



Legislative Fiscal Office
83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly
2025 Regular Session

Prepared by: Chelsey Herrmann
Reviewed by: John Borden
Date: February 27, 2025

Bill Title: Relating to judicial training.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Judicial Department

Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - see explanatory analysis.

Measure Description

The measure allows the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to establish minimum continuing education (MCE) requirements for circuit court, tax court, Court of Appeals, and Supreme Court judges. The education requirements must include evidence-based and trauma-informed education related to domestic violence, sexual assault (DVSA), stalking and other related interpersonal violence. If the Chief Justice mandates the MCE requirements, the Chief Justice must consult with an advisory committee and those with expertise in interpersonal violence when establishing the education requirements.

The measure also requires the State Court Administrator within the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) to implement training and curriculum for circuit court, tax court, Court of Appeals and Supreme Court judges to meet the education requirements set by the Chief Justice. OJD must submit a report to the Legislative Assembly related to the judiciary regarding the judicial compliance and implementation of the MCE curriculum and training by September 15, 2027.

Fiscal Analysis

The fiscal impact is indeterminate and dependent on if the Chief Justice adopts MCE requirements, the minimum MCE hours mandated, the frequency they are required, the manner the training is to be provided, and the level of funding received for the program.

Currently, while OJD does provide training and education to judges, the Department states it does not have mandatory MCE requirements specific for DVSA. Oregon judges, as members of the State Bar, must complete minimum continuing legal education (MCLE) requirements to maintain their bar license and complete 45 MCLE credits per a three-year period. OJD does provide judges with judicial competence training outside of the MCLEs.

Under this measure the Department would need to consult with an advisory committee comprised of a mix of internal and external partners with expertise in DVSA and interpersonal violence when establishing the MCE requirements and training curriculum. This is dependent on the Chief Justice mandating these requirements and, if mandated, how many hours are required to be completed to meet the MCE requirement and how frequently the training must be provided to meet the requirements.

Assuming the MCE requirements are mandated, and OJD provides these trainings in person, OJD estimates needing two staff positions (1.75 FTE in 2025-27 and 2.00 FTE in 2027-29) to help develop and implement the training requirements for 203 judicial positions in the 2025-27 biennium. The staff positions include one permanent full-time Analyst 4 (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29) and one permanent full-time

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**Measure: SB 710 - A**

Management Assistant 2 (0.88 FTE in 2025-27 and 1.00 FTE in 2027-29) with an estimated cost, including standard position-related services and supplies costs, of \$776,844 General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium and \$840,143 General Fund in the 2027-29 biennium. These costs may be less if these trainings are provided in a virtual format.

The 2025-27 Chief Justice recommended budget contains Policy Option Package 111 which includes 23 staff positions to support an onboarding and core curriculum development for training judges, including court staff, on similar topics as this measure.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.

The provision regarding the reporting requirement is repealed on January 2, 2028.