

Representative Hoa Nguyen Oregon House District 48 HB 3560 - Childcare Facility Siting 2/27 House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

I am State Representative Hoa Nguyen, for House District 48, which includes outer Southeast Portland and North Clackamas County.

I have been an educator in Oregon for 20 years. I strongly support **HB 3560**, a bill that will expand access to child care by ensuring child care facilities are permitted uses in more areas, particularly where families need them most.

Every day, I see the struggles of parents who are desperate for reliable, high-quality child care. I work with families who have to make impossible choices—delaying their return to work, relying on inconsistent care, or even leaving jobs because they cannot secure a safe place for their children during the workday. In some cases, I've had students miss school simply because their younger siblings don't have a child care placement, forcing parents to keep all their children at home.

Oregon is in a child care crisis. As the data shows, every county in our state is considered a **child care desert**, meaning that for every available child care slot, there are up to ten children in need. HB 3560 takes a crucial step toward addressing this problem by **removing unnecessary zoning barriers** and allowing child care centers to be located in residential and commercial areas, especially when co-located with community institutions like schools, churches, and libraries.

This is not just a convenience issue; it is an **economic and educational** necessity. When parents cannot access child care, they cannot work. When children do not receive early care and education, they enter kindergarten at a disadvantage, often struggling with social-emotional development and basic learning skills. Quality child care is foundational for future academic success and long-term economic stability.

By passing HB 3560, Oregon will take an important step toward ensuring that more families have access to **affordable**, **high-quality child care** in locations that make sense for working parents. This bill will strengthen our workforce, support early learning, and help build a stronger, more equitable future for all Oregonians.

I urge you to support HB 3560 and remove the unnecessary barriers preventing child care providers from opening facilities in areas where families need them most. Our children, our families, and our communities depend on it.