

Submitter: Sean McCaffrey
On Behalf Of: Citizen Voter
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Public Safety
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5012

Dear Legislators,

I write today in support of increasing funding for Oregon's Judicial Department. Current funding levels are insufficient for Oregon's state courts in a number of ways. Our circuit court caseload has vastly outgrown the number of judges added in recent years, along with judicial support staff. Salaries for Oregon judges has improved but should be improved further to make the position more realistic for those willing to serve the people of our state. Counties like Washington County currently operate in facilities and with judicial and staffing levels approximately half that of Multnomah County, despite being more than 75% it's population. This legislation is not a cure-all for Oregon's judicial woes, but represents an important first step in the right direction. Supporting this legislation also signals you are serious about fixing the problems which ail Oregon's judicial system. Thank you for your consideration, and for your own service to the people and communities of our beautiful state.

Respectfully,
Sean McCaffrey
Beaverton, Oregon