

REVENUE: No revenue impact  
FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended, Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bonamici, Boquist, Dingfelder, Whitsett, Prozanski
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Anna Braun, Counsel
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/9, 4/10, 4/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Revises statutory authority for the Oregon Judicial Department in an effort to streamline operations. Authorizes fees for electronic applications, allows Chief Justice to prioritize statutory timelines, changes State Court Facilities Security Account to State Court Security Account, removes requirement for annual judicial conferences, repeals the justice and municipal court registry, removes requirement for the 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District (Umatilla/Morrow) to sit in four cities if caseload requires, removes obsolete reference to special terms of court, authorizes court consolidation for judicial districts with more than one county or that sit in more than one location, makes family law programs subject to Judicial Department discretion, retains Certified Court Reporter Advisory Committee but adds flexibility for State Court Administrator to establish membership, fees and testing by rule, reduces jury per diem, allows writs of garnishment for collection of fees, allows court to set copy fees, authorizes fees for settlement conferences, allows fees for searching court records, moves continuing legal education requirement for non-lawyer justices of the peace to Oregon State Bar, removes requirement for grand jury inspection of correctional facilities, allows consolidation of probation violation proceedings, declares emergency, effective upon passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Concerns about cost shifts to local government
- Use of grand juries

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the original measure.

**BACKGROUND:** SB 256A is an effort to streamline operations and remove obsolete statutory language in order to help the Oregon Judicial Department meet probable and severe cuts to the court system by clarifying, modifying or changing administrative statutes to remove requirements or broaden flexibility.

4/29/2009 3:10:00 PM