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Commissioner Shannon Singleton
District 2, North and Northeast Portland

NEWS RELEASE: Commissioner Shannon Singleton Elevates Reforms For Preschool For All

Multnomah County, OR. (June 26, 2025)

Multnomah County Commissioner Shannon Singleton responds to recent conversations regarding Preschool For All. She believes the will of the voters was clear in passing the measure and that discussions about reform should not include the erasure of the program.

“Families depend on Preschool For All for childcare and early childhood learning,” said Commissioner Singleton. “It frustrates me that many families, especially our Black, indigenous, people of color, and families with low incomes, that count on this program to educate their children, were negatively impacted this week. It is also critical that we acknowledge the economic development of this program, particularly for culturally specific providers to open and/or expand their small businesses.”

Since this public discourse, members of the public have sent thousands of emails to Portland City Council, Multnomah County Commissioners, and legislators with [public outcry](#) stating “Hands Off Preschool For All”. Commissioner Singleton will be talking with Preschool for All providers in District 2 over the next month to understand their needs, what is working well, and places for overall improvements that will result in getting to universal preschool.

“I am in favor of creating policy changes that make sense. We should be focused on improving the program with increasing seats, stabilizing providers, expanding culturally specific services, and integrating this with our workforce development goals because affordable and reliable child care is necessary for a strong workforce.”

Multnomah County had already planned to explore potential reforms to this program through the Preschool For All Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and public board discussions to thoroughly analyze the data and impacts of any policy changes to the program. As Commissioner Singleton stated during today’s board meeting, “I think we

need to explore common sense options like indexing and innovative ideas like a childcare tax credit for those who pay into the program but may not be able to access the program because they don't live in Multnomah County, and other ideas that may come from my colleagues, the community, preschool providers, and the families accessing the program."