

## B-Engrossed House Bill 2712

Ordered by the House June 19  
Including House Amendments dated April 11 and June 19

Sponsored by Representatives EVANS, SMITH G (Presession filed.)

### SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act gives judges more pay. The Act says that the Chief Justice can take actions and make rules to promote accountability of judges and make justice services fair and accessible. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.5).

Increases the salaries of state court judges.

Provides that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has authority to take actions and establish rules that promote judicial accountability and fair and accessible justice services.

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to the Judicial Department; creating new provisions; amending ORS 292.406, 292.411, 292.416 and 292.426; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** ORS 292.406 is amended to read:

292.406. (1)(a) The annual salary of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall be \$154,040 for the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(b) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(c) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall be \$220,596.**

**(d) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in paragraph (c) of this subsection, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

(2)(a) The annual salary of each other judge of the Court of Appeals shall be \$150,980 for the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(b) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of each other judge of the Court of Appeals, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(c) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of each other judge of the Court of Appeals shall be \$216,336.**

**(d) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of each other judge of the Court of Appeals shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in paragraph (c) of this subsection, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

**SECTION 2.** ORS 292.411 is amended to read:

292.411. (1)(a) The annual salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be \$157,076 for

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(b) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(c) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be \$224,784.**

**(d) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in paragraph (c) of this subsection, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

(2)(a) The annual salary of each other judge of the Supreme Court shall be \$154,040 for the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(b) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of each other judge of the Supreme Court, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(c) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of each other judge of the Supreme Court shall be \$220,596.**

**(d) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of each other judge of the Supreme Court shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in subsection (3) of this section, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

**SECTION 3.** ORS 292.416 is amended to read:

292.416. (1) The annual salary of each judge of a circuit court shall be \$142,136 for the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(2) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of each judge of a circuit court, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(3) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of each judge of a circuit court shall be \$204,060.**

**(4) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of each judge of a circuit court shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in subsection (3) of this section, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

**SECTION 4.** ORS 292.426 is amended to read:

292.426. (1) The annual salary of the judge of the Oregon Tax Court shall be \$146,048 for the period beginning on January 1, 2019, and ending on June 30, 2020.

(2) On July 1, 2020, the annual salary of the judge of the Oregon Tax Court, as adjusted under ORS 292.428, shall be increased by \$5,000.

**(3) On July 1, 2025, the annual salary of the judge of the Oregon Tax Court shall be \$209,532.**

**(4) On July 1, 2027, the annual salary of the judge of the Oregon Tax Court shall be 110 percent of the salary specified in subsection (3) of this section, as adjusted under ORS 292.428.**

**SECTION 5.** (1) In the exercise of administrative authority and supervision over the courts of this state, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has the authority to take actions and establish rules that promote judicial accountability and fair and accessible justice services, consistent with the mission of the state courts, including the ability to establish:

**(a) Judicial education requirements to strengthen the skills, resilience and performance of the members of the Judicial Conference of the State of Oregon;**

**(b) An ombudsman's office within the office of the State Court Administrator to receive and respond to comments and concerns regarding court experiences;**

**(c) Rules and standards governing the resolution of concerns regarding judicial performance;**

1       (d) Individualized action plans applicable to judges, including mandatory plans of educa-  
2       tion, coaching or mentoring; and

3       (e) Rules regarding the availability or confidentiality of information obtained or gener-  
4       ated by the ombudsman's office.

5       (2) Nothing in this section prevents the Chief Justice or any other individual from re-  
6       ferring a matter to the Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability.

7       **SECTION 6.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation  
8       made to the Judicial Department by section 1 (1), chapter \_\_, Oregon Laws 2025 (Enrolled  
9       House Bill 5012), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, for judicial compensation, is in-  
10      creased by \$11,328,430 for implementation of the amendments to ORS 292.406, 292.411, 292.416  
11      and 292.426 by sections 1 to 4 of this 2025 Act.

12      **SECTION 7.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation  
13      made to the Judicial Department by section 1 (2), chapter \_\_, Oregon Laws 2025 (Enrolled  
14      House Bill 5012), for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, for operations, is increased by  
15      \$1,909,655 for implementation of the provisions of section 5 of this 2025 Act.

16      **SECTION 8.** This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
17      peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect  
18      on its passage.  
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