

Date:	February 10, 2026
To:	Chair Kropf, Vice Chairs Wallan & Chotzen, Members of the House Judiciary Committee
From:	Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Affairs Manager Tim Dooley
Subject:	HB 4072 - support

The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) supports HB 4072 as a commonsense measure to optimize court resources and avoid spikes in arraignments due to court closures, leading to delays and increased workloads, long dockets, and overtime expenses. AOC, representing Oregon's county governments, is grateful to the Judicial Department in bringing this bill.

County Justice Courts do not currently hear criminal cases, though they retain the ability to hear misdemeanors, at the option of each county board of commissioners or county court. Should the Legislature pass HB 4072, it would make court operations at Justice Court smoother as they consider the option to take on this case load.

Extending the timeline for arraignments of out of custody defendants to exclude time when the court is closed resolves an actual problem with court operations, whether the court is closed due to holiday, staffing, weather, or an event like a wildfire or cyber-attack – and it does so without a fiscal impact. We ask that the committee support this measure.

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