SB 95 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Prepared By: Abby Shearer, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure increases the number of circuit court judges in Clackamas, Crook, and Jefferson counties effective October 2025 and increases the number of circuit court judges in Lane, Umatilla, Morrow, Douglas, and Clackamas counties effective January 2026. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2024 the legislature adopted Senate Bill 1541 to expand judicial capacity in response to Oregon's circuit courts growing caseload. The measure added judgeships in Jackson, Washington, and Clackamas counties. Senate Bill 95 would continue those legislative efforts by adding six new circuit court judge positions across five judicial districts in a phased approach to address judicial needs.