

**A-Engrossed**  
**Senate Bill 213**

Ordered by the Senate April 15  
Including Senate Amendments dated April 15

Printed pursuant to Senate Interim Rule 213.28 by order of the President of the Senate in conformance with pre-session filing rules, indicating neither advocacy nor opposition on the part of the President (at the request of Governor John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., for Department of Education)

**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.

Requires Early Learning Council to develop metrics for funding Early Learning Hubs. Permits council to require matching funds from Early Learning Hub that receives funding. Directs council to oversee and administer delivery of early learning services and to regionalize service administration for communities not served by Early Learning Hub. **Directs council to report annually to interim committees of Legislative Assembly regarding implementation and status of Early Learning Hubs.**

**Requires council to conduct evaluation of Early Learning Hubs and report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly on or before February 1, 2019, regarding findings and recommendations made as result of evaluation.**

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

1  
2 Relating to Early Learning Hubs; creating new provisions; amending ORS 417.827; and declaring an  
3 emergency.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 417.827 is amended to read:

6 417.827. (1) As used in this section **and section 2 of this 2015 Act:**

7 (a) "Early Learning Hub" means any entity designated by regional partners to coordinate early  
8 learning services, as determined by rules adopted by the Early Learning Council.

9 (b) "Regional partners" includes counties, cities, school districts, education service districts,  
10 community colleges, public universities, private educational institutions, faith-based organizations,  
11 nonprofit service providers and tribes.

12 (2) The [*Early Learning*] council shall implement and oversee a system that coordinates the de-  
13 livery of early learning services to the communities of this state through the direction of Early  
14 Learning Hubs. The system may not include more than 16 Early Learning Hubs.

15 (3) The system implemented and overseen by the council must ensure that:

16 (a) Providers of early learning services are accountable for outcomes;

17 (b) Services are provided in a cost-efficient manner; and

18 (c) The services provided, and the means by which those services are provided, are focused on  
19 the outcomes of the services.

20 (4) The [*Early Learning*] council shall develop and implement a process for requesting proposals  
21 from entities to become Early Learning Hubs. Proposals submitted under this subsection must com-  
22 ply with criteria and requirements adopted by the council by rule, including:

**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 (a) The entity will be able to coordinate the provision of early learning services to the commu-  
2 nity that will be served by the entity. An entity may meet the requirement of this paragraph by  
3 submitting evidence that local stakeholders, including but not limited to service providers, parents,  
4 community members, county governments, local governments and school districts, have participated  
5 in the development of the proposal and will maintain a meaningful role in the Early Learning Hub.

6 (b) The services coordinated by the entity will be in alignment with the services provided by the  
7 public schools of the community that will be served by the entity.

8 (c) The entity will be in alignment with, and make advantageous use of, the system of public  
9 health care and services available through county health departments and other publicly supported  
10 programs delivered through, or in partnership with, counties and coordinated care organizations.

11 (d) The entity will be able to integrate efforts among education providers, providers of health  
12 care, providers of human services and providers of other programs and services in the community.

13 (e) The entity will use coordinated and transparent budgeting.

14 (f) The entity will operate in a fiscally sound manner.

15 (g) The entity must have a governing body or community advisory body that:

16 (A) Has the authority to initiate audits, recommend the terms of a contract and provide reports  
17 to the public and to the [*Early Learning*] council on the outcomes of the provision of early learning  
18 services to the community served by the entity.

19 (B) Has members selected through a transparent process and includes both public and private  
20 entities, locally based parents and service recipients, human social service providers, child care  
21 providers, health care providers and representatives of local governments from the service area.

22 (h) The entity will collaborate on documentation related to coordinated services with public and  
23 private entities that are identified by the [*Early Learning*] council as providers of services that ad-  
24 vance the early learning of children.

25 (i) The entity will serve a community that is based on the population and service needs of the  
26 community and will demonstrate the ability to improve results for at-risk children, including the  
27 ability to identify, evaluate and implement coordinated strategies to ensure that a child is ready to  
28 succeed in school.

29 (j) The entity will be able to raise and leverage significant funds from public and private sources  
30 and to secure in-kind support to support early learning services coordinated by the entity and op-  
31 erate in a fiscally sound manner.

32 (k) The entity meets any other qualifications established by the [*Early Learning*] council.

33 (5) The [*Early Learning*] council may adopt by rule requirements that are in addition to the re-  
34 quirements described in subsections (3) and (4) of this section that an entity must meet to qualify  
35 as an Early Learning Hub. When developing the additional requirements, the council must use a  
36 statewide public process of community engagement that is consistent with the requirements of the  
37 federal Head Start Act.

38 (6) When determining whether to designate an entity as an Early Learning Hub, the [*Early*  
39 *Learning*] council shall balance the following factors:

40 (a) The entity's ability to engage the community and be involved in the community.

41 (b) The entity's ability to produce outcomes that benefit children.

42 (c) The entity's resourcefulness.

43 (d) The entity's use, or proposed use, of evidence-based practices.

44 **(7) The council shall develop metrics for the purpose of providing funding to Early**  
45 **Learning Hubs designated under this section. The metrics must:**

1 (a) Focus on community readiness, high capacity development and progress toward  
2 tracking child outcomes;

3 (b) Establish a baseline of information for the area to be served by the Early Learning  
4 Hub, including information about the inclusion of community partners in the governance  
5 structure of the Early Learning Hub, the availability of data on local programs and outcomes  
6 and the success in leveraging private, nonprofit and other governmental resources for early  
7 learning; and

8 (c) Include child performance metrics.

9 (8) The council may require that, as a condition of receiving funding as a designated  
10 Early Learning Hub under this section, the Early Learning Hub provide matching funding.  
11 The percentage of matching funding shall be determined by the council and may vary for  
12 each fiscal year. Any moneys received by an Early Learning Hub are subject to the re-  
13 strictions of this section.

14 (9) For any community in this state that is not served by an Early Learning Hub, the  
15 council shall oversee and administer the delivery of early learning services for that commu-  
16 nity and, to the extent practicable, shall regionalize service administration.

17 [(7)] (10) The [*Early Learning*] council may alter the lines of the territory served by an Early  
18 Learning Hub only to ensure that all children of this state are served by an Early Learning Hub.

19 [(8)] (11) An entity designated as part of an Early Learning Hub may not use more than 15  
20 percent of the moneys received by the entity from the [*Early Learning*] council to pay administrative  
21 costs of the entity.

22 [(9)] (12) The Department of Human Services or the Oregon Health Authority may not transfer  
23 any authority for determining eligibility for a state or federal program to an Early Learning Hub.

24 (13) The council shall report annually on or before September 15 to the interim commit-  
25 tees of the Legislative Assembly with subject matter jurisdiction of education and early  
26 learning regarding the implementation and status of Early Learning Hubs under this section.

27 **SECTION 2.** (1) The Early Learning Council shall conduct an evaluation of Early Learning  
28 Hubs that assesses the efficacy of the Early Learning Hubs with respect to:

29 (a) Creating an aligned, coordinated and family-centered system of early learning ser-  
30 vices;

31 (b) Increasing coordination and collaboration among entities involved in, and providers  
32 of services related to, early learning services, education and health and human services;

33 (c) Increasing focus on outcomes; and

34 (d) Improving outcomes, including but not limited to outcomes associated with school  
35 readiness, for populations defined by statute or rule as being at-risk.

36 (2) The evaluation performed under subsection (1) of this section must also assess, with  
37 respect to Early Learning Hubs:

38 (a) Governance structure;

39 (b) Funding mechanisms and metrics for providing funding; and

40 (c) Compilation and use of data.

41 (3) The council may contract with a third party to perform the evaluation required by  
42 this section.

43 (4) No later than February 1, 2019, the council shall submit a report to the interim leg-  
44 islative committees on education and early learning regarding the findings and recommen-  
45 dations made as a result of the evaluation performed under this section. The report shall

1 include recommendations for legislative changes based upon the findings and recommen-  
2 dations made as a result of the evaluation.

3 **SECTION 3.** This 2015 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
4 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2015 Act takes effect  
5 on its passage.  
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