

## HB 2306 A -A7 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### Senate Committee On Judiciary

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**Prepared By:** Abby Shearer, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/7

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows the Marion County Board of Commissioners to broaden the justice of the peace district to include the county seat and areas served by a circuit court. It also increases the amount a judicial officer and county clerk may accept for personal payment of solemnization of a marriage from \$100 to \$200 and allows adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index.

HOUSE VOTE: Ayes, 54; Nays, 2

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Participation of Salem residents in Justice of the Peace elections and jury service
- Size of Marion County compared to other counties with Justice of the Peace districts that include a county seat
- Other counties in Oregon where Justice of the Peace districts include the county seat

#### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A7 The amendment repeals the provision that creates geographic limitations to justice of the peace districts and therefore expands the measure to allow all justice of the peace districts to include the county seat or a city in which a circuit court operates.

#### BACKGROUND:

Oregon law establishes justice of the peace districts, which define the geographic areas where justices of the peace may exercise jurisdiction. In Marion County, the existing justice of the peace district does not currently include the county seat, or all areas served by the circuit court. Current law also sets a maximum amount of \$100 that a judicial officer or county clerk may receive as personal payment for the solemnization of a marriage. Senate Bill 2306 authorizes the Marion County Board of Commissioners to expand the boundaries of the justice of the peace district to include the county seat and areas served by the circuit court. It also increases the payment limit to \$200 and allows for future adjustments based on changes in the Consumer Price Index. The amendment would eliminate any geographical limitation to justice of the peace districts allowing every justice of the peace district to include the county seat or a city in which a circuit court operates.