

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Starr, Rosenbaum
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Clarifies that Legislative Assembly determines annual salary for offices of state Senator and state Representative. Disconnects salary of member of Legislative Assembly and salary of Circuit Court Judge.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Reasons for measure
- Responsibility for setting judicial salaries
- Salaries of state Senators and Representatives

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon's Public Officials Compensation Commission (POCC) was created by the Legislative Assembly in 1983. The seven-member commission had the responsibility to review and make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly regarding the salaries of legislators, the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, and judges from the Court of Appeals, Supreme Court, Circuit Court, and Tax Court. Based on the recommendations of the POCC, the Legislative Assembly was to set salaries for the elected officials and legislators.

Senate Bill 700 (2007) reestablished the POCC, increasing membership from seven to 11, including six members selected by lot by the Secretary of State, and directed the commission to recommend salaries for legislators and other elective officers. In 2009, Senate Bill 778 established fixed levels of salary for statewide elected officials and set the salaries of members of Legislative Assembly at one step below the maximum salary range in Management Service Compensation Plan in the Executive Branch or 17 percent of the salary of a Circuit Court judge. In addition, the measure limited the duties of the POCC to making salary recommendations.

House Bill 2597A disconnects the salaries of members of the Legislative Assembly from the salaries of Circuit Court judges. The measure also clarifies that the Legislative Assembly determines the annual salary of state Senators and Representatives.