

# SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## HB 5012

### Judicial Department

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Public Safety Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Evans

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HB 5012 is the budget bill for the Judicial Department, which includes the judges and administrative staff who operate general-jurisdiction circuit courts, the Tax Court, the intermediate Court of Appeals, and the Oregon Supreme Court. Oregon's 36 counties are consolidated into 27 judicial districts for purposes of circuit court administration.

The Public Safety Subcommittee approved a total funds budget of \$1 billion, including \$873 million General Fund, \$162.9 million Other Funds, \$5.4 million Federal Funds, and 2,178 positions. The total funds budget is a decrease of 13% from the 2023-25 legislatively approved budget due primarily to the phase-out of one-time funding, and a 16.9% total funds increase from the 2025-27 current services level.

Major budgetary changes include funding for court interpreters, positions for the unrepresented defendant crisis, funding for courthouse security, positions for appellate and circuit courts, training for judges and court staff, continuation of Other and Federal Funds grant positions, the carryforward of American Rescue Plan Act funding for circuit court replacement planning and improvement, and

Other Funds expenditure limitation for the Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Fund.

The measure also includes a current 2023-25 biennium fund shift that moves a \$2.9 million Criminal Fine Account allocation to General Fund.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends HB 5012 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.