



MEMORANDUM

To: Executive Leadership Team, Department of Early Learning and Care

From: Kate Denison, Government Affairs Manager

Date: 5/12/2025

Re: Presiding Officer's Report on Rulemaking Hearing

Early Learning Hubs Ruleset, OAR 414-900-XXXX

The Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC) held a public hearing to receive public comment on proposed rule changes to the Early Learning Hub Rules. Notice of hearing was published by the Secretary of State on April 1, 2025 in the Oregon Bulletin. Notice was also sent to interested parties and persons who requested notice pursuant to ORS 183.335(7). The hearing was presided over by Kate Denison

Hearing Information:

Date Time Location

May 12, 2025 5:00 PM Zoom (Virtual)

Attendees who wished to comment on proposed rules were given the zoom information, informed of procedures for taking comments, and notified that the hearing was recorded. To reduce barriers to participation, registration via zoom was not required.

Before receiving comment, staff briefly summarized proposed rules. A recording of the hearing is available on DELC's YouTube page and a link to the recording will be available on the DELC website.

Summary of Oral Comments:

Two members of the public attended the public hearing, and one person provided verbal testimony.

Dan Cushing, Government Affairs Director for Yamhill Community Care, presented testimony. Yamhill Community Care services as the backbone entity for Yamhill Early Learning Hub. Cushing echoed comments made by his Early Learning Director at the Rulemaking Advisory Committee for this ruleset; specifically, Cushing commented on proposed revisions to 414-900-0110 regarding Early Learning Hub Governance Structure.

As written, the proposed rule would require each Hub to have an autonomous Governance Council with its own bylaws and decision-making authority over hub funds. Cushing stated these requirements could have unintended consequences for a system that was working well, and that the problems the rules is trying to solve are not problems in their community. Cushing hopes these concerns could be





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addressed in the final rule by providing flexibility around the term "autonomous" and modifying the term "bylaws" to include "charter or memorandum or understanding" to reflect current practice.