



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Human Services

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### Memorandum

**To:** Legislative Assembly

**From:** Leah Horner, DHS Legislative Director

**Date:** September 17, 2018

**Subject:** Required status report on HB 2903 (2017)

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This memo provides an update of activity related to the requirement in HB 2903 (2017) that DHS explore the possibility of “deemed status” for child caring agencies that have been accredited and are in good standing with a national accrediting program, body or organization approved by the department.

The report is not yet complete, but we are in the process of contracting with a third party national entity that can research and analyze the viability of deemed status, as required by the bill, in a neutral and comprehensive way.

While we should have begun the procurement work on this at the beginning of the year, we began outlining the work for the report in the Spring, which included the need for neutrality in the review and a national perspective. Given that there are only a few states that do deemed status, we had assumed that given the specialized nature of the work that it would have qualified as a special procurement which was submitted in late June of this year. We were notified early in September that it did not qualify. We are now expediting the process and the Request for Proposal will be submitted on ORPIN on September 18<sup>th</sup>. We expect to submit the final report no later than January of 2019.

We as an agency have recently instituted a new tracking mechanism for reports in order to ensure that our timelines are not missed in the future. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at 503-508-6915 or [leah.c.horner@state.or.us](mailto:leah.c.horner@state.or.us).