



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Legislature Opens Oregon Neighborhoods to Child Care Centers

HB 3560 aims to ensure access to affordable child care for children and families

SALEM, OR – On May 19, the Oregon Senate unanimously passed HB 3560, legislation that expands locations where child care centers may be permitted, making it easier to open and operate facilities in neighborhoods, near schools, parks, and places of worship.

“We have a child care crisis here in Oregon. Many factors contribute to the lack of capacity, and one of these is siting barriers that too often prevent childcare facilities from locating close to where people live and work,” said **Representative Pam Marsh, (D-Southern Jackson County)**, who introduced the bill.

Child care is a must-have for most American parents. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, 69 percent of Oregon children under the age of six have all parents in the labor force. This critical measure is aimed at addressing Oregon’s child care shortage—especially in rural and underserved areas—by streamlining local zoning, building codes, and permitting processes.

“Child care deserts span both rural and urban communities. Providers are ready and willing to serve families, but they face outdated land use regulations that make it nearly impossible to open or expand facilities, even in areas where demand is greatest,” said **Senator Lisa Reynolds, MD (D-Portland)**, who co-sponsored HB 3560 and carried it on the Senate Floor.

“Child care centers should be part of the fabric of every neighborhood where families live and work. By eliminating zoning barriers that keep children at bay, HB 3560 will help us move to a world that supports our families, and the youngest among us,” said Representative Marsh.

HB 3560 requires local governments to update local plans and land use regulations with the new zoning requirements. The bill now heads to the Governor’s desk for signing into law.

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