

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep.
Carrier – Senate: Sen.

Revenue:

Fiscal: Fiscal impact statement issued.

Action:

Vote:

House

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

Senate

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc:

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Meeting Date: [Full Committee Meeting Date]

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Expands the Chief Justice’s authority to establish fees to include reasonable fees for the use of the Oregon Judicial Case Information Network (OJCIN). The Judicial Department’s OJCIN Terms of Use Agreement identifies three components to OJCIN: OJIN, the Appellate Case Management System (ACMS), and the Oregon eCourt Case Information system (OEI). Repeals sunset on filing fee increases of approximately 5% that were enacted for the period from October 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. These fee increases are made permanent. Repeals sunset scheduled for the same day on the transfer of a portion of court filing fee revenues to the State Court Technology Fund. The amount so transferred is substantively equivalent to the revenue generated from the 5% filing fee increases.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funding of state court electronic applications and systems
- Replacement of the Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN) with the new eCourt system
- Chief Justice’s current law authority to establish fees
- Notification and comment on OJCIN fee increases

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Eliminate a requirement for the Chief Justice to provide a reasonable opportunity for comment when adopting or increasing OJCIN fees on a temporary basis. The Chief Justice must provide such an opportunity prior to any permanent fee change, and must provide notification prior to adopting or increasing any OJCIN fee.

BACKGROUND: In order to maintain the budgets of the State Courts, the Chief Justice currently has the authority to set fees for the online network known as Oregon Judicial Information Network (OJIN). An increase in statutory filing fees that was approved in 2013 to provide additional funds to support court technology is set to expire on June 30, 2014.

HB 4066 authorizes the Chief Justice to set reasonable fees for access to data from electronic case management systems collectively known as Oregon Judicial Case Information Network (OJCIN), with an additional provision requiring the Chief Justice to give prior notice of any changes to OJCIN fees, along with reasonable time for comment on permanent fee decisions prior to implementation. HB 4066 also repeals the sunsets of fee increases and fee revenue dedications that support court technology and that are scheduled to go into effect on June 30, 2014.