



SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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Senator Winsvey Campos Attends White House States Convening on Child Care

Oregon Senate Democrats scored major wins in 2023 to make child care more affordable, accessible for working families

SALEM, Ore - Today, **State Senator Winsvey Campos (D - Aloha)** attended the White House States Convening on Child Care in Washington D.C. and represented the major wins Oregon Senate Democrats scored in 2023 to make child care more affordable and accessible for working families in Oregon.

“In today’s economy, it’s nearly impossible for hardworking parents to support their families without low-cost, easy-to-access child care. I’m proud of the work we’ve done here in Oregon to close the child care gap and to share the lessons learned from our victories. I was also excited to hear from other states about the solutions they are pursuing. I hope to bring home many of these ideas so we can set every Oregon family up for success,” said **Senator Campos**.

The child care solutions passed by Senate Democrats in 2023 include:

- [House Bill 3005](#), which will increase the availability of child care by operationalizing a \$50 million Child Care Infrastructure fund within the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon) to provide financial assistance to help build and open new child care programs. Across Oregon, the costs to open, operate and expand child care services are too high for many providers. This financial boost will make it easier for new programs to open and existing programs to expand.
- [House Bill 3235](#), which delivers much-needed relief to families impacted by rising cost of living, including child care, by implementing the Oregon Kids’ Tax Credit, a fully refundable \$1000 tax credit per child between the ages of 0 and 5 for families earning

\$30,000 or less. The Oregon Center for Public Policy estimates that nearly 55,000 children across Oregon will benefit from this credit, with a higher representation in rural communities and communities of color.

- [Senate Bill 599](#), which will deliver relief in Oregon's child care shortage by significantly expanding the operational space available to child care providers. Rural communities and communities of color who live in child care deserts and those in need of culturally appropriate care should see results from this legislation. It also supports housing providers with liability protections, ensuring these child care facilities can operate in rental properties without incurring significant cost.
- [House Bill 2683](#), which directs the Early Learning Council to expand access to the Employment Related Day Care program, which provides subsidized access to child care for working parents. The bill directs the ELC to establish eligibility criteria based on household income and employment status by July 1, 2027. ELC may include other criteria, such as child welfare and related services, use of homelessness or domestic violence services, or age of the parent.
- [Senate Bill 1040](#), which directs the Department of Early Learning and Care to create a pilot program to develop a sustainable model for child care micro-centers to provide affordable services in Oregon. The pilot project will include three child care facilities, and DELC will report to the legislature by September 15, 2025. It also defines child care micro-centers as child care programs that serve between 3 and 30 children for more than four hours a day.
- And [House Bill 2991](#), which will help to identify and break down barriers for child care workers, by directing the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) to study and identify barriers to a high-quality early childhood workforce and convene a stakeholder group to provide recommendations to the Legislature regarding compensation and career development to build a robust early childhood workforce.

Child care is also a major priority for the Biden-Harris administration. The [American Rescue Plan Act](#) helped preserve access to child care for millions of families during the COVID-19 crisis. The [President's Budget](#) reaffirms his commitment to transforming child care by advancing a proposal that would reduce costs for working families making less than \$200,000 so that the average family pays no more than \$10 per day for high-quality child care.

In April, President Biden signed a historic [Executive Order](#) calling on nearly every cabinet-level agency to take action to address the affordability, quality, and supply of child care. Implementation of that Order has begun, with HHS having recently set a [payment rate floor](#) for all child care providers receiving federal subsidies.

And this week, the Vice President announced [a proposed rule](#) that will cap co-payments for families receiving child care subsidies to no more than 7% of their incomes.

Oregon Senate Democrats will continue to work with federal partners in the Biden-Harris Administration and at the state level to answer Oregonians' call for more low-cost, easy-to-access child care.

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