



Open Government Impact Statement

82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2023 Regular Session

Measure: SB 337 - C

Only impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official

Prepared by: Dexter A. Johnson
Date: 6/20/2023

SUMMARY

Establishes Oregon Public Defense Commission within judicial branch. Specifies appointment process for and qualification of commission members and duties of executive director and commission. Abolishes Public Defense Services Commission and transfers duties, functions and powers of commission to Oregon Public Defense Commission.

Transfers Oregon Public Defense Commission to executive branch effective January 1, 2025. Provides that Governor appoints executive director of commission, and executive director and commission members serve at pleasure of Governor until July 1, 2027. Directs Oregon Department of Administrative Services to issue state public defense population forecasts.

Directs Oregon Public Defense Commission to conduct survey and economic analysis to calculate minimum hourly pay for appointed counsel who are not employed by commission for contracts entered beginning July 1, 2027. Specifies required percentage of trial-level appointed counsel who must be employees of commission by January 1, 2031, and January 1, 2035. Effective July 1, 2025, directs commission to establish panel of qualified counsel who may be directly assigned to cases. Specifies types of contracts commission may enter into for purposes of providing public defense services. Provides that commission members appoint executive director of commission beginning July 1, 2027.

Directs Oregon Public Defense Commission to provide, to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to judiciary, no later than May 15, 2024, comprehensive report on plan for providing public defense services. Directs commission to provide updated report on December 1, 2025, December 1, 2026, and December 1, 2027, and biennially thereafter until January 2, 2036.

Directs presiding judge of each judicial district to develop and implement coordinated public safety unrepresented defendant crisis plan, and submit plan to Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, by September 1, 2023. Directs presiding judge of judicial district of certain population to convene crisis team to assist in developing and implementing plan.

Directs Public Defense Services Commission to promulgate and disseminate guidance on crisis plans by August 15, 2023, develop training plan concerning unrepresented defendant crisis by September 1, 2023, and report to committees of Legislative Assembly by October 1, 2023.

Directs Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to report to committees of Legislative Assembly on crisis plan findings by October 1, 2023.

Appropriates moneys to Public Defense Services Commission and Judicial Department to carry out provisions of Act.

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Declares emergency, effective on passage.

NOTICE OF NO OPEN GOVERNMENT IMPACT