SB 578 and 202 Funding for Court Appointed Attorneys In Protective Proceedings – Pilot Project Senate Judiciary Committee Data Testimony of Judge Lauren Holland

February 23, 2021

My name is Lauren Holland and I use the pronouns she and her. I have the privilege of serving as a Circuit Court Judge In Lane County, the Second Judicial District of Oregon.

We have over 14,000 open guardianship and conservatorship cases throughout our state – impacting Oregonians in every district.

Since the beginning of 2020, the Oregon Judicial Department, through ecourt (Odyssey program) has been collecting information to obtain accurate and current data in protective proceeding cases. This information is automatically updated weekly and the most current information is as of February 22, 2021.

As of February 22, 2021, there are 14,270 pending guardianship and conservatorship cases in Oregon – cases open in every district throughout the state.

Pending cases by type:

Adult protected persons – 66% Minor protected persons – 30% Not yet identified - 4%

Pending cases by subtype:

Cases involving Guardianship alone – 70% Cases with combined Guardianship/Conservatorship – 15% Cases involving Conservatorship alone – 13% Not yet identified – 2%

The data reflects there are far more guardianship cases in Oregon than conservatorship cases.

Unlike most other cases, these cases can remain open for years. Over 50% of guardianship/conservatorship cases have been open for over five (5) years. Once under a protective proceeding, a person often remains subject to that proceeding for the rest of their life.

Pending protective proceeding cases by years since filing:

Less than one year:	12%
One to five years:	35%
Five to ten years:	24%
Ten years and older:	29%

This information is also being provided in documented chart/graph form.

I am glad to answer any questions or provide further information. Thank you.