

SB 95 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/03/25

Action: Do pass and refer to Ways and Means by prior reference.

Vote: 6-0-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, McLane, Prozanski, Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

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Meeting Dates: 2/24, 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure adds six circuit court judges to five judicial districts in Oregon. The proposal staggers the effective dates for the new judicial positions and provides that two of the six positions take effect October 2025 and the remaining four positions in January 2026. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- The need for additional judgeships in Lane County
- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2024, the legislature passed Senate Bill 1541 to expand judicial capacity in response to the growing caseload in Oregon's circuit courts. 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 increasing caseloads.