# HB 2633 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### **House Committee On Judiciary**

**Prepared By:** Tisha Pascone, LPRO Analyst **Meeting Dates:** 4/1

### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission to study specialty courts and report back to the Legislative Assembly by Dec. 31, 2026.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

## **EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 The amendment requires the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) to designate and maintain a uniform data entry system for all treatment courts in the state system, and requires that all treatment courts and treatment partners to treatment courts enter data into the system. The measure permits OJD and the Criminal Justice Commission, as well as any treatment court advisory committee convened by the Chief Justice, to access deidentified data for assessment, analysis, recommendations and training.

### BACKGROUND:

<u>House Bill 4001</u> (2024) created the <u>Task Force on Specialty Courts</u> to study four subject areas concerning specialty courts (treatment courts):

- 1. Identification of the most appropriate funding mechanism to ensure long-term stability of specialty courts within the state.
- 2. Determining the administrative and funding balance between the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission and the Judicial Department.
- 3. Determining whether specialty courts currently use the right eligibility metrics, including whether current metrics are accurately capturing those individuals who would benefit from a drug court program.
- 4. Identification of the appropriate accountability mechanism to ensure that specialty courts are operating according to the standards of the commission.

The Task Force adopted a <u>Final Report</u> on its findings and recommendations on November 8, 2024, and submitted the report to the House and Senate Interim Committees on Judiciary on November 15, 2024. The Task Force found (Finding 2.2) that "[u]se of best practices is associated with 50–100 percent improved outcomes in specialty courts, and monitoring program adherence to best practices improves specialty court outcomes by around 50 percent, increasing net cost-benefits by around 100 percent." The Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) maintains the Specialty Court Case Management Systems (SCMS), and treatment courts that receive Specialty Court Grant funding from the Criminal Justice Commission are required to utilize SCMS. They receive guidance for adherence to Oregon Specialty Court Standards based in part on that data, along with other inputs. However, several treatment courts do not seek grant funding and do not use SCMS, leaving statewide data and court-level data regarding standard adherence incomplete. The Task force voted to recommend (Recommendation 3) that uniform data entry be required for all treatment courts in the state system, that the data system be maintained by OJD, and that OJD and the Criminal Justice Commission have access to deidentified data for assessment and analysis.