FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

Prepared by: Tim Walker Reviewed by: John Borden Date: 3/28/2011

Measure Description:

Allows county with population of 400,000 or less to offer law library services in lieu of operating law library.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Judicial Department, Counties

Local Government Mandate:

This bill [may] [does not] affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Analysis: Under current law, county Law libraries are funded by a 28 percent civil filing fee assessment. The fee is collected by Circuit, Justice and Municipal courts and then transferred to the Oregon Judicial Department, which then distributes the revenue to each county with a law library. The county law library assessment is an automatic revenue distribution that is not based on any legislative determination of county law library program expenses. For the 2009-11 biennium, this assessment is expected to generate \$9.9 million.

This measure could affect the cost of delivering law library services for approximately 32 county law libraries, if county governing bodies choose to enter into a contractual relationship for the provision of law library services. The expenditure impact, however, is indeterminate. This measure does not change the amount of filing fee revenue generated by the 28 percent civil filing charge that would continue to flow to counties.

The Oregon Judicial Department would have a minimal impact to conduct the electronic survey.

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