



# American Association of University Professors

*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*

March 25, 2025

House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

Re: House Bill HB 2593 – Support

Chair Hartman, Vice-Chairs Nguyen and Scharf, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the more than 6,300 faculty represented by the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining chapters at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology, and our faculty members in advocacy chapters across Oregon, we urge you to support HB 2593.

Access to affordable childcare has become nearly impossible for the majority of working parents. This crisis is particularly pressing for low-income workers, including undergraduate and graduate employees and part-time faculty. Costs have risen to such an extreme that [working families spend an average of between \\$11,700 and \\$17,680 per child according to a report by Child Care Aware of America](#), a non-profit advocacy group dedicated to universal childcare.

[As reported in April 2024](#), the Employment Related Day Care program is a life-changing opportunity for low-income families, and the impact of losing access to this program can be devastating, leading to food and housing insecurity as working parents struggle to find alternative care options for their children. Studying the impact of being waitlisted for the Employment Related Day Care program will likely find numerous additional accounts of the sacrifices parents must make to keep their children safe while they are at their place of employment. The collection of this data will help the legislature decide which strategies would best improve access to affordable childcare for working Oregonians.

For the sake of working parents and the next generation of Oregonians, please support HB 2593. Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Reyes  
Executive Director, AAUP Oregon