



Educating and Assisting Judges
since 1984

Oregon Judges Association (OJA)
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February 26, 2025

Subject: Support House Bill 5012

To: Co-Chairs Broadman & Evans, and Members of the Subcommittee:

The Oregon Judges Association represents the appointed and elected judges in our 153 local municipal, county justice, and tribal courts.

Our local courts are an extension of our state court system, providing increased access to justice to citizens in our communities, alleviating the caseload for circuit courts, and contributing funds to the state criminal fine account through fee collection.

Our collaborative efforts to provide justice to all Oregonians could not happen without a strong and fully funded state court system and judicial department.

OJA supports the judicial department's budget, including all its policy option packages. We strongly support POP 101 which would add security screening in 8 circuit courts. Courts are a location where elevated emotions of customers occur every day. It is a national best practice to have court front door security screening. Uniformity of courthouse security benefits courts statewide and reinforces public trust. Additionally, some of our local courts share space or buildings with state courts so increasing our members' safety in the workplace is directly tied to this package as well.

The OJA would like to extend its appreciation to OJD and the Oregon Law Commission for recently engaging with local judges on a workgroup to discuss appeals from local courts. This collaboration resulted in House Bill 2460 that is making its way through the process this session and we hope is a sign of increased collaboration in the future.

Thank you very much for your support of OJD and our entire court system in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Hon. Juliet Britton

President, Oregon Judges Association