## 77th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2013 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2562 B **CARRIER:**

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

**Senate Committee on Judiciary** 

**REVENUE: Revenue statement issued FISCAL:** Fiscal statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure, Be Printed B-Engrossed, and Be

Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

Vote:

Close, Dingfelder, Kruse, Roblan, Prozanski Yeas:

Nays: Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Anna Braun, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 4/25, 5/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Updates rules to facilitate the development of electronic court processes. Clarifies that Chief Justice's rules govern all types of court records. Removes requirement to maintain separate probate case information. Designates electronic copy as "official" court record. Updates laws that govern filing transcripts. Clarifies transcriber cannot charge an additional fee for electronic copy served on a party. Reduces amount that municipal and justice courts send back to the state for the criminal fine account from \$60 to \$44. Establishes parity with the state on amounts after \$44. Directs payment on the last \$16 to the county treasurer. Adds language to eliminate conflicts on electronic signatures. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

• Provisions of the measure

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Incorporates concepts in House Bill 2857 reducing the amount that municipal and justice courts send back to the state for the criminal fine account from \$60 to \$44. Establishes parity with the state on amounts after \$44. Directs payment on the last \$16 to the county treasurer. Adds language to eliminate conflicts on electronic signatures.

BACKGROUND: Oregon continues the process of developing an eCourt system, which will create a statewide webbased courthouse. The process requires a shift from a paper-based system to a digital web-based system. Once complete the eCourt system will allow access to court documents at all hours and also offer case-related document filing and online payment. House Bill 2562 B is a housekeeping measure that updates various rules as they relate to electronic court processes.

In addition, House Bill 2562 B was "gut and stuffed" with the concepts from House Bill 2857 which was a response to the bill passed in the 2011 session (HB 2712) which simplified court fees. Although the change was intended to be revenue neutral the municipal and judicial courts maintain that they have suffered from decreased funding and therefore proposed the changes to the criminal fine account that were amended into House Bill 2562 B.