

**A-Engrossed
House Bill 2985**

Ordered by the House April 24
Including House Amendments dated April 24

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY SUPPORTS

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

[Expands recipients eligible for subsidized employment-related child care and types of activities that may be eligible for subsidies.]

[Directs Early Learning Council to develop and implement optional training opportunities for providers of child care, providers of employment-related child care and exempt family child care providers.]

[Becomes operative January 1, 2018.]

[Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Human Services for employment-related child care subsidies.]

Establishes Task Force on Employment-Related Child Care to conduct study on improving access to and availability of subsidies for employment-related child care and to develop plan to expand access to employment-related child care opportunities.

Sunsets January 2, 2020.

Declares emergency, effective *[July 1, 2017]* on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to child care; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Employment-Related Child Care is established.

(2) The task force consists of 20 members appointed as follows:

(a) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from among members of the Senate.

(b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from among members of the House of Representatives.

(c) The Governor shall appoint 18 members as follows:

(A) One member who represents the Early Learning Division and who has expertise in the registration and certification of child care providers;

(B) One member who represents the Department of Human Services and who has expertise regarding the implementation of employment-related child care;

(C) One member who is an advocate for family support and connections;

(D) One member who is an advocate for the rights of children;

(E) One member who is an advocate for child care assistance and who has policymaking expertise in the area of subsidized child care;

(F) Two members who are advocates for cultural competency and racial justice;

(G) One member who represents child care facilities that have been certified under ORS 329A.280 by the Office of Child Care;

(H) One member who represents family child care providers who operate a family child

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 care home that is certified under ORS 329A.280;

2 (I) One member who represents family child care providers who operate a family child
3 care home that is registered under ORS 329A.330;

4 (J) One member who represents providers who receive subsidy payments for child care;

5 (K) One member who represents a federally funded Head Start program;

6 (L) Three members who are parents and who receive subsidies for employment-related
7 child care; and

8 (M) Three members who represent Early Learning Hubs from three different regions.

9 (3) The task force shall:

10 (a) Conduct a study on improving access to, and the availability of, subsidies for
11 employment-related child care; and

12 (b) Develop a plan to expand access to employment-related child care opportunities for
13 eligible families by:

14 (A) Supporting child care providers and providing assistance in understanding health and
15 safety regulations;

16 (B) Providing information regarding opportunities for the professional development of
17 child care providers;

18 (C) Supporting child care providers who are paid by and families who are enrolled in the
19 employment-related child care program;

20 (D) Recruiting additional child care providers to meet the need for access to child care;

21 (E) Implementing program enhancements to better meet the needs of families, including
22 expanding child care access to individuals who are seeking work and to students; and

23 (F) Improving outreach to families who may be eligible for employment-related child
24 care.

25 (4) A majority of the voting members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the
26 transaction of business.

27 (5) Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the voting
28 members of the task force.

29 (6) The task force shall elect two of its voting members to serve as cochaIRS.

30 (7) If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-
31 ment to become immediately effective.

32 (8) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the cochaIRS or
33 of a majority of the voting members of the task force.

34 (9) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.

35 (10) The task force shall:

36 (a) Prepare and submit an initial report, including recommendations for legislation, to
37 the Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 no later than January 2,
38 2018. The report must include, but need not be limited to:

39 (A) The results of the study conducted under subsection (3)(a) of this section; and

40 (B) The plan developed under subsection (3)(b) of this section; and

41 (b) Prepare and submit a second report, including recommendations for legislation, to the
42 Legislative Assembly in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 no later than January 2, 2019.
43 The report must include, but need not be limited to, the costs associated with:

44 (A) Expanding access to the employment-related child care program for families whose
45 household incomes, at the time of eligibility, do not exceed:

1 (i) 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

2 (ii) 250 percent of the federal poverty guidelines;

3 (iii) 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and

4 (iv) 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and

5 (B) Increasing the number of providers who are registered or certified to provide child
6 care.

7 (11) The Department of Education and the Department of Human Services shall provide
8 staff support to the task force.

9 (12) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the task force are nonvoting
10 members of the task force and may act in an advisory capacity only.

11 (13) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not
12 entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses and serve as volunteers on the task
13 force.

14 (14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist
15 the task force in the performance of the task force's duties and, to the extent permitted by
16 laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task
17 force consider necessary to perform their duties.

18 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2017 Act is repealed on January 2, 2020.

19 SECTION 3. This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
20 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect
21 on its passage.

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