BILL SUMMARY 1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: Version: Request Number: Author: Date: Impact: HB1849 FULLPCS1 12951 Rep. Schreiber 3/4/2025 DHS: \$10,000,000

Research Analysis

The proposed committee substitute for HB 1849 creates until Nov. 1, 2028, the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program to be administered by Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness. The program requires that an employee of a licensed child care facility has household income exempted from consideration for eligibility for the Child Care Subsidy Program. This will not apply to employees that are eligible without household income being exempted. When that individual leaves that employment, the facility will have 30 days to notify the Department of Human Services.

Prepared By: Suzie Nahach, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

The proposed committee substitute to HB1849 introduces the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program, which exempts household income from being factored in when determining eligibility for the Child Care Subsidy Program for employees of child care facilities. This program will be administered through November 1, 2028, by the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness (OPSR), a nonprofit created by the Legislature to facilitate access to early care services through private and public partnerships. As such, it is anticipated that OPSR will absorb any costs related to the implementation of this measure.

According to DHS, implementing categorical eligibility for child care workers would result in a fiscal impact of Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) annually. However, since roughly half of these workers are already eligible for a subsidy, the overall fiscal impact will be reduced to approximately Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000). Therefore, the anticipated impact on the state budget is \$10,000,000 annually.

Prepared By: Alexandra Ladner, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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