



March 24, 2025

Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Oregon Association of Defense Counsel ("OADC"), we offer our strong support of SB 1175. OADC is an organization of approximately 550 lawyers in the State of Oregon who devote a significant portion of their practice to the defense of civil litigation.

The jury trial is a vital part of our country's system of checks and balances. Jury service provides citizens an opportunity to engage in the judicial process and, through that engagement, to gain a greater respect for our judicial system, for their communities and for the principles of the law. 84% of Americans believe that trials by jury help to make the justice system accountable to the rule of law and the Constitution.

Jury service, however, can be a significant disruption to a person's life, requiring time away from work or caregiving duties with little compensation. These barriers are leading to an increase in requests for excusal from jury service, with financial hardship cited as a common reason.

For these reasons, among others, we strongly support the Oregon Judicial Department's recent efforts to increase jury participation, including SB 1175. The Task Force on Removing Barriers to Jury Service established by SB 1175 will be charged with significantly advancing work to identify and address barriers to juror participation through analyzing the good work done by other states to restructure juror compensation, and will explore strategies for public outreach and education on jury participation. We are grateful to the Department for taking this forward-looking approach to inspiring and supporting critical civic engagement through jury service.

**OADC urges your strong support of SB 1175.**

Sincerely,

OADC Government Affairs Committee

Daniel Larsen – President

Megan Cook – President-Elect

Kristen Curtis – Secretary/Treasurer, OADC

Lloyd Bernstein – Chair, OADC Government Affairs Committee

Molly Marcum

Daniel Schanz

Maureen McGee – Lobbyist (971-610-1140, [maureen.mcgee@tonkon.com](mailto:maureen.mcgee@tonkon.com))