does not anticipate additional costs as it already has the infrastructure to handle exceptions and modify rules as needed.



#### **Efficient Use of Staff Time**

Reducing the need for individual case-by-case exceptions will free up licensing staff for more direct provider support.







Alyssa Chatterjee, Director, alyssa.chatterjee@delc.oregon.gov, 971-283-1271

Kate Denison, Government Affairs Manager, <a href="mailto:kate.denison@delc.oregon.gov">kate.denison@delc.oregon.gov</a>, 503-551-6826 (on leave thru Feb)

DELC Government Affairs Team, <u>delc.govaffairs@delc.oregon.gov</u>

Kathy Wai, Interim Government Affairs Manager, kathy.wai@delc.oregon.gov, 971-428-7466

Alicia Gardiner, Childcare Licensing Division Director, Alicia.gardiner@delc.oregon.gov, 503-302-9549