

**HB 4066**

**Relating to funds supporting court technology**

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House Bill 4066 authorizes the Chief Justice to establish fees for using the eCourt system, and repeals a sunset on court filing fee increases approved last session.

Currently, the Chief Justice has statutory authority to establish fees for using the state court system's Oregon Judicial Information Network. That system, however, is being replaced with a new eCourt system that offers expanded capabilities. HB 4066 extends the Chief Justice's authority, to allow fees to be established for using the new eCourt system as well. The fees must be calculated to recover electronic applications and systems costs, and revenues from the fees are restricted to that purpose.

The bill also repeals the sunset on the 5% filing fee increases that were enacted last session. These increases are scheduled to expire on June 30. The bill makes the fee increases permanent, as it does a provision transferring fee increase revenue amounts to the State Court Technology Fund. These actions increase revenues to the State Court Technology Fund by approximately \$1.9 million in the 2013-15 biennium, and by approximately \$3.8 million per biennium thereafter.

The fiscal impact of authorizing eCourt fees is indeterminate. The Chief Justice has not proposed an eCourt fee schedule at this time.

HB 4066's provisions support the development and ongoing operations of the Judicial Department's new eCourt case management system; and support the providing of electronic filing services, notification services, and data access services to users of the system. The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends House Bill 4066 be amended and be reported out do pass, as amended.