

House Bill 3036

Sponsored by Representatives DINGFELDER, TOMEI

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 **as introduced**.

Creates Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Committee within Department of Human Services. Specifies membership and duties. Requires state agency adopting rule, policy, guideline or protocol to submit rule, policy, guideline or protocol to committee for comment.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Committee.

3 Whereas children in this state face an array of preventable exposures to environmental hazards
4 in their schools, homes and communities; and

5 Whereas children are at greater risk than adults for exposure to and illness from environmental
6 hazards because of a lower ability to detoxify from exposure to certain substances, a greater sensi-
7 tivity to certain substances due to immature immune systems and organs and a different exposure
8 pattern than adults; and

9 Whereas solutions to complex environmental health problems require ongoing communication,
10 collaboration and cooperation between affected communities and varied professional disciplines, in-
11 cluding medicine, public health, economics, community planning, law and public policy; now, there-
12 fore,

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

14 **SECTION 1. (1) There is created in the Department of Human Services the Children's**
15 **Environmental Health Protection Advisory Committee.**

16 **(2) The advisory committee shall consist of members appointed by the Director of Human**
17 **Services and shall contain members representing, at a minimum, the following interests:**

18 **(a) The Department of Environmental Quality;**

19 **(b) The State Department of Agriculture;**

20 **(c) The Department of Human Services;**

21 **(d) The Oregon Health Policy Commission;**

22 **(e) The Department of Education;**

23 **(f) Pediatric health care providers;**

24 **(g) Oregon Health and Science University;**

25 **(h) Environmental epidemiologists;**

26 **(i) Environmental toxicologists;**

27 **(j) The Poison Prevention Task Force;**

28 **(k) The Conference of Local Health Officials; and**

29 **(L) The Oregon Public Health Advisory Board.**

30 **(3) The advisory committee shall:**

31 **(a) Advise the director, state agencies and the Governor on policy matters relating to**

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 protecting the health of children from environmental hazards.

2 (b) Provide a review of state agency rules, guidelines, policies and protocols that relate
3 to children's special vulnerability to environmental hazards.

4 (c) Participate in public health policy development.

5 (d) Gather and disseminate to the public information on how to reduce, treat and elimi-
6 nate children's exposure to environmental hazards.

7 (e) Recommend uniform guidelines to state agencies to follow in adopting rules, guide-
8 lines, policies and protocols designed to help reduce or eliminate environmental hazards to
9 children.

10 (f) Create and promote education programs, in partnership with health and environ-
11 mental professionals, that include information on potential effects of environmental hazards
12 on the health of children, practical suggestions on reducing those hazards and any other
13 relevant information.

14 (4) Members shall be appointed for four-year terms. Notwithstanding the term of office
15 specified by this section, the advisory committee may establish a method for staggering the
16 terms of office so that the terms do not all expire on the same date.

17 (5) The advisory committee shall select one of its members as chairperson and another
18 as vice chairperson for such terms and with duties and powers necessary for the perform-
19 ance of the functions of such office as the advisory committee determines.

20 (6) A majority of the members of the advisory committee constitutes a quorum for the
21 transaction of business.

22 (7) A member of the advisory committee is not entitled to compensation, but at the dis-
23 cretion of the director may be reimbursed from funds available to the director for actual and
24 necessary travel and other expenses incurred by the member in the performance of the
25 member's official duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

26 (8) The advisory committee shall meet at least once every three months at a place, day
27 and hour determined by the advisory committee. The advisory committee may also meet at
28 other times and places specified by the call of the chairperson or of a majority of the mem-
29 bers of the advisory committee.

30 SECTION 2. (1) A state agency that adopts a rule, policy, guideline or protocol shall
31 submit a copy of the rule, policy, guideline or protocol to the Children's Environmental
32 Health Protection Advisory Committee within 10 days after its adoption.

33 (2) The advisory committee shall determine if the rule, policy, guideline or protocol ade-
34 quately protects the health of children from environmental hazards, taking into account that
35 children have a special vulnerability because of their developing physiology and because their
36 exposure, behavior and diet can differ greatly from that of adults.

37 (3) If the advisory committee determines that the rule, policy, guideline or protocol may
38 have an adverse effect on the health of children, the advisory committee shall inform the
39 adopting state agency and forward the advisory committee's comment to the Director of
40 Human Services and the office of the Governor. The comment may contain proposals that
41 would help reduce or eliminate the adverse effect of the rule, policy, guideline or protocol
42 on children's health.

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