

HB 2547 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 04/01/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 9-0-1-0

Yeas: 9 - Bynum, Dexter, Helm, Kropf, Lewis, Morgan, Noble, Wallan, Wilde

Exc: 1 - Power

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

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 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.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Administrative and resource challenges
- Consideration for smaller counties
- Definition of procedural justice
- Applicability beyond family law cases
- Broadly drafted measure that could include consideration of the one family-one judge model
- Phase I of court improvement

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

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 family-one judge basis and some do not.

House Bill 2547 A directs the State Court Administrator to study ways to improve and increase trauma-informed procedural justice.