

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 233**

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2023 Regular Session

Legislative Fiscal Office

Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed Versions are Considered Official

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Measure Description:

Increases salaries of state court judges.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Judicial Department

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

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

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2023-25 Biennium	2025-27 Biennium
Oregon Judicial Department		
General Fund		
Personal Services	\$17,338,870	\$19,951,577
Total Fiscal Impact	\$17,338,870	\$19,951,577

Analysis:

This measure increases base annual salary of statutory judgeships in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Courts, and circuit courts. The measure modifies judicial salaries, which are set by statute by providing for two 10% salary increases: July 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024. The measure declares emergency and is effective upon passage.

The Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) estimates the fiscal impact of this measure to be \$17.3 million General Fund for the 2023-25 biennium and \$20 million General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium. Under current law, there are 179 circuit court judges, 13 Court of Appeals judges, seven Supreme Court judges, and one Tax Court judge for a total of 200 statutory judgeships that would receive increases in salary under this measure. In addition, the fiscal impact includes the associated increases to Other Payroll Expenses (Public Employees Retirement System, Social Security Tax, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance, and Mass Transit tax).

The measure does not apply to the costs related non-statutorily established judgeships (such as temporary or pro-tem judges, 50 senior or "Plan B" retired judges, and judicial referees), which are funded separately in OJD's budget.

The measure requires a referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of the budgetary impact on the state's General Fund and OJD's budget.