

House Bill 3275

Sponsored by Representative BENTZ

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to develop criteria and process for identifying and expediting major civil actions.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to civil actions.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall develop criteria for identi-**
5 **fying major civil actions based on whether the pleadings in the action request for relief that,**
6 **if ordered, would have a very significant impact on public bodies as defined in ORS 174.109,**
7 **businesses in this state or the public generally.**

8 **(2) The Chief Justice shall develop a process for expediting major civil actions identified**
9 **under this section. The process shall include:**

10 **(a) Expedited motion and hearing dates in circuit courts;**

11 **(b) Priority on the trial docket of circuit courts;**

12 **(c) Expedited motion and hearing dates in appellate courts; and**

13 **(d) Certification of appeals to the Supreme Court under ORS 19.405 in appropriate cir-**
14 **cumstances.**

15 **(3) Any person filing a civil action who believes that the action qualifies as a major civil**
16 **action under the criteria developed under this section shall include, in the caption of the**
17 **pleading initiating the action, a notation that the action is a major civil action. As soon as**
18 **possible after filing the pleading, the person must file a motion with the circuit court seeking**
19 **an order of the court finding that the civil action is a major civil action under the criteria**
20 **developed under this section. If the circuit court orders that the civil action is a major civil**
21 **action, the proceedings in the action are subject to the process developed under subsection**
22 **(2) of this section.**

23

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.