

Requested by Representative EVANS

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
HOUSE BILL 3376**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 7 through 28.

2 On page 2, delete lines 1 through 35 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 2. (1) There is established in each judicial district de-**  
4 **scribed in section 3 (1) of this 2025 Act the office of the district**  
5 **defender.**

6 **“(2) The executive director of the Oregon Public Defense Commis-**  
7 **sion shall appoint a district defender for each judicial district described**  
8 **in section 3 (1) of this 2025 Act, subject to approval by a majority vote**  
9 **of the voting members of the commission. A district defender serves**  
10 **at the pleasure of and reports to the executive director.**

11 **“(3) Each district defender position is within the trial division of the**  
12 **commission described in ORS 151.216 (4).**

13 **“(4) The district defender shall supervise personnel necessary to**  
14 **carry out the duties of the office and shall maintain and oversee the**  
15 **functions of the district office.**

16 **“(5) The district defender shall:**

17 **“(a) Oversee the assignment of all circuit court cases in which**  
18 **counsel is appointed within the judicial district.**

19 **“(b) Oversee the panel attorneys described in ORS 151.216 (5) prac-**  
20 **ticing within the district.**

21 **“(c) Provide oversight for all public defense provider contracts**

1 **within the district, including but not limited to:**

2 **“(A) Ensuring that all public defense providers within the judicial**  
3 **district are in compliance with contract training requirements.**

4 **“(B) Maintaining current caseload and workload data to ensure**  
5 **compliance with the caseload policies and workload plans adopted un-**  
6 **der ORS 151.216.**

7 **“(C) Maintaining current data on attorney turnover within each**  
8 **public defense contracting entity.**

9 **“(d) Provide or oversee the provision of training to public defense**  
10 **providers within the district concerning local court rules and proce-**  
11 **dures.**

12 **“(e) Serve as the public defense representative for advisory com-**  
13 **mittees related to criminal justice within the district. The district**  
14 **defender may appoint a designee to serve on any committee.**

15 **“(f) Maintain data on case assignments within the district and reg-**  
16 **ularly transmit the data to the commission.**

17 **“(6)(a) If the district defender is assigned deputy district defenders,**  
18 **the district defender may designate a chief deputy district defender.**  
19 **A chief deputy district defender may serve as the district defender in**  
20 **the district defender’s absence or if the position is vacant.**

21 **“(b) A deputy district defender may serve as trial counsel in adult**  
22 **criminal cases, represent parents or children in juvenile cases, appear**  
23 **as specialty court counsel or provide any other direct client represen-**  
24 **tation necessary to carry out the public defense needs of the judicial**  
25 **district.**

26 **“(7) The district defender may serve as advice counsel or appear in**  
27 **court as arraignment counsel, specialty court counsel or trial counsel.**

28 **“(8) The Oregon Public Defense Commission and the county or**  
29 **counties constituting the judicial district are responsible for the costs**  
30 **of the office of the district defender.”.**

1 On page 3, delete lines 4 through 45.

2 On page 4, delete lines 1 through 12 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 4.** Section 2 of this 2025 Act is amended to read:

4 **“Sec. 2.** (1) There is established in each judicial district [*described in*  
5 *section 3 (1) of this 2025 Act*] the office of the district defender.

6 “(2) The executive director of the Oregon Public Defense Commission  
7 shall appoint a district defender for each judicial district [*described in sec-*  
8 *tion 3 (1) of this 2025 Act*], subject to approval by a majority vote of the  
9 voting members of the commission. A district defender serves at the pleasure  
10 of and reports to the executive director.

11 “(3) Each district defender position is within the trial division of the  
12 commission described in ORS 151.216 (4).

13 “(4) The district defender shall supervise personnel necessary to carry out  
14 the duties of the office and shall maintain and oversee the functions of the  
15 district office.

16 “(5) The district defender shall:

17 “(a) Oversee the assignment of all circuit court cases in which counsel  
18 is appointed within the judicial district.

19 “(b) Oversee the panel attorneys described in ORS 151.216 (5) practicing  
20 within the district.

21 “(c) Provide oversight for all public defense provider contracts within the  
22 district, including but not limited to:

23 “(A) Ensuring that all public defense providers within the judicial district  
24 are in compliance with contract training requirements.

25 “(B) Maintaining current caseload and workload data to ensure compli-  
26 ance with the caseload policies and workload plans adopted under ORS  
27 151.216.

28 “(C) Maintaining current data on attorney turnover within each public  
29 defense contracting entity.

30 “(d) Provide or oversee the provision of training to public defense pro-

1 viders within the district concerning local court rules and procedures.

2 “(e) Serve as the public defense representative for advisory committees  
3 related to criminal justice within the district. The district defender may ap-  
4 point a designee to serve on any committee.

5 “(f) Maintain data on case assignments within the district and regularly  
6 transmit the data to the commission.

7 “(6)(a) If the district defender is assigned deputy district defenders, the  
8 district defender may designate a chief deputy district defender. A chief  
9 deputy district defender may serve as the district defender in the district  
10 defender’s absence or if the position is vacant.

11 “(b) A deputy district defender may serve as trial counsel in adult crimi-  
12 nal cases, represent parents or children in juvenile cases, appear as specialty  
13 court counsel or provide any other direct client representation necessary to  
14 carry out the public defense needs of the judicial district.

15 “(7) The district defender may serve as advice counsel or appear in court  
16 as arraignment counsel, specialty court counsel or trial counsel.

17 “(8) The Oregon Public Defense Commission and the county or counties  
18 constituting the judicial district are responsible for the costs of the office  
19 of the district defender.”.

20 On page 6, line 33, delete “(a)”.

21 Delete lines 36 and 37.

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