

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2238

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*Prepared by: Meg Bushman-Reinhold
Reviewed by: Gregory Jolivet
Date: January 22, 2019**Measure Description:**

Modifies annual salaries of judges of Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, circuit courts and Oregon Tax Court.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Judicial Department (OJD)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2019-21 Biennium	2021-23 Biennium
General Fund	\$7,527,674	\$13,121,788
Total Funds	\$7,527,674	\$13,121,788
Positions	0	0
FTE	0.00	0.00

Analysis:

Traditionally, judicial salaries are set by statute each biennium by the Legislature. HB 2238 amends Oregon law to increase judicial salaries to a set amount this biennium and provides that future salary increases are automatically adjusted every two years according to a defined percentage of the annual salary of a federal district court judge.

For the 2019-21 biennium, the salary for the Chief Justice for the 2019-21 biennium would increase 12.56% to \$176,800. The salary for the remaining Supreme Court justices and the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals would increase 10.36% to \$170,000. The salary for the remaining Court of Appeals judges would increase 10.2% to \$166,400, and the salary for circuit court judges would increase 9.8% to \$156,000. The annual salary for a judge of the Oregon Tax Court would increase 9.7% to \$160,160.

Beginning in 2021, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court would receive a salary that is 90 percent of the annual salary of a U.S. District Court judge; the remainder of the Supreme Court justices and the Chief Judge of Court of Appeals would receive 87 percent of the salary paid to U.S. District Court judge; State Court of Appeals judges would receive 85 percent and circuit court judges would receive 80 percent of the annual salary of a U.S. District Court judge; and judges on the Oregon Tax Court would receive 82 percent of the annual salary of the U.S. District Court judge. As mentioned above, these salaries would adjust on July 1 of each odd-numbered year to reflect changes in the federal district court judicial salary.

The fiscal impact of this bill is \$7,527,624 General Fund for 2019-21 and \$13,121,788 General Fund for 2021-23.