

REVENUE IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

74th Oregon Legislative Assembly
2007 Regular Session
Legislative Revenue Office

Bill Number:	HB 2331 A
Revenue Area:	Court Filing Fees
Economist:	Mazen Malik
Date:	05/08/2007

Measure Description:

Increases court filing fees in civil matters earmarked for legal services for matters filed with the court after July 1, 2007 and before July 1, 2008 and the again after July 1, 2008 and thereafter as follows: (1) \$9.50 to \$11.50 and then \$13 for small claims matters if the amount of the value claimed does not exceed \$1,500; (2) \$12 and then \$16 if the amount or value claimed in small claims exceeds \$1,500; (3) \$27.50 and then \$55 if the suit is for more than \$10,000 and \$ 37.50 and then \$45 if the suit is for less than \$10,000; (4) \$41.50 and then \$83 for a probate petition where the estate is more than \$100,000 and less than \$500,00; (5) \$47.50 and then \$95 if the estate is \$500,000 or more and less than \$1 million; (6) \$53 and then \$106 if the estate is more than \$1 million; (7) \$50.00 and then \$100 when filing a petition in court seeking arbitration or challenging arbitration; (8) \$6 and then \$11 from a petitioner and \$3 and then \$6 from each defendant or respondent in a filing of a case of original jurisdiction in the Oregon Supreme Court.

Revenue Impact:

The bill is attempting to raise \$1.6 million in revenue and the legal aid figures are aiming to be \$1.2 million as well, however the figures in the bill are wrong and they are meant to adjusted more while in ways and means. Once that is accomplished, the revenue impact will be estimated again to show the impact in the coming two biennia.

Impact Explanation:

Places a surcharge of certain specified court filing fees for the purposes of funding the Court Facilities Planning Commission that will run from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009. The bill as it is written today was designed to raise revenues for two purposes approximately 5% filing fee surcharge for period 7/1/07-6/30-09 which would raise 1.2 million. This figure is based on the monthly amount raised by a similar surcharge that expired 1/1/07. It was 30 percent surcharge. Based on the monthly amount collected (approx 300,000 a month at 30 percent, so approx 50k a month at 5 percent. Then multiply 50k*24 and the result is 1.2 million)

Many of Oregon's courthouses are in serious condition of disrepair. In many instances, the cost of repair, refurbishing or rebuilding runs into many millions of dollars. Many of Oregon's counties do not have the financial ability to meet these obligations.

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