



Child Care That Works. For Every Family.

Chair Hartman, Vice-Chairs Nyguen and Scharf, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Child Care for Oregon Coalition, a coalition of nonprofit organizations, labor unions, community advocates, parents, caregivers, and providers working to build a comprehensive early learning and child care system in Oregon, we strongly urge your support of House Bill 2593.

The Child Care for Oregon Coalition strongly supports HB 2593, a critical step toward ensuring transparency and accountability in Oregon's **Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) program**. This bill will require the **Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC)** to report on current ERDC enrollment, track how enrollment has changed since the waitlist was implemented, and outline strategies necessary to meet the goal of serving at least **50% working families and 20% student parents**.

Oregon's child care system is in crisis, and families are struggling to access the support they need. With **over 9,700 families on the ERDC waitlist**, too many parents are being forced to choose between employment, education, and caring for their children. Without clear data and a commitment to expanding access, thousands of families will continue to be left behind.

HB 2593 is not just about reporting numbers—it's about **ensuring ERDC funding reaches those who need it most**. By requiring DELIC to track and share enrollment changes and identify necessary solutions, this bill will help create a more equitable system that prioritizes the needs of **working families and student parents**.

We urge you to support **HB 2593** and take meaningful action to ensure child care access for all Oregon families.

Thank you for considering our testimony.

Sincerely,



Oregon Association for the Education of Young Childrer

