

HB 2547 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Amie Fender-Sosa, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/24, 3/29, 4/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the State Court Administrator to study methods for assigning a single judge to domestic relations cases to serve throughout the duration of the case. Requires the administrator to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2022.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Directs the State Court Administrator to study ways to improve and increase trauma-informed procedural justice. Requires the administrator to report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2023. Sunsets January 2, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

The Office of the State Court Administrator (OSCA) oversees Oregon's statewide, state-funded court system. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is the administrative head of the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) – a statewide, unified court system with almost 200 judges and more than 1600 full and part-time staff. The Chief Justice appoints the State Court Administrator who serves as OJD's chief administrative officer. Oregon has 36 counties and each county's court policies are unique. Some county family courts in Oregon assign cases on a one judge / one family basis, and some do not.

HB 2547 would direct the State Court Administrator to study methods for assigning a single judge to domestic relations cases to serve throughout the duration of the case.