

**HB 2306 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Gelser Blouin

**Senate Committee On Judiciary**

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**Action Date:** 05/20/25

**Action:** Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

**Vote:** 6-0-0-0

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

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued

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

**Meeting Dates:** 5/7, 5/19, 5/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure allows each county to establish or modify the boundaries of its justice of the peace districts and permits 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.

**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:**

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 B allows all counties' justice of the peace districts to include the county seat or a city in which a circuit court operates, increases the payment limit to \$200, and allows for future adjustments based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.