

**TESTIMONY ON HB 2547
BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
February 25, 2013**

PRESENTED BY: BRUCE C. MILLER, OFFICE OF THE STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

The Oregon Judicial Department requested this bill to take advantage of electronic avenues of interaction with potential jurors and to streamline jury master list processes.

The bill does the following:

- §§1-2 add a new provision to ORS chapter 10 on juries that allows the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to make rules governing electronic communications between trial courts and potential jurors. This would include, for example, the opportunity for jurors to submit requests for excuse or deferral electronically through voluntary online forms.
- §3 amends ORS 1.002 to add the same authority to the Chief Justice's general rule-making authority.
- §4 amends ORS 10.215 to allow us to manage jury lists more efficiently in the electronic environment. The statute already requires the Office of the State Court Administrator to prepare the master list for each circuit court. The bill shifts the duty to certify master lists from each of the 27 individual trial court administrators to the State Court Administrator so that the work can be streamlined and done centrally. The State Court Administrator would then provide a certified copy of the master list to each circuit court.
- §§5-7 are conforming amendments.
- §8 states that the bill takes effect upon passage.

The bill passed out of the House Judiciary Committee on a vote of 8-0 (1 excused). It passed on the House Floor on a vote of 56-0 (4 excused).