

**TESTIMONY ON SB 326
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
FEBRUARY 2, 2023**

**PRESENTED BY: KAITI FERGUSON, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kaiti Ferguson, Senior Staff Counsel at the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD). OJD is neutral on SB 326, but I am submitting this testimony to thank Chair Prozanski for his leadership and including OJD in the discussions on this concept over the past several months.

We appreciate the thoughtful work of Representative Morgan, the stakeholders, and the Legislative Policy and Research Office's analysts involved in developing this concept and for considering OJD's suggestions on how to achieve the bill's policy goals with minimal impact on court operations and processes.

With regard to the aspects of the bill that affect OJD processes and court procedures, we anticipate that we will be able to readily implement those changes.

Additionally, if work continues, OJD would welcome the opportunity to participate in those discussions and provide insight on the aspects and procedures that apply to OJD.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony. I am available to answer any questions.