

SB 913 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Gelser Blouin, Sen.
Prozanski

Senate Committee On Judiciary

Action Date: 03/20/25

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-1-0

Yeas: 5 - Broadman, Gelser Blouin, Manning Jr, McLane, Prozanski

Exc: 1 - Thatcher

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Prepared By: Kris Kolta, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/3, 3/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure eliminates geographic limitations on justice court districts by allowing a county to establish a justice of the peace district that includes the county seat or a city in which a circuit court operates.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Outdated districting system
- Need for additional courts

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

ORS 51.020 allows a county court or board of county commissioners to establish or modify the boundaries of a justice of the peace district, subject to a limit of six such justice courts within a given county. Subject to exceptions for specified rural counties, Oregon law currently prohibits a county from establishing a justice court district that includes the county seat or a city in which an Oregon circuit court regularly holds court.