

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass with Amendments and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	9 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Garrett, Hicks, Nolan, Schaufler, Tomei, Wand, Whisnant, Barker, Krieger
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Olson
Prepared By:	Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	2/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases the number of judges on the Oregon Court of Appeals from ten judges to thirteen judges on October 1, 2013, and to sixteen on October 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- No new judges in 35 years
- Workload
- Rule of law goes to the quality of life including business climate
- 3000 appeals last year

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Adds three more judges on October 1, 2015.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Court of Appeals is one of the busiest appellate courts in the nation. Last year the court had 3000 cases on appeal before it. Currently the Oregon Court of Appeals consists of ten judges. These ten judges sit in panels of three and hear oral arguments and write decisions addressing the legal issues contained in these cases.